2017 Annual Report

Mission

The Ausherman Family Foundation (AFF) empowers the passion for change in Frederick County, Maryland.

Vision

The Ausherman Family Foundation’s vision is that Frederick County is a thriving community of vibrant spaces and places, with a superior quality of life, and strong and collaborative nonprofit organizations.

To realize their vision, the AFF Trustees support the following activities:

- Lead others to give
- Catalyze major projects
- Fill gaps in service
- Sustain effective cooperation with other nonprofit organizations (NPOs)
- Collaborate and partner with other grant-making organizations
- Support leadership development through charitable giving
- Offer grants for NPOs for capacity building, operations, programs, projects, and focus initiatives

Values

AFF values organizations and entrepreneurs who possess a range of character attributes which we believe are important to achieving our mission. These attributes include:

- Aesthetic Sensitivity: Bringing beauty and harmony to people, places, and events, and making the commonplace more attractive.
• Caring: Having an active expression of concern for and empathy with others.
• Community Service: Giving time and talent, with no expectation of reward, to projects that benefit individuals or communities.
• Competence: Being resourceful, skilled, and having the capacity to complete commitments.
• Dedication: Being selflessly devoted to the cause at hand.
• Dependability: Following through on commitments.
• Enthusiasm: Bringing an infectious zest for life to everything.
• Fun: Appreciating activities that are enjoyable or amusing.
• Integrity: Being honest and doing the right thing, even when it is costly, and no one is looking.
• Passion: Having boundless enthusiasm for a cause, ideal, or goal – and sustaining perseverance in furthering or achieving it.
• Planning and Organizing: Working toward short- and long-term goals with clearly stated directions, associated policies, and procedures.
• Respect: Honoring others’ differences.
• Results-Oriented: Achieving tangible, measurable results in a cost-effective way, i.e., social return on investment.
• Self-Reliance: Working hard and doing everything possible to bring about desired goals.
• Strategic Risk-Taking: Initiating opportunities and taking commensurate calculated risks.
• Theoretical Strength: Developing a conceptual framework based on knowledge and information.

Governance

AFF Strategic Planning Retreat - Creation of Philanthropic Advisory Group (PAG)
In 2017, Trustees of the Ausherman Foundation contracted with The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI) to embark on a new strategic plan for the Foundation to support Marvin’s vision. As a takeaway from that retreat, Trustees decided that they would oversee all Ausherman Philanthropies and internally refer to themselves as PAG - Philanthropic Advisory Group.

Throughout this report, aspects of the retreat will be highlighted under the appropriate sections.

Community Investment

In 2017, Trustees invested over $2,842,965 into the Frederick community. Of this amount, $1,059,045 was issued in grant funding and almost $1.8 million in major projects. Samples of the awards granted, and projects undertaken, are outlined in this 2017 Annual Report.

The chart below shows the funding by areas of interest defined by the Trustees during their 2017 Strategic Planning Retreat: Arts & Culture, Children, Youth, & Families, Health & Human Services, and Public/Society Benefit. (Note - Education was eliminated as an area of interest and Health and Human Services were merged together in 2017).
• #1: EMPOWERING CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES through programs such as scouting, mentorships, youth leadership, youth community service clubs and job training, parent engagement, college access, academic enrichment, and arts activities. - $139,385

• #2: PROMOTING THE ARTS AND CULTURE through visual and performing arts studios, centers, programs, and schools, services for artists, performers, entertainers, and writers, media organizations, historical societies, and museums. - $276,580

• #3: CONTRIBUTING TO SOCIETY AND THE PUBLIC GOOD through the beautification of public spaces, civic organizations and institutions, community and neighborhood development and improvement, and philanthropic, grant-making, and volunteer foundations. - $124,020

• #4: PERFORMING HUMAN SERVICES AND ENHANCING HEALTH to prevent, alleviate, or help people cope with crisis through crime prevention, legal services, employment, food, housing, shelter and healthcare such as mental health treatment, crisis intervention, diseases, disorders, and dental care. - $519,060
Grant Programs

A total of 129 grant applications were received and reviewed by the Ausherman Family Foundation Trustees, of which 102 grants were awarded to 73 different nonprofit organizations for a total of $1,059,045. Matching grants accounted for 12% of all grants, potentially leveraging a total of $185,910 in giving from the Frederick community. AFF grant programs are place-based, benefiting nonprofit organizations in Frederick County, Maryland. Programs include Capacity Building, General, Focus, and Challenge Matching grants. During the Trustees’ Strategic Planning Retreat, it was decided that Social Entrepreneur Grants would end this year upon successfully completing current commitments.

