

EMPOWERED

2019 - 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Urban League of
Lexington-Fayette County

EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES. CHANGING LIVES.



Urban League of
Lexington-Fayette County



MISSION

To ensure African Americans and the disadvantaged achieve equality.

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Donors



P.G. Peebles, Sr.
PRESIDENT/CEO

CIVIL UNREST OF 2020

June 18, 2020

Interview with Tom Wilmes Excerpt

Tom Wilmes: It really seems that both the national protests and the COVID-19 pandemic have laid bare many systemic inequalities for all to see.

P.G. Peebles, Sr.: "The scab has been pulled back again. Again. That scab has been pulled back many times. I've been doing this Urban League job for 52 years, so I've seen a lot. What frustrates me is when we go through these times everybody becomes highly sensitized, and then we go back to business as usual.

But, I'll tell you what I really like about the unrest now, is its young people. All colors of young people. And they seem to be hell-bent on not being turned around, and that creates the kind of leverage for those of us who do what we do to get it done. In the civil rights vernacular, we refer to it as the 'tree shakers and the jelly makers'. The marches and all get their attention, and then somebody has got to come along and start putting together programs and plans and negotiating and raising money to change things. Now we've got to do some concrete things that gives these young people something that they can really see and believe."

URBAN LEAGUE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2019 - 2021



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Forcht Bank

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SEON JACKSON
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Young Professionals

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LG&E and Kentucky Utilities



"A STRATEGIC BOARD HAS A VIEW OF LOOKING AHEAD,
AN INSIGHT TO LOOK DEEPER, AND COMPETENCY TO
LOOK BEYOND." — PEARL ZHU

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Kentucky American Water

WESSLEY PERRY
United Parcel Service

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WealthSouth

STAFF

Shannon Brooks, Annissa Franklin,
P.G. Peeples, Sr., Carli Smith, Tasha White

Contract Staff:
Logan Avritt and James McFarland



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

FAYETTE COUNTY LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Denise Brown, Timothy Ellery, Sherry Fields, Larry Forester, Norman Franklin, Keith Jones, John Logan, Abdul Muhammad, Raymond Smith, Maryann Wellman, and Eboni Williams

In 2019, 57,007 households in Fayette County were paying 30% or more of their income for rent according to Harvard University Joint Center for Housing Studies.

In June 2020, Kentucky state records showed more than 26,500 evictions had been filed.

Even with the eviction moratorium in place, the uncertainty of where a family will lay their head from month to month adds to the stress of being a low-income family.

OUR SOLUTION

1. Provide affordable rental homes
2. Build affordable homes
3. Financially educate and empower



In 1984 the Urban League started its Fayette County Local Development Corporation which is committed to providing affordable housing in Fayette County.

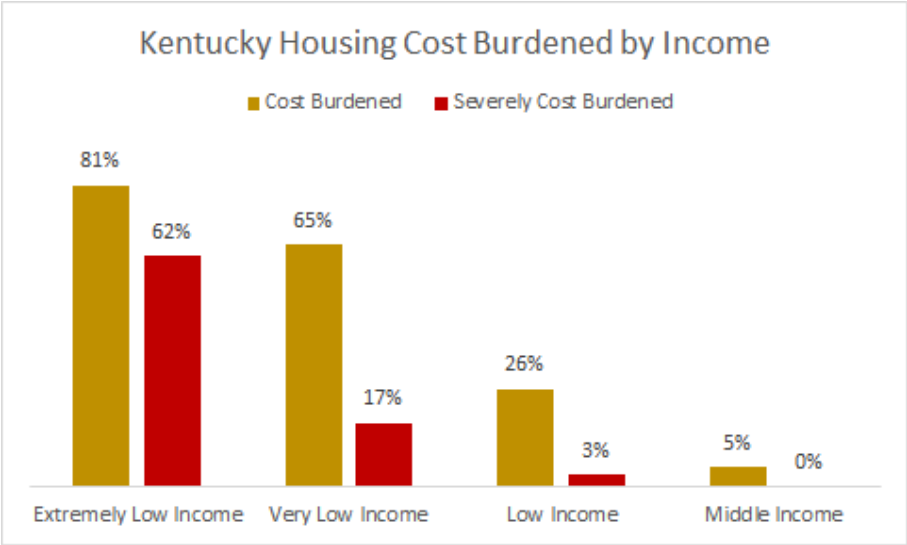
RENTING TO FAMILIES

July 2020 - June 2021

- 162 individuals served
- 60 rental properties available
- 24 households maintained their rent

July 2019 - June 2020

- 174 individuals served
- 58 rental properties available
- 7 households decreased their reliance on public assistance



Urban League properties rent for 30% or less of a tenant's household income. Section 8 vouchers are accepted.

