



! I CAN
HAVE
AN
IMPACT



I CAN MAKE
A DIFFERENCE

in rebuilding lives

AS WE ALL KNOW, 2008 WAS A YEAR OF TREMENDOUS IMPACT ON THE CITY OF HOUSTON. EFFECTS OF THE NATION'S WORST ECONOMIC DOWNTURN IN DECADES RIPPLED THROUGH OUR COMMUNITY, FOLLOWED BY THE LASHING OF HURRICANE IKE. BUT, AS TEXANS HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN, TOUGH TIMES ARE THE TEST OF TRUE CHARACTER. AND, TRUE TO FORM, OUR GHCF DONORS TRIUMPHED OVER THIS YEAR OF ADVERSITY IN WHAT PROVED TO BE OUR MOST GENEROUS GIVING YEAR YET. *WE INDEED MADE A DIFFERENCE.*

As the *center of philanthropy* in Houston, GHCF is accustomed to making a difference. To our ever-growing donor base, we offer the distinction between just *giving* to a good cause — and giving *smarter* for *better* results. It's giving that pairs our community knowledge with your passion for progress. Giving that not only helps to shape Houston today, but long into the future.

More than ever before, we know that making the most of your charitable dollars is of the utmost importance. That's why we offer donor-education events and resources that help you optimize your giving while also capitalizing on tax benefits. And, as always, we provide the administrative and operational freedom that makes giving easier and more convenient.

LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE. TOGETHER, WE CAN HAVE AN IMPACT.

FAR-REACHING IMPACT

FROM RECORD LOWS IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY TO RECORD HIGHS IN DONOR GIVING, 2008 WAS A YEAR THAT SHONE AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT BEING AT THE HEART OF PHILANTHROPY IN HOUSTON IS ALL ABOUT.

Despite an inevitable downturn in investment return due to the recession, GHCF donors directed giving to charities in record amounts in 2008, impacting change in far-reaching corners of the Greater Houston area. By year's end, we had received more than \$94.6 million in gifts and distributed \$70.4 million in grants — making 2008 our best year ever. We emerged as the nation's 47th largest community foundation (up from 57th in 2007) and held strong to our position as one of the top five grant-makers in Houston. And all of this happened because of the selfless generosity of our donors, as well as the prudent management and levelheaded direction offered by our GHCF governing board and expert staff.

Houston's philanthropic core even managed to turn the Hurricane Ike disaster into an opportunity to spread healing and hope. Via Mayor Bill White's Gulf Coast Ike Relief Fund, which GHCF was chosen to administer, and through the United Way and the Bush-Clinton fund, donations were distributed to storm victims by local nonprofits — yet another example of what is possible when generous hearts are at work.


By continuing to serve as the *center of philanthropy* in Houston — supporting our patrons through our streamlined donor-advised fund process and the strategic guidance offered by our specialized philanthropic advisors — we'll continue to bring together benefactors with the causes they care about most. It's what we do best. And it's what allows you to do what you do best: make an impact on the world around you.



Chair, Governing Board



President



WE'RE PROUD OF OUR DONORS AND THE INCREDIBLE GOOD THEY ACCOMPLISH IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY AND BEYOND. WE'RE ALSO PROUD TO PLAY A ROLE IN THEIR SUCCESS BY MATCHING THEM TO THE NONPROFITS MOST TAILORED TO THEIR GIVING GOALS. BY THEN PROVIDING OUR "BEST-PRACTICES" ADMINISTRATIVE AND GRANT-MANAGEMENT SUPPORT — HONED OVER YEARS OF HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE — WE ULTIMATELY HELP OUR PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS GET TO THE HEART OF THE LEGACY THEY WANT TO LEAVE BEHIND.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER IN 2008 >>

“A few hours after Hurricane Ike hit the Greater Houston area, I knew we had to establish a fund to help our citizens recover. The Greater Houston Community Foundation was an obvious partner in the effort, since they had worked on previous disasters, and the Gulf Coast Ike Relief Fund was up and running within days of the storm. Thanks to the generosity of individuals and corporations in the Greater Houston area, as well as from different parts of the country, more than \$11 million was collected for distribution to nonprofit agencies in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris and Montgomery counties. These funds were key in restoring needed services so people could get back on their feet and return to work.”

