

Quarterly Meeting Minutes

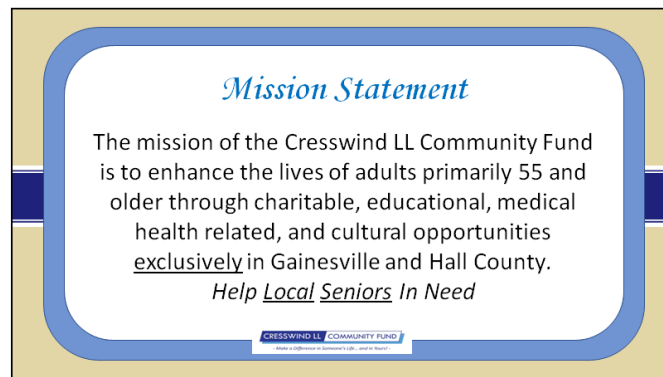
December 18th, 2024 3:00 PM

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 by Mark Nestle. Mark welcomed members and guests. He went on to acknowledge volunteers including members of the Board of Directors, Board Advisors and Committee members. Mark announced that Wilton Rooks was elected by the recent electronic vote to fill the remaining year of John Prentice's term.

Mark introduced Wilton Rooks who encourage the group to consider volunteering with the Community Fund. Wilton described the many ways for volunteers to participate in the work of the Community Fund. He commented that Cresswind is known for its volunteers.

Wilton reviewed the mission statement.



He stated that we help thousands of people in Hall County. We do two things – We raise fund and we grant Funds

Wilton called on John Ulam, treasurer, to present the Financial Report. John began by explaining the financial process that is used by the Community Fund to collect, record, deposit, and grant funds



He went on to review the financial status of the Community Fund at the end of 2024.

Community Fund Financials – YTD 2024	
Donations and Funds Raised	
> General Donations	\$127,751
> Golf Tournament	\$38,389
> Silent Auction	\$10,940
Total Donations	\$177,080
Expenses	
> Admin Expenses	\$13,927
> Bank Transaction Fees	\$2,035
> Fundraising Expenses	\$12,721

Grants	
> Focus 55+	\$17,592 (9 donations)
> Food	\$67,600 (20 donations)
> Cresswind Clubs	\$2,986 (1 donation)
> GRG	\$41,752 (14 donations)
> Health	\$34,607 (13 donations)
> Veteran's Assistance	\$6,236 (2 donations)
Total Grants	\$170,773 (59 donations)
> Grants as % of donations	96%
> Admin Expenses as % of Donations	8%

Since its inception, the Community fund has raised \$981,932.00 and granted \$847,141.00. John thanked everyone for their support in 2024 saying that we should all be proud of the way that we are supporting our community. For additional financial information [see the Addendum.](#)

Wilton introduced Lisa Phifer and Nancy Evans who presented Christmas music including an audience participation Christmas music trivia. Wilton thanked Lisa and Nancy for sharing their talents and presented them with a thank you gift.

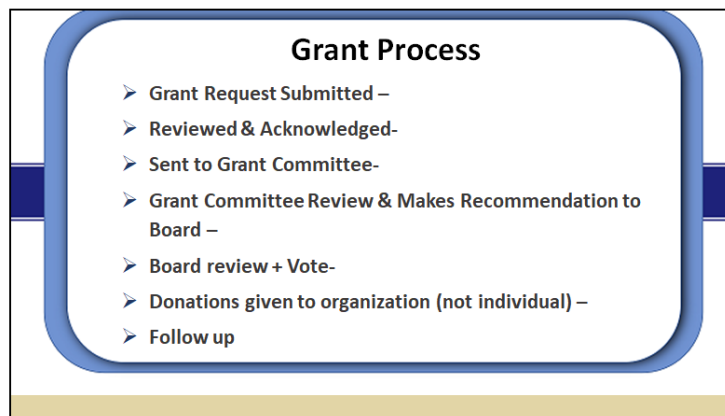
Next Wilton introduced guest speaker, Vanessa Sarazua, Founder & CEO of Hispanic Alliance Georgia (HAGA). Vanessa described how she came to be involved with the

Hispanic population in Georgia. She said that many of the people that they serve are seniors, some of whom are raising their grandchildren. Their food distribution service grew exponentially during the COVID pandemic and continues to be important today.

Wilton pointed out that the Gainesville Hispanic population makes up 41% of the total population and we are fortunate to have programs like the Hispanic Alliance of Georgia. Lois Ehlers as a representative of the Grant Committee presented Ms. Sarazua with a check for \$4,500.00 to support her cause.