Note: Renter households spending more than 30% of their income on housing costs and utilities are cost burdened; those spending more than half of their income are severely cost burdened. Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2019 ACS PUMS



COVID-19 HOUSING STABILITY

"Research shows that affordable housing has the capacity to help improve residents' health, access to education, and employment prospects."

~Housing & Urban Development

UNITED WAY of the BLUEGRASS CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

May - August 2020

\$20,000 in grant funds provided

- \$16,072 - rent for 28 households
- \$2,061 - utilities for 19 households
- \$1,867 - food security for 11 households

CITY OF LEXINGTON RENTER'S ASSISTANCE

September 2020 - February 2021

\$200,000 provided

- \$175,649 - rent for 105 households
- \$24,351 - eviction assistance

CITY OF LEXINGTON HOUSING STABILITY FUNDS

February 2021 - Ongoing

\$91,000 provided

- \$40,380 - rent assistance for 9 households
- \$4,665 - utility assistance for 6 households



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Fayette County Local Development Corporation
The Urban League's Affordable Housing Initiative

364 Corral Street

- Completed and rented in 2021
- Duplex with 3-bedroom, 2 full baths
- Each with 2 full baths
- Market value \$205,000

754 & 756 Florence Avenue

- Under development
- 1-, 2-, 3 -, and 4-bedroom four-plex
- ~\$706,793

\$27,939,036

- 161 First-time homebuyers
- 60 Rental units
- 51 senior apartments



YOUTH & EDUCATION

Providing educational opportunities for the next generation of leaders.

An education that opens young minds to a world of possibilities is a fundamental human right. For over 50 years, the Urban League movement has gathered the expertise and supportive evidence to develop academic programs that address the specific social and cultural needs of young African Americans and low-income students.

In partnership with the National Urban League and other Urban League affiliates, we are creating opportunities for meaningful student, parent, and stakeholder engagement. The goal is to build a sense of efficacy that can drive local education innovation by building a more robust set of stakeholders and developing effective advocates, including both parents and students.



MADE

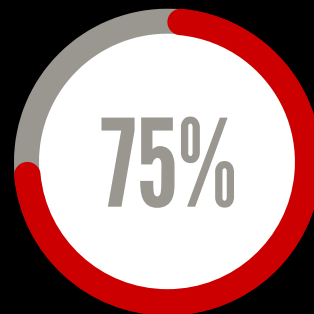
Motivated All Day Every-day is a social and emotional support program for youth. MADE provides:

- peer group counseling
- academic support
- family support
- conflict resolution skills

MADE helps students progress academically, socially and intellectually through enrichment opportunities, and develop important skills and attitudes.

Averages 154 students annually.

Logan Avritt, Program Director



Students in the program who made improvements or remained steadfast in their academic performance in the 2021 school year.

Graduates

- 2021 - 17/20 (85%) graduated
- 2020 - 13/15 (87%) graduated



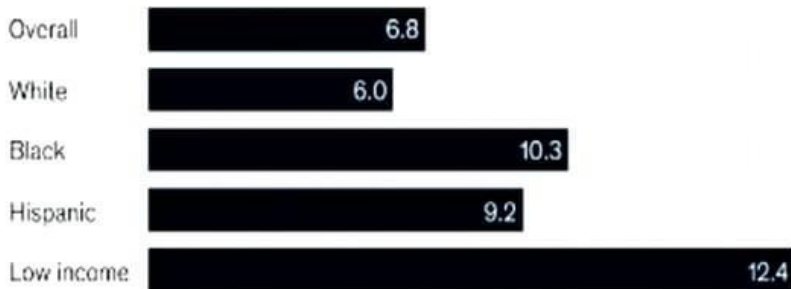
EQUITY & EXCELLENCE PROJECT

A partnership with the National Urban League

Creating opportunities for meaningful student, parent, and stakeholder engagement to build a sense of agency and efficacy that can drive local education reform/innovation by building a more robust set of stakeholders and developing effective advocates, including both parents and students, for our areas of emphasis.