In 2017, a Grants Committee was created and is led by Justin Ausherman and Renee Lopez. This committee meets monthly to review grant requests and make recommendations to the full board of Trustees.
General Grants

General Grants are awarded to fund costs associated with operating an organization, and/or developing, implementing, and/or maintaining a project or program. Operating costs include the fixed and variable expenses of the organization. Program costs include expenses associated with the services related to the organization's mission. Project costs include expenses associated with a specific activity that moves the organization's mission forward.

Below is a sampling of successful 2017 General Grants:

**PROMOTING THE ARTS AND CULTURE**
- $5,000 – Frederick Reads – Bill Bryson
- $10,000 - Frederick Arts Council - Sky Stage
- $25,000 - Delaplaine Visual Arts – Floor Renovations
- $2,500 - Frederick Arts Council - Thurmont Celebration Mural by Yemi
- $2,500 - Frederick Arts Council - Classroom and Practices Space Rentals for NSA SPACES
- $15,000 - Maryland Ensemble Theater - General Operating Support
- $20,000 - Weinberg Center for the Arts - Frederick Speakers Series

**EMPOWERING CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**
- $25,000 - Boy Scouts of America, National Capital Area – Preparing Young People for Life
- $5,000 - Blessings in a Backpack - Weekend Backpacks of Food for Children
- $60,000 - Frederick Community College Foundation – Student Success Grants & Trade Scholarships
- $10,000 - Girl Scout Council of National Capital Area - Serving Low to Moderate Income Girls
- $20,000 - Interfaith Housing Alliance - Housing Matters Program
- $25,000 – Boys & Girls Club of Frederick Co - General Op Support Burke St. Summer Programs

**CONTRIBUTING TO SOCIETY AND THE PUBLIC GOOD**
- $3,000 - Color on the Creek - Operation Support
- $1,000 - Association of Fundraising Professionals – National Philanthropy Day Sponsorship
- $25,000 - SOS Safe Ride - Drunk Driving Prevention (originally Social Entrepreneur grant)
- Up to $50,000 The Community Foundation of Frederick County, Inc.- Frederick Co. Human Needs Assessment

**PERFORMING HUMAN SERVICES AND ENHANCING HEALTH**
- $23,410- Friends for Neighborhood Progress (FCAA) - Vehicles
- $15,000- Habitat for Humanity - General Operating Support
• $30,000 - Housing Authority of the City of Frederick - Young Men Rising
• $20,000.00 - Literacy Council of Frederick County - Sustaining Literacy Program Growth
• $10,000 - Maryland Food Bank - Frederick County Senior Pantry Program
• $25,000 - Mental Health Association of Frederick County - Development Database Assistant
• $25,000 - Spanish Speaking Community of MD, Inc - Free consultations for Frederick Co. residents
• $10,000 The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs - General Operating Support
• $15,000 - EveryMind, Inc. - Commitment to Veterans - Expansion into Frederick County, MD

Matching Grants
Matching challenge grants expand upon the Trustees’ desire to “Lead Others to Give.” The grant program awards operational grants that require the recipient nonprofit organization to receive in donations as much, if not more, than the grant amount awarded. The Trustees encourage nonprofit organizations to raise matching funds by increasing contributions from present donors and expanding the organizations base of support with new contributors.

The people of Frederick County have always been generous in support of nonprofit organizations. The challenge grants gave the community an opportunity to provide dollar for dollar matching funds for organizations in which they held an interest and it brought amazing dividends for nonprofits. New contributors were identified, and charitable individuals increased their giving.

In 2017, matching grants accounted for 12% of all grants, potentially leveraging a total of $185,910 in giving from the Frederick community. Below is a sampling of successful matching grants.