— The Honorable Bill White, Mayor of the City of Houston

“In the wake of Hurricane Ike’s devastation, the Bush-Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund was established to provide long-term recovery assistance to those hardest hit by the storm. Based on the partnership we had with the Greater Houston Community Foundation after Katrina, we knew a fund at GHCF would help us work on restoring hope to the communities along the Gulf Coast.”

**— The Honorable George Bush,
41st President of the United States**





I CAN HELP PAVE THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

gulf coast ike relief fund and bush-clinton coastal recovery fund

As Hurricane Ike bore down on the Texas Gulf Coast in the late hours of September 12, 2008, few residents of Houston and the surrounding area could have imagined the fury lying in its wake. When the storm was over, the destruction was massive. Homes leveled. Towns washed off the map. *Lives devastated.*

Determined to make a difference, Houston Mayor Bill White moved quickly to establish a fund to channel donated money to where it was needed most. White turned to GHCF to administer the effort, and the **Gulf Coast Ike Relief Fund** (GCIRF) was born. A lifeline to Houston area residents, the GCIRF made grants to local nonprofits providing direct assistance to storm victims. In the end, more than \$11 million was raised and granted or designated to service agencies ranging in scope from food supply and temporary shelter to childcare, home repair and financial assistance.

While the GCIRF's aim was to provide immediate relief, long-term needs still loomed. To this end, former Presidents George Bush and Bill Clinton teamed up once again to spearhead continuing recovery efforts. Following in the footsteps of their immensely successful Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund and Indian Ocean tsunami relief work, they chose GHCF to manage the **Bush-Clinton Coastal Recovery Fund**. Tasked with supplying grants for long-term recovery projects, the fund is still an active player in raising money — and awareness — toward Houston's, Galveston's and the surrounding areas' eventual full recovery.



“The Greater Houston Community Foundation has been a wonderful partner for the Homebuilding Community Foundation (HCF), not only in their administrative support role, but also in providing insight and guidance which has led to HCF’s success. HCF has truly benefitted from GHCF’s philanthropic knowledge over the years and I am grateful.”

— J. Roger Glunt, President of Homebuilding Community Foundation

I CAN WORK TO BUILD BETTER COMMUNITIES

homebuilding community foundation

Members of the U.S. housing industry are a hard-working bunch. And why not? They’re not just busy building *homes* — they’re also building *hope*. In 2008, despite the worst housing recession in years, the homebuilding community still managed to donate a record-setting \$11.6 million to charitable concerns through its **Homebuilding Community Foundation (HCF)**. And GHCF was there to help.

As administrative partner to HCF, GHCF hammered out the behind-the-scenes details that enabled the group’s giving efforts to jump 78 percent over 2007 levels. Housing professionals took full advantage of the simplicity of creating HCF donor-advised funds, then supported their preferred charities through gifts in the form of more than 300 individual grants made to cultural, educational, faith-based and social-service entities in their local communities. Through these funds, facilitated by GHCF, builders, suppliers and others involved in the homebuilding industry were able to impact change *individually* in a diverse range of worthy causes, while also *collectively* drawing attention to the industry’s shared philanthropy.





I CAN OPEN ROADS TO RECOVERY

the first response team of america

To say that Tad Agoglia is not one to sit around in time of need would be a drastic understatement. So when an F-5 tornado hit the city of Greensburg, Kansas, in May 2007, the disaster-response contractor took instant action. Rather than waiting to be called in, Agoglia arrived on the scene within days, using his company's cranes and two-wheel loaders to clear roads of debris. His efforts gained first-aid providers a safe path into town for delivery of crucial supplies. And they gained Agoglia national attention.

Things moved quickly after that. Agoglia founded **The First Response Team of America**, a nonprofit group that provides immediate help to areas hit by natural disasters. To date, he and his crew have assisted thousands of victims across the United States, *free of charge*. To fund his team's efforts during the unprecedented 2008 storm season, Agoglia poured his full — but limited — personal wealth into his venture. So selfless were his actions that he was named one of the Top 10 CNN Heroes for 2008.

Agoglia dreams of a day when multiple First Response teams will cover the country. To this end, he employs GHCF for responsible administration of his finances. He explains, "GHCF gives me peace of mind because I know that my money is being managed with the utmost integrity. They really share my values."