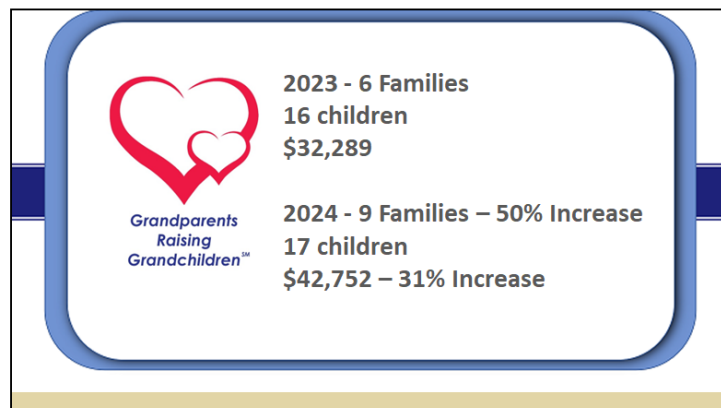
Wilton called on Darla Eden to present information on Fundraising. Darla said that the fourth quarter was very successful with three major fundraisers, the annual Golf Tournament, the Silent Auction and the Help the Hungry campaign.

Lois Ehlers presented information about the Grant Committee and the grant process.



Lois pointed out that most grants originate with other 501c3 organizations. She said that once a grant is approved the funds are given to an organization or a company never to an individual. She stated that grants are reviewed in a timely manner.

Elaine Wood presented information about the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) program.



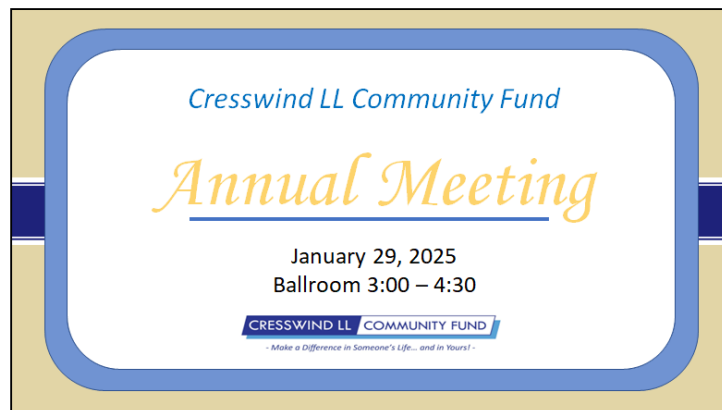
Individuals are recommended by organizations like St Vincent de Paul. GRG members talk to the grandparents to determine their need. Elaine discussed the difficulties they encounter in their attempt to find grandparents in need. She described the Christmas

gifts they give to their client families. Elaine shared a letter written by one of the grandparents we served which expressed her gratitude for the assistance she had received.

Wilton introduced Bud Baker to provide an update on the Help Me Please program. Bud recognized the volunteers who were present. He presented information on the success of the Help Me Please program during 2024 with over \$60,000.00 donated.

Help Me Please				
HMP Activity 2021 thru 2024 YTD				
	Yearly	Yearly	Yearly	2024
	Total	Total	Total	Nov YTD
	2021	2022	2023	
Jobs Requested	431	432	589	761
Jobs Completed	420	417	573	716
Jobs Not Completed	12	15	16	45
Jobs Funded	398	402	540	629
Jobs Unfunded	22	15	33	87
Funds Generated	\$ 32,333	\$ 39,438	\$ 56,396	\$ 60,403
Average Donated per job Funded	\$ 81.24	\$ 98.10	\$ 104.44	\$ 96.03
Active Volunteers This Month			Avg 28	31
Volunteer Hours Utilized This Month			Avg 144	154

Next Mark Nestle presented information about the 2024 Community Fund self-evaluation review. He encouraged the group to share any ideas that they have about what the Community Fund could do better. Mark also encouraged everyone to participate in the annual meeting and the election process.



Next the Community Fund Raffle was led by Julie Binnix and Ann Sutlive.

Following the raffle, Mark thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Jeffrey
Secretary

Addendum
Supporting Documents

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"



Fourth Quarter Year End Meeting
 Christmas-Holiday Season
 Celebration!
 December 18, 2024

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

Welcome!