• $10,000 - United Way of Frederick County – 2017 Unity Campaign – Incentive Match
  The Unity Campaign combines matching incentive funds and individual donations to encourage broad and deep support. In 2017, the collaborative fundraising effort of 27 organizations over a 12-day period raised $447,074 supporting projects in the areas of basic human needs and at-risk youth. The fundraising yield increased by 28% setting a campaign record and significantly surpassing the $400,000 goal. Beyond fundraising, the campaign also focused on training and skill-building. The theme for the year was storytelling and provided training about social media and fundraising appeals. Further, the campaign concluded with a demonstration by professional storytellers who displayed the elements of brief, concise and compelling stories and was hosted at New Spire Stages.

• $15,000 - Maryland Ensemble Theater - General Operating Support
  MET celebrated their 20th anniversary this year. AFF was acknowledged by their board for their support in helping them to achieve this milestone. In honor of the anniversary, MET hosted a fundraising breakfast highlighting AFF’s match commitment. During the breakfast, 40 people donated, 22 of them being first-time donors.
  “We are so grateful to all of you at the Ausherman Family Foundation... just speaking of the match at our fundraising breakfast had our attendees not only taking out their checkbooks, but writing more than they had planned (they told us this) and some (who had already given ahead of the event for the event) decided to give again because it would be matched.” - Christine Mosere, Managing Director
Past Grant Updates

- **2014 - $500,000 Frederick Rescue Mission – Faith House**

In 2014, AFF awarded the Frederick Rescue Mission a $500,000 multi-year grant with a matching component, to buy and renovate Faith House, a place for homeless women and children. $200,000 was awarded outright. The remaining $300,000 required FRM to obtain matching contributions from the community. AFF was delighted when FRM was able to fully match the grant award. They received the final $150,000 distribution in early 2016. In 2017, Faith House officially opened their doors and hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony with Governor Hogan.

“What the Ausherman Family Foundation Trustees envisioned years ago has come to fruition in a powerful way.” Kathy Schey, Program Director Faith House

Capacity Building Grants

An important Grants Program that assists nonprofit organizations to employ consultants so that the organization can move to a new level of effectiveness and efficiency is the Capacity Building Grants Program.

$171,000 in Capacity Building Grants were awarded to the following 9 organizations in 2017:

- $25,000 - Building Veterans – Strategic Planning
- $18,900 - Community Living, Inc. – Staff Development - Person-Centered Thinking
- $16,000 - Friends for Neighborhood Progress - Strategic Plan for the Community Action Health Center
- $4,320 - Federated Charities – CRM System
- $10,000 – Mission of Mercy - Strategic Planning
- $25,000 – National Museum of Civil War Medicine – Strategic Planning
- $9,860 – SHIP of Frederick County – Website Redesign
- $7,500 – Tech Frederick – Website Upgrade
- $25,000 – The Religious Coalition – Blackbaud Raiser’s Edge and Financial Edge Software

"SHIP's new website has given us the expanded ability to solicit and secure new volunteers who will assist SHIP in the fulfillment of our mission to help the hundreds of FCPS students experiencing homelessness each year." - Ed Hinde, ED

Pictured: Trustees Marvin and Renee with Governor Hogan at Faith House’s Ribbon Cutting.
Past Capacity Building Grant Updates

2016 - $25,000 - Literacy Council of Frederick County- New Responsive Design Website

In 2016, AFF awarded the Literacy Council a $25,000 Capacity Building grant to hire a web development firm to construct a modern, responsive website, as well as to work with other support vendors for professional photography and videography for the site and professional translation of key pages.

“We are indebted to the Ausherman Family Foundation for their generosity and to the creative professionals who worked so diligently (and patiently) with us throughout this process.” - LC Staff

Focus Grants

The Focus Grant Initiative was launched in 2014 by the Ausherman Family Foundation Trustees. The Trustees developed this grant award program to support organizations that would initiate and implement programs or services that were grander than any other activity of the organization (e.g. a giant leap forward). The organizations who received these grants during that funding period are as follows.

In 2017, following the Strategic Planning Retreat, a Focus Grant Committee was created and is led by Jim MacGillivray. The Trustees decided they would like to spend more time reviewing updates and grantee needs. The Committee is also starting to think about how we can expand the program and support community issues.