COVID-19 Learning Loss Projections

Average months of learning lost in scenario 2 compared with typical in-classroom learning²



¹Estimates based on income quintiles, with assumption that top 2 income quintiles receive high-quality instruction.
²Includes 0.05 standard deviation reduction for black, hispanic, and low-income students to account for recession impacts (+1 month of learning loss).
Source: US Census 2018

McKinsey
& Company

... and the result is less learning from student disengagement and/or lack of access



LIFT CONFERENCE

LIFT is a college and career readiness conference for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students and their parents. ~Established 2003

\$78,000

awarded in scholarships to date

Topics covered: mental health, financial literacy, COVID's impact on education, STEM for pre/elementary, college/career preparation and exploration for middle and high school students

Conference 2021

- 4 scholarships were awarded to high school seniors
- 717 people reached through the online platform
- Multiple door prizes awarded: laptops, iPads, AirPods, and gift cards

Conference 2020

- 20 scholarships awarded - \$20,000
- 2,635 people reached through the online platform
- Door prizes awarded

ACADEMIC CHALLENGE II



2021 School Year

- An online individual competition
- Title I schools only - 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 8th-grade students

24 scholarships awarded in 2021:

- (6) Bluegrass Community & Technical College
- (6) Eastern Kentucky University
- (6) Morehead State University
- (6) Urban League monetary scholarships