I CAN HELP HEAL MY COMMUNITY

baylor/methodist community health fund

In 2007, The Methodist Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine teamed up to create the **Baylor/Methodist Community Health Fund** (BMCHF). This \$16 million initiative, to be disbursed over a five-year period, assists local nonprofits focused on providing healthcare to the medically underserved. Armed with the back-office support of GHCF's administrative and grant-making expertise, BMCHF has already granted out over \$6 million to medical providers in a nine-county region. These grateful recipients are charged with using the funds to make a "significant impact" in their communities in the areas of childhood immunization, preventative care, healthcare access, dental services and behavioral/mental health.

Best of all, BMCHF directors have a *healthy* respect for the streamlined GHCF grant-management process that frees them to focus on big-picture fund operations, rather than tedious daily tasks. They can take care of the healing work while GHCF handles the paperwork.

"Providing care to very young children at risk for abuse, neglect and HIV is one small, but very important step in improving the lives of generations to come. The Baylor/Methodist Community Health Fund that is managed by GHCF has given Casa de Esperanza tremendous support, which can ultimately touch the lives of many people in the Greater Houston area. It is definitely money well spent."

**— Kathleen Foster, Executive Director
of Casa de Esperanza**



I CAN WELCOME A BABY INTO A WORLD OF HOPE

*the “new beginnings” program at ben taub
general hospital*

Every baby's arrival is a new beginning. But for indigent mothers giving birth at Houston's Ben Taub General Hospital, it's often a beginning fraught with anxiety. For these women, providing for a newborn isn't a given. There are no baby showers, no boxes of newborn diapers or even a crib waiting at home.

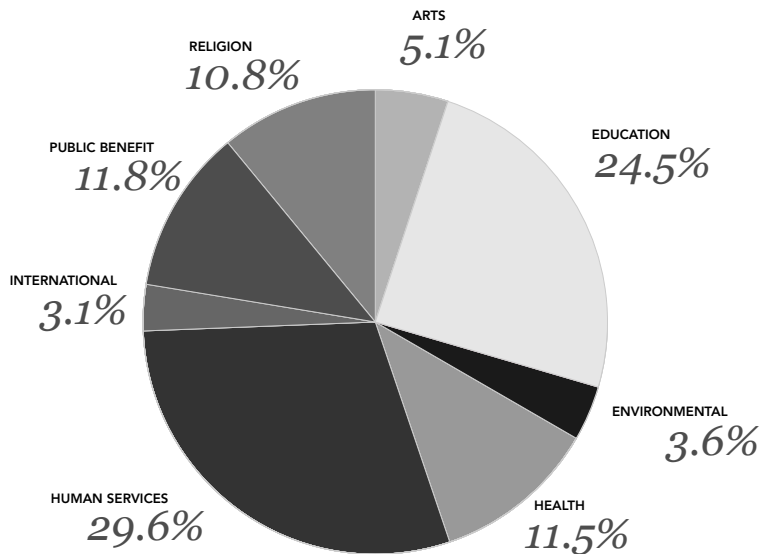
Moved by the plight of these fellow mothers, Kay Bollinger decided she had to help last year. A newcomer to GHCF, this hands-on benefactor sprang into action. She contacted Ben Taub and began brainstorming with the hospital's social services staff on how to put her \$5,000 grant into action. The plan? To provide 100 at-risk families with a “baby shower in a basket” — each packed with newborn essentials like health kits, diapers, blankets, onesies, bath supplies and infant-to-toddler rockers.

Bollinger enlisted the help of Target, whose staff embraced the project wholeheartedly, even helping at gift-wrapping time. “Giving is contagious,” she beams. “Even bystanders chipped in to help us wrap.”

Just in time for the Christmas season, the moms “just melted” when they received the surprise baskets. Their grateful response stirred Bollinger's resolve to not only repeat the “**New Beginnings**” gift program again this December, but also look to a future when outside contributions can boost delivery of the baskets to every month. She adds, “I don't think there's any better way to justify spending your money than to get involved with your own sweat equity. It's a way to fill your heart with what you're doing.”