Ongoing Focus Grants

United Way Prosperity Center – Funded to establish a fully-functioning Prosperity Center that guides lower-income, working families along a path to financial stability. Participants move through a three-step process (increase income, build savings, gain and sustain assets) of bundled and sequenced services such as workforce services, credit repair, savings campaigns, etc. which are tracked and measured over multiple years.
**Closed Focus Grants**

**Boys and Girls Club of Frederick County** – This organization was given a Focus Grant in 2014 to expand services for the Be GREAT: Graduate Program into Hillcrest and Waverly Elementary Schools, targeting 70 struggling students. The program was designed to use an evidence-based intervention method, which encourages school completion, with students K – 12, who show early warning signs of disengagement with school. In 2016, the organization experienced a leadership transition. In 2017 this grant was closed.

**Upcoming Focus Grants**

**Mission of Mercy** – This grant marked the first Focus grant given since the original grants that were given in 2014. As part of a $1,000,000, three-year initiative, Mission of Mercy was granted $50,000 per year for three years to purchase, equip, and staff a mobile dental clinic. The clinic will follow the same model as their medical unit, serving Frederick City and County as part of a five county/two-state service area. The mobile dental clinic will allow for an increase in the number of dental patients served in a day, which will meet an urgent need for dental care in both Frederick City and County. Funding will be used in conjunction with other grants and contributions to purchase and equip the mobile clinic in year one, with supporting funds for clinical staff in years two and three.

Trustees decided to fund $50K/year, which is 36% of their expansion budget. That percentage reflects the number of patients which are served in Frederick County. Staff also worked with MOM on monthly reports of the number of Frederick County dental patients seen and the total number of dental patients seen.

**Nonprofit Management Support**

**2017 Nonprofit Summit**

In its 8th year, the Summit sold out in record time. Over 120 nonprofit attendees, including board members, executive leadership, and support staff, focused on leadership and team work styles using personalized self-awareness assessments developed by RightPath Resources, Inc. Participants were asked to take the two assessment tests prior to the Summit. The keynote, Jerry Mabe, president and CEO of RightPath, detailed the measurements and the meanings of the assessments in the morning. In the afternoon, participants completed activities in small groups, divided first to bring together people with similar results, then combining those with different assessment types.

Select nonprofits who brought multiple members received a special team facilitation by the RightPath coaches at the end of the day. This year, thanks to a partnership with the Helen J. Serini Foundation, 15 scholarships were given out to organizations that didn’t have the budget to send representatives.
Grants Resource Center
AFF continued to support the Frederick County Library’s Grant Resource Center, contributing nine books with a total value of $270 to their collection and helping to spread the word about the resources and available classes.

Nonprofit Executive Director’s Breakfasts
Back by popular demand, AFF once again sponsored the Executive Director Breakfast event, hosting three in 2017. A survey was sent out at the beginning of the year to collect input on topics; that information provided the framework to help guide our discussions. The most popular request was the desire to talk about collaboration, which kicked off the first event.

February Theme: Collaboration
30 Executive Directors attended.

55% of the executive directors who registered for the first event had never attended a ED breakfast before. Over the last few years, the nonprofit landscape has changed, specifically among leadership. Before true collaboration among organizations could begin, it was important to make sure that everyone in the room had a clear understanding of who was present and what their organization did. Our goal for the morning was to gain a deeper understanding of the organizations represented and to start to think about things like – Who is working in the same space? Where are there gaps in services? Where are opportunities for partnerships or mentoring? How can we collectively move the needle in serving Frederick County’s most vulnerable? Attendees participated in a few exercises where they were asked to share 1) target population/core area of concentration; 2) services provided to satisfy core objective; and 3) areas that need improvement or support for those programs.

June Theme: Disaster Planning; Is your organization prepared for a crisis?
33 Executive Directors attended.

You can’t always be in control of what happens, but you can get ready by anticipating crises and by preparing your organization’s responses!

Planning ahead and having the right policies, procedures and media collateral in place will make all the difference in preparing your organization to operate smoothly, during, and after any crisis situation that may impact safety and branding.