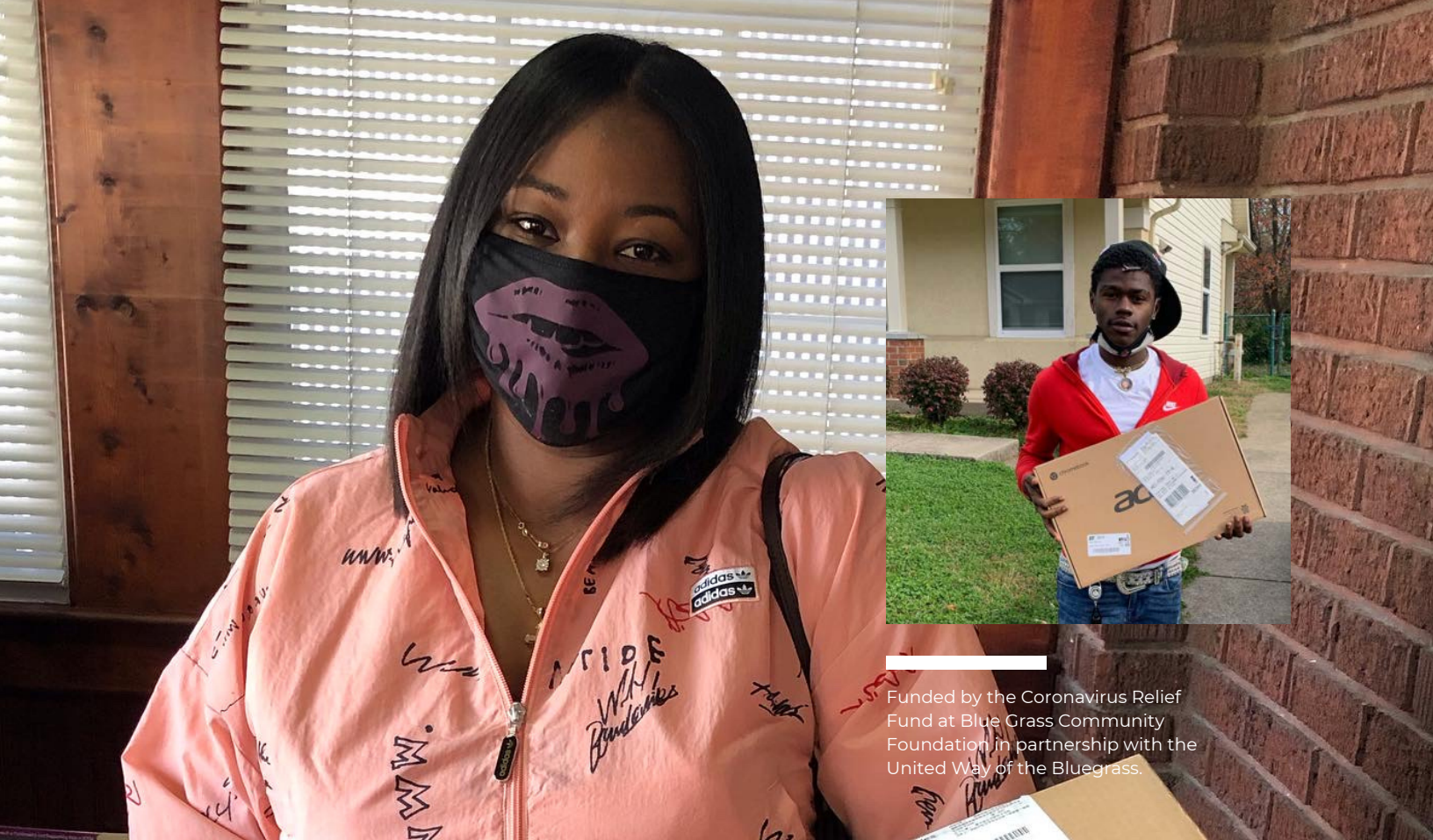
2020 School Year

- 21 Title I elementary schools
- 994 students participated
- \$1,931,000 awarded through 2020 in scholarships

\$2,097,110

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO DATE
THROUGH THIS PROGRAM

PROVIDED BY POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS,
PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FUNDS



Funded by the Coronavirus Relief Fund at Blue Grass Community Foundation in partnership with the United Way of the Bluegrass.

COVID SUPPORT

\$40,000

NON TRADITIONAL INSTUCTION SUPPORT
41 students and 55 teachers served directly

Overall student impact: 2,852

- 90 laptops provided
- 4 families received internet assistance
- 8 microphone and headset combo sets
- 15 wireless mice given
- 7 printers provided with replacement cartridges





WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Our goal is that every Lexingtonian has access to jobs with a living wage and good benefits, by helping people find jobs, get training, and pursue rewarding careers

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Technology Training

- The Urban League's fiber optics training program provides hands-on training to work in the telecommunications industry.
- 24 individuals participated in general computer training as well as Microsoft Word
- Workforce Wednesday Webinars provide soft skills tips, career opportunities, and host hiring events online.

COACH Fellowship

The COACH Fellowship was a new community leadership program for young Black males committed to becoming more civically engaged, and interested in pursuing a career in city government.

James McFarland, COACH and Technology Instructor



FY2021

Workforce Wednesday Webinar Series:

- Matching Skills with Opportunities
- Becoming a Strong Candidate
- Homeownership & Financial Literacy
- MetroNet Hiring Event



Gentrification

We continue to keep the conversation of gentrification alive as is evidenced by the City forming a new task force led by Councilmember James Brown and Vice Mayor Steve Kay. Peeples served on that task force along with Shayla Leach, a member of the Urban League Young Professionals.

Advocacy includes serving on the:

- Neighborhoods in Transition Task Force
- Mayor's Commission for Racial Justice and Equality

Youth & Education

Fayette County Public Schools
The Urban League chairs the Community Partners Leadership Team (CPLT) for Fayette County Public Schools

Kentucky Equity Coalition
The Urban League partners with the Prichard Committee, Louisville Urban League, Teach for America and others in advocating for equity in the state.

National Urban League
The Lexington affiliate is a member of the Equity & Excellence Project that advocates for equity and parent engagement within public schools.



LEXINGTON OPPORTUNITY ZONE

guidebook

June 2021

Opportunity Zones are an economic development tool that allows people to invest in distressed areas in the United States. Their purpose is to spur economic growth and job creation in low-income communities while providing tax benefits to investors.

Each of the seven districts in Lexington's downtown area offer unique opportunities for development that can satisfy housing, employment, and service shortages that the city and development community can help provide through the program.

In the Lexington Opportunity Zone Guidebook produced by the Urban League of Lexington and EHI, profiles of each zone were created. That profile includes an existing asset inventory, neighborhoods within each Opportunity Zone, and an analysis of the demographics, and zoning for existing vacant lots in order to help address the needs of each community.

