



The Greater Clark
Foundation

AMBITION
FOR A
VIBRANT COMMUNITY

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GREATER CLARK FOUNDATION RECOGNIZED FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO EQUITY WITH \$3M GIFT

National philanthropist's one-time gift will enable continued transformational work in the region.

WINCHESTER, KY— The Greater Clark Foundation's (GCF) transformational work in the region just received a substantial boost. Since its launch in 2013, GCF has focused on placing people at the center of community decision-making. A recent one-time \$3 million gift from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott validates GCF's approach, including its commitment to equity.

"We are humbled and affirmed by Ms. Scott's gift, which recognizes GCF's commitments to equity and community well-being," said Jen Algire, GCF's President and CEO. "We applaud the other rural-serving health legacy foundations that also received a gift from Ms. Scott."

Scott's grant will allow GCF to amplify its role as a catalyst, connector, and convener to create conditions in which all people in our community can thrive. The Foundation's board is currently finalizing plans for its next body of work, which it expects to announce in 2023. GCF will use the gift to invest in the communities it serves and build on prior civic engagement investments, emphasizing equitable community governance and decision-making.

Ms. Scott's latest round of giving included 20 rural-serving health legacy foundations focusing on equity, including GCF. Ms. Scott remarked in a blog post, "For anyone interested in supporting the leadership of people from communities, funds are a great resource."

"We recognize the unique nature of this gift," said Darren Henry, GCF board chair. "And we will be responsible stewards of it as we continue our transformative work in alignment with our core beliefs."

A set of core beliefs root GCF's work. These interwoven beliefs imagine a region rich in opportunities for all, while recognizing the weight of the historically uneven distribution of benefits.

- **We believe the fate of all people is woven together.** *We must create a society that enables collective well-being and produces equitable power, access, opportunities, and outcomes, regardless of the social conditions into which one is born. We define equity as the full inclusion of all people into a society where everyone can participate and prosper.*
- **We believe it is possible to unlearn the systems, forces, and habits that have produced disproportionate and unjust outcomes.** *Our integrity as community builders requires us to look deep within ourselves, our communities, our nation, and our world to reconcile truthfully and realistically the systems of power that prevent people from reaching their full potential.*
- **We believe institutional philanthropy should be a force for good in an increasingly complex world.** *For this reason, GCF invests in strengthening underlying community conditions and social determinants of health.*
- **We believe GCF's strength lies not only in our endowment, but also in our relationships, actions, and influence.**
- **We believe in the abundant capacity of people to create communities they cherish.** *For this reason, GCF favors investments in people over projects.*
- **We believe in leading with love.** *The word philanthropy means "love of humanity." Love, rightly understood, is expressed both as care for one another and as courageous action to correct injustice, including dismantling systems of injustice.*

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The Greater Clark Foundation (GCF) is a health legacy foundation located in Winchester, Kentucky, at the crossroads of two storied regions —where Appalachia meets the Bluegrass. By inspiring vision and action for a compelling future, GCF acts as a catalyst, connector, and convener to create the conditions where all people in our community can thrive. GCF has invested more than \$10 million in the region since 2013. The Foundation's investments include grassroots-oriented What's Your Ambition?! grants, capacity-building leadership through its Public Innovator Labs, built-environment projects including downtown development, COVID-19 relief, and its signature gift to the region, Legacy Grove Park. Learn more at www.clarkambition.org.