An expert panel discussed topics such as liability, PR, plans & policies, cyber security, and insurance, covering a wide range of scenarios and the steps that can be taken to protect an organization.

October Theme: Frederick’s Nonprofit Community… A look into the future.
26 Executive Directors attended.

The nonprofit sector and the philanthropy that funds it have evolved dramatically over the past several years. We can’t predict the future, but we can examine marketplace trends today for a glimpse of what the nonprofit sector may be like in the coming years. We examined where Leadership, Operations, Business Models, Volunteerism, Fundraising, Marketing, and Technology may be headed.
Major Project Highlights

**Barbara Fritchie House Statuary Trust**

In 2016, AFF hired local historian Chris Haugh to produce a documentary entitled: *Barbara Fritchie: Frederick’s Poetic Patriot*. The documentary provides a full history of Dame Fritchie, her husband John, their marriage, the presence of both Confederate and Union troops in Frederick in September 1862, and other Frederick historians’ and prominent citizens’ views of what Barbara Fritchie means to all of us today.

In April of 2017, AFF was contacted by the producer of the City of Frederick's Channel 99 and the documentary aired during the month of April.

The Foundation also connected descendants of Barbara Fritchie to Heritage Frederick (formerly, the Historical Society of Frederick). The family has since donated artifacts never before seen by the public to the nonprofit for their new exhibit entitled Barbara Fritchie, Legendary Lady, which was on display from March 4 - August 20.

**New Spire Arts**

The Ausherman Family Foundation gave a catalyzing grant to New Spire Arts, a performing arts education and presentation center for Frederick County. They will be operating out of two downtown Frederick venues. New Spire Stages, at 15 W. Patrick, will be an arts performance and information focal point for the community, with a theatre, a music and media lounge, and family-friendly gathering spaces. New Spire Spaces, at 115 W. Church, will be an education and creation hub, with flexible suites designed to serve current and future forms of performing arts including theatre, film, music, dance and multimedia. The buildings are the city’s former Cultural Arts Center and the former Department of Education building.

New Spire Arts launched its inaugural educational programing with an open house for Spaces in the summer of 2017. A reception was held at Stages for potential donors, which resulted in $135,000 in commitments from three philanthropic groups. A national search was completed for a new executive director, Daniel Singh, who joined the team in December.

**Square Corner**
In August 2017, a public meeting was held requesting approaches to improve the intersection of Patrick and Market Streets in Downtown Frederick. The Square Corner project aims to increase pedestrian safety and friendliness and improve the aesthetic appearance, resulting in a high quality urban environment that respects the historic downtown character.

AFF is the lead partner in the effort, providing the funding necessary to hire a consultant team including architects Mahan Rykiel, and engineering firm RK&K, and have partnered with Downtown Frederick Partnership and High Glen Gardens. Community members including City of Frederick staff, adjacent businesses, and property owners are also providing guidance. When the vision is complete, they will seek funding to implement the identified improvements.

The committee took a break until a new mayor and aldermen took office. The next step is to incorporate the public input suggestions into a single draft concept to present to the Mayor and Board at a future workshop. Looking to the future, the project goals include repeating new design elements in additional downtown intersections.

Public Art

Developing a Public Arts Master Plan was an idea brought forward by Marvin. This beautification project for the City of Frederick will lead to the design of public art and murals throughout the city. The master plan will provide Frederick with an opportunity to engage in a citywide conversation about the role of public art in community life, to understand the community’s public art opportunities and challenges, to chart new directions, and to make sure it has the right tools to get there. The plan will also allow Frederick to continue deepening its sense of place through public art, develop a coherent set of procedures for placing public art throughout the city and county, and help create a set of sustainable funding streams for the construction and maintenance of the public art. Frederick’s public art plan will answer three basic questions: How can new public art projects help the community advance its visions and goals? What are the best opportunities for doing that, in terms of projects or locations? And what tools are necessary to support new public art projects?

AFF gave the Frederick Arts Council a grant to manage this initiative and they hired master arts planner Todd Bressi from Philadelphia. The project should be competed in June of 2019. Upon completion, AFF will most likely start to fund the creation of public art.