To view the full Opportunity Zone Guidebook prepared by EHI Consultants and the Urban League visit: <https://ullex.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Lexington-Opportunity-Zone-Guidebook-062021.pdf>



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS 2020

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- YP members participated in: "Getting 2 Equal: United Not Divided" conference, State of Black America release, attending City Council and Fayette County Public Schools board meetings, 2020 Census, University of Kentucky Voter Registration Drive, All About Advocacy orientation, and 17th Legislative Policy Conference

HEALTH

- America Diabetes Association Run/Walk

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

- VP Dr. Candice Hargons was presented with an American Psychological Association Presidential Citation, Larry Jackson was presented with the 2019 Small Business-Minority Business

Awarded, President Dominique Wright was awarded the first-ever University of Kentucky College of Engineering Young Alumni award and the University of Kentucky 2019 Lyman T. Johnson Torch of Excellence Award.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Wealth Building Seminars on passive income featuring Domonic Hopson, EmpowerLex Book Club: Featuring Toni Morrison's Sula and The Cooking Gene, Mental Health Panel at Total Grace Church

YOUTH & EDUCATION

- Storytime with YP: Live reading and book signing of I Will Live My Best Life Too, by Martika Shanel.
- LIFT Conference



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS 2021

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- YP members participated in: Green Dot overview - a comprehensive violence prevention strategy, attending City Council and Fayette County Public Schools board meetings

HEALTH

- YPFit - a healthy living challenge among of YP chapters, Walk it Talk it - socially distanced walk in various locations around Lexington, Virtual 5K RUN to support college scholarships

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

- NULYP Distinguished Award Winners: **April Prather, Melvin Lewis** (Distinguished), **Kiah Arnold** (select Distinguished), **Dominique Wright** (2020 Honors Award), **Sharon Murphy** and **Tanya Torp** received the Lexington Black Prosperity Initiative Grassroots Leadership Award

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Thriving through COVID series began with Maintaining Mindfulness led by Dr. Candice Hargons

YOUTH & EDUCATION

- EmpowerLex Book Club - Pressure by Twany Beckham, Stories & Sweets with author Cherise Wilson, I Am Every Good Thing, Believe in Your Dreams, Say I'm Dead by E. Dolores Johnson, Stories and Power Series, All Because You Matter by Tami Charles; Awarded the first YPinLex Future Advocates Scholarships, National Day of Service Stories & STEM, International Book Project partnership for Stories and Ambition - Ambitious Girl by Meena Harris.

2020 DONORS

INFLUENCERS starting gift of \$25,000

Anonymous
Ball Homes
Calipari Foundation
Kenan Foundation
Lexington - Fayette Urban County Govt
National Urban League
PNC Bank
Toyota Motor Manufacturing KY
United Way
Whitaker Bank

ADVOCATE starting gift of \$10,000

BB&T Bank
Charter Communications
Fayette County Public Schools
Fifth Third Bank
Kentucky Bank
LG&E and KU
Our Community Bank
WesBanco

MOTIVATORS starting gift of \$5,000

Bluegrass Community Foundation
Chase, J.P. Morgan
Community Trust Bank
Dean Dorton CPAs
LexiDan Foods
Lexington Rotary Club
Lexmark
Messer Construction
Republic Bank
State Farm Insurance
Stoll Keenon Ogden
Windstream Communications

PIONEERS starting gift of \$1,000

Bank of the Bluegrass
Blue Grass Airport
Columbia Gas of Kentucky
Commerce Lexington
Community Action Council
Council on Postsecondary Education
EHI Consultants
Elkington Giving Fund
JMI Sports
Kentucky State University

Knudsen, Hannah
Lexington Housing Authority
Sherman Carter Barnhart
Stites & Harbison
Traditional Bank
Valvoline