Members, Nonmembers,
 Special Guests

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

Welcome Special Guests

- **Vanesa Sarazua**, Founder/CEO
 Hispanic Alliance Georgia (HAGA)
- **Darlene Hauserman**, Executive Director
 Gainesville–Hall Community Food Pantry

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

Welcome All
 Help Me Please & Meeting-
 Events Volunteers!



CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

2024 Board Of Directors & Officers

Bill Papciak, President
 Mark Nestle, Vice-President
 John Ulam, Treasurer
 Cathy Jeffrey, Secretary
 Lois Ehlers
 Bud Baker
 Darla Eden
 John Prentice

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

Board Advisors

Wilton Rooks, Elaine Wood, Arnie McCleese,
 Russ Williams, Susie Holbrook, Ann Sutlive,
 Ron Stowe, Sue Garcia,
 Tim Roth, Dick Osborne

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 "Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!"

A Special Invitation

Join the 30 + neighbors already active with as Board Advisors, Committee Members, Help me Please, even Board Members...

Mission Statement

The mission of the Cresswind LL Community Fund is to enhance the lives of adults primarily 55 and older through charitable, educational, medical health related, and cultural opportunities exclusively in Gainesville and Hall County.
Help Local Seniors In Need

Raise Funds Grant Funds

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Financial Summary Since Inception

Total Funds: \$981,932

Total Grants: \$847,141

Current Funds Available for Grants - \$20,728



*Presenting
Lisa Phifer
& Nancy Evans* 

COMMUNITY COMMUNITY FUND

Vanessa Sarazua
Founder and Executive Director
Hispanic Alliance Georgia



Gainesville – Hall County Community Food Bank
Darlene Hauseman – Executive Director

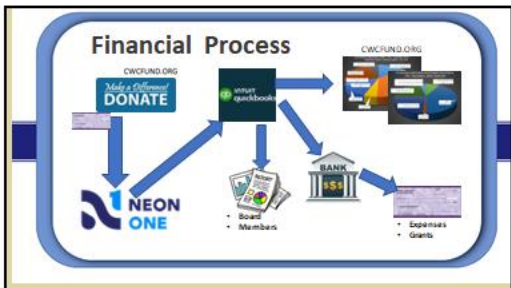


COMMUNITY COMMUNITY FUND

Community Fund Programs Help Local Gainesville Citizens in Need and Organizations that Support Seniors

- HELP THE HUNGRY – Hall County Food Banks
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren – Financial assistance to Grandparent led families.
- Help Me Please – Service Program – Neighbors Helping Neighbors. General funds go directly to Hall County charities.
- The Spirit of Christmas Annual Golf Tournament: Donations to General Programs and 24 Free First Responder Golf Day
- Focus 55+ Assist Individuals in Need visited by Organizations.
- Veterans 55+ Program Community Fund and Veterans Club

COMMUNITY COMMUNITY FUND



Fund Raising

- Donations
- Events
- Sponsors

Darla Eden – Board Member

Grant Committee

- Candice Bolton – Chairperson
- Lois Ehlers
 - Pat Green
 - Amy Pike
 - Pam Timm
 - John Ulam

Grant Process

- Grant Request Submitted –
- Reviewed & Acknowledged-
- Sent to Grant Committee-
- Grant Committee Review & Makes Recommendation to Board –
- Board review + Vote-
- Donations given to organization (not individual) –
- Follow up



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
It's a Tough Job!

CRESSKOPF'S COMMUNITY FUND



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren™

2023 - 6 Families
16 children
\$32,289

2024 - 9 Families – 50% Increase
17 children
\$42,752 – 31% Increase



“Help Me Please”
(Neighbors Helping Neighbors)
More requests every year
All Donations Help
Local Seniors in Need!
HMP Manager:
Bud Baker

CRESSKOPF'S COMMUNITY FUND

Help Me Please

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CWCF Self Evaluation Process Summary

The Challenge:
 ➤ What do we do and how can we do it better.

Our Process and Output:
 ➤ 23 Members met in 2 working sessions examining all our processes
 ➤ Generated 71 Ideas in 7 Categories
 ➤ Fundraising ➤ Programs
 ➤ Communication ➤ Leadership
 ➤ Grants ➤ Member related
 ➤ Outreach

Cresswind LL Community Fund

Annual Meeting

January 29, 2025
 Ballroom 3:00–4:30

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

Spirit of Giving 

Christmas Raffle!

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

*The Spirit of Cresswind
 is You!* 

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

*Thank you for Attending
 Merry Christmas
 Meeting is Adjourned* 

CRESSWIND LL COMMUNITY FUND
 Make a Difference in Someone's Life... and in Yours!

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