“It’s time to be purposeful and strategic about public art in Frederick,” said Marvin Ausherman, Chairman and Co-Founder of the Ausherman Family Foundation. “With the right procedures in place,
we will be able to collaborate to use public art as a way to express our community's identity, making Frederick even more of a special and unique place.”

City Street Maintenance

Ensuring that the roads leading into Frederick City are attractive and well-manicured, AFF has contracted with a local landscape company to improve and maintain the overall appeal of certain areas of the city by providing mowing and tree care maintenance to these neglected areas. Maintenance services are only performed during the summer to the following places:

- SW & NW Corner of Yellow Springs Road/Rosemont Avenue (at Route 15)
- East Street (from South St. heading south to rotary/traffic circle before Monocacy Blvd.)
- Church Street & Patrick Street (from Bentz St. to Chapel Alley/Carroll St.)
- Poole Jones Road (from Greenvale Dr. to Runnymede Dr.)

Trustees and Employees Benefit the Community

Frederick Speakers Series

AFF Staff serve on the planning committee. The series entered into its fifth year and has developed a strong reputation for bringing world-class innovators and leaders into the Frederick community. The 2017 lineup included: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Elizabeth Smart, Dr. Bennet Omalu, and Bill Nye. For the first time ever, one of the speakers sold out instantly and the committee decided to host a second night, which also sold out in a matter of days.
AFF and Marvin Honored by YMCA as Philanthropist of the Year

Marvin and the Ausherman Family Foundation were honored with the “Philanthropist of the Year” award at this year’s YMCA Foundation Dinner on Tuesday, March 21 for support of the flood relief efforts.

Schifferstadt 2017 City of Frederick Historic Preservation Award

A problem with water in the basement floors and walls at the Schifferstadt Architectural Museum was fixed, thanks to work by Ausherman Properties with funding from AFF. Ausherman entities were recognized by the Historic Preservation Commission with a preservation award. The water infiltration into the basement was potentially compromising the structural integrity of the historic German stone house, which was built around 1758. High Glen staff also supported the museum by decorating their sign for the holidays and helping in the gardens. There is work being done to upgrade their street signage.
Frederick Funders Group- Staff

The Frederick Funders Group includes leaders and staff from several Frederick County funders – Helen J. Serini Foundation, whose Program Manager coordinates the meetings, AFF, the Delaplaine Foundation, Frederick County, United Way, and The Community Foundation. The group was originally drawn together by the common use of Foundant grants management software, and a desire to help streamline grant seekers’ application and reporting processes. The committee continues to strive toward this goal. However, its conversations have expanded to include best practices, creating partnerships, and analyzing the collective data to find overlaps and gaps in Frederick County NPO funding. Two collaborations for grantee trainings are in the works; the plan is that they will take place in 2018.

Behind the scenes at AFF

AFF staff continue to focus on using Foundant as completely and efficiently as possible.

Lori participates in Foundant webinars and trainings she often shares tips with other users in the community.

Staff

AFF welcomed Jen Specht, Community Relations Coordinator, to the team. Leigh Adams was accepted into Leadership Frederick and joined the Community Foundation’s Needs Assessment Committee. Lori Perkins took on a leadership role at the Carroll Creek Toastmasters Club, becoming the VP of Public Relations.

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<tr>
<th>Board of Trustees</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Marvin Ausherman, Founder &amp; Chairman</td>
<td>Leigh Adams, Director</td>
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<td>Justin Ausherman, Co-Chair &amp; Secretary</td>
<td>Jonathan Logan, Controller</td>
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<td>Kari Ausherman</td>
<td>Jen Specht, Community Relations Coordinator</td>
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<td>Nicholas Branic</td>
<td>Lori Perkins, Grants Coordinator</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Cromwell</td>
<td>Grace Cassutto, Marketing Assistant*</td>
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<td>Jim MacGillivray</td>
<td>Julian Lazarus, Director of Education &amp;</td>
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<td>Renee Lopez, Treasurer</td>
<td>Daniel Singh, Executive Director*</td>
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$519,060

SUPPORTING MAJOR PROJECTS including New Spire Arts, Square Corner, Public Art, and City Street Maintenance.

$1,783,920

2017 TOTAL COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

$2,842,965

Figures include some grants from AFF, AFT, and GFF.