FRIENDS

A Cup of Common Wealth Foundation
Adams, Guy
Adkins Family Foundation
Amazon Smile
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Babbage, Robert
Baptist Health Lexington
Bingham Greenbaum Doll
Bishop, Barry
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Crown, Colette
Curtis, Tracy
Darby, Heather
Dew, Stephanie
Dupont, Tiffany
Eastern Kentucky University
EKU/ Aramark
Estill, Lauralee
Francis, Bridgett
Franklin, Annisia
Franklin, Norman
Frontstream
Guide Realty
Hicks & Associates CPAs
Hilton, Mike
Hope Center
Ingle, Jay
Isaac, Al
James, Pearl
Jones, Keith
Kay, Steve
Kelly, Ann V
Kentucky American Water
Lett PSC, Thomas E
Lexington Community Land Trust

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
MacGillivray, Katherine
McCorvey, Dr. & Mrs. Everett
McGill, Morgan
Melton, Timothy
Miller, Jennifer
Mullineaux, Susan
Network for Good
Park Community Credit Union
Peeples, Maceo & Bonnie
Peeples, P.G. & Wilma
Prather, April
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence
Riggleman, Jessica
Riggs Sales Service, Inc.
Robinson, Patrick
Rogers, Daniel
Sacks, David
Samuel Jr, FT
Shalash, Noora
Smith, Steven
Stone, Steve
Sutherland & Associates
Taylor, Evan
Truist
U.S. Bank
University of Kentucky College of Education
Walker, Retia
Walling, Barry
Ward, Ashley
Wellman, Maryann
West, Yajaira
Wilson, Andrea
Wright, Dominique
Your Cause

2021 DONORS

INFLUENCERS starting gift of \$25,000

Calipari Foundation
Kentucky Housing Corporation
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Govt
Meijer Foundation, The
Toyota Motor Manufacturing, KY
Truist
United Way of the Bluegrass
William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust, The

ADVOCATES starting gift of \$10,000

Ball Homes
Ball, Mira
Charter Communications
Cornett
Elhapa Foundation
Fayette County Public Schools
Fifth Third Bank
Hilary Boone Foundation
Kloiber Foundation
LG&E and KU
Lowell and Sharon Williams Foundation
National Urban League
PNC Foundation
Tubby Smith Foundation

MOTIVATORS starting gift of \$5,000

Community Trust Bank
Lexmark
State Farm Insurance

PIONEERS starting gifts of \$1,000

Adams, James
Blackbaud Giving
Bluegrass Airport Board
Bluegrass Community Foundation
Chase, J. P. Morgan
EHI Consultants
Elkington Giving Fund
Jackson, Tonya
Kentucky State University
Messer Construction
Network for Good
Schell, Amy
Starbucks Foundation
US Bank
Walling, Barry
WealthSouth/Farmer's National Bank

WesBanco
Wright, Laura
YMCA of Central Kentucky

FRIENDS

Adams, Guy
Alpha Beta Lambda
Amazon Smile
Ange, Paige
Anonymous
Ayers, Dr. William
Berube, Richard
Bluegrass Community Foundation
Bluegrass Community Technical College
Carla Blanton Consulting
Clifford, Laura
Community Action Council
Dew, Stephanie
Estill, LauraLee
First Baptist Church of Versailles
Ford, Chris
Frontstream
Gallman, Vanessa
Godfrey, Linda
Gross, Phillip
Habitat for Humanity
Hanna, Lyle and Mary
Helig, Julian
Henson, Gail
Henson, Jason
Hill, Raymond & Susan
Hodge, Deborah
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Hustedde, Carol
Jackson, Julian
Johnson, Wardell
Julian, Dr. Augusta
Kerr, Emily Alston
Lear, Laura
Lexington Housing Authority
Lexington Public Library
Lincavage, Megan
Louisville Urban League
Mahan, Mark
Martin, Wayne
McDowell, Ruth
McGill, Morgan

Meaux, Samuel
Miller, Jonathan
Moore, Nathl
Moynahan, William
Peoples, P.G. & Wilma
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Ruschell, Lillie
Sacks, David
Scanlon, Michael
Sciantarelli, Jennifer
Sheehan, Liz
Shropshire, Jane
Southwest Community & Technical College
Sykes, Kevin
T.A.T Publishing
Taylor, Kristin
Tritschler, Ronald
University of Kentucky
Walker, Retia
Wellman, Maryann
West, Yajaira
Westbrook, Paul
White, Scott
Wilmschhoff, Marshall
Young, Latarika "Tari"
YourCause
Zawacki, Thomas
Zinger, Jeffery



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