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

ghcf grants by program area (1/1/2008 - 12/31/2008)



arts	\$ 3,589,274	5.1%
education	\$ 17,300,638	24.5%
environmental	\$ 2,533,084	3.6%
health	\$ 8,087,737	11.5%
human services	\$ 20,883,871	29.6%
international	\$ 2,157,039	3.1%
public benefit	\$ 8,323,165	11.8%
religion	\$ 7,608,087	10.8%

TOTAL GRANTS \$ 70,482,897 100.0%

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

statement of financial position

	<i>d e c e m b e r 3 1</i>		
	2008	2007	2006
ASSETS			
<i>cash and investments</i>	215,219,482	255,757,397	216,247,681
<i>contribution receivables</i>	6,641,314	8,803,465	8,740,054
<i>other assets</i>	10,877,908	4,396,780	5,511,349
TOTAL ASSETS	232,738,704	268,957,642	230,499,084
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS			
<i>liabilities</i>	4,860,805	5,759,118	4,228,626
<i>assets held for others</i>	16,756,086	12,844,367	13,463,250
<i>net assets</i>	211,121,813	250,354,157	212,807,208
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	232,738,704	268,957,642	230,499,084

statement of activities

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT			
<i>total contributions</i>	94,686,855	78,188,413	68,052,370
<i>less agency contributions</i>	(1,885,334)	(3,613,386)	(1,465,466)
<i>donor contributions</i>	92,801,521	74,575,027	66,586,904
<i>investment income</i>	(60,077,212)	16,804,920	19,665,838
<i>other income</i>	(946,737)	8,580	677,222
TOTAL REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT	31,777,572	91,388,527	86,929,964
GRANTS AND EXPENSES			
<i>total grants</i>	70,482,897	56,893,200	55,967,780
<i>less grants to agencies</i>	(2,099,575)	(5,184,034)	(7,730,423)
<i>grants and charitable expenditures</i>	68,383,322	51,709,166	48,237,357
<i>operating and other expenses</i>	2,626,594	2,132,412	2,250,299
TOTAL GRANTS AND EXPENSES	71,009,916	53,841,578	50,487,656
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(39,232,344)	37,546,949	36,442,308
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	250,354,157	212,807,208	176,364,900
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	211,121,813	250,354,157	212,807,208

*2008 figures are unaudited

LEADERSHIP

GOVERNING BOARD

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Maureen Hackett
Community Volunteer

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Consultant, Clark Consulting

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Principal, Margolis Interests

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Emily A. Crosswell

Lee Hogan

Stephen M. Kaufman

Mary Nell Lovett

Randall Meyer

Wilhelmina E. (Beth) Robertson

David M. Weekley

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Maureen Hackett
Community Volunteer

CHAIR ELECT

Gus Comiskey, Jr.
Consultant, Clark Consulting

John Scott Arnoldy

*Chairman, President & CEO
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Emily A. Crosswell

Community Volunteer

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President, Hogan Investments

B. B. Hollingsworth, Jr.

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Jill Jewett

Community Volunteer

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Consultant, Clark Consulting

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Senior Partner,
Chrysalis Partners LLC*

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*Associate to the President
The University of Texas M. D.
Anderson Cancer Center*

Paul B. Murphy, Jr.

*Chief Executive Officer
Amegy Bank of Texas*

Wilhelmina E. (Beth) Robertson

President, Cockspur Inc.

Ali Saberioon

*President/Chief Executive Officer
Sabco Oil & Gas Corporation*

Peter Shaper

*Chief Executive Officer
CapRock Communications, Inc.*

Lane Ward

*Vice Chairman, Amegy Bank
of Texas*

Bob Zincke

Community Volunteer

MAXIMUM IMPACT

ghcf services

GHCF'S FAMILY OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF TIMESAVING CONVENIENCE AND UNSURPASSED COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE — OFFERING FAMILIES, FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS AND EVEN NONPROFITS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO CREATE LASTING LEGACIES.

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

The GHCF donor-advised fund is a cornerstone of the giving strategies of today's busy philanthropic families. Featuring an easy set-up process and notable tax advantages, it offers a giving tool that can be uniquely tailored to your individual charitable goals. Starting with as little as \$10,000, you can build your legacy through a named fund, or give anonymously to protect your privacy. Your cash gift is tax-deductible up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income, and is exempt from excise tax on investment income. Or enjoy the tax benefits of an array of non-cash donation options, including stock (public or private) and mutual fund shares, partnership interests, real estate and energy royalties. Whether you wish to give locally or nationally, we'll provide the community insight and grantee knowledge to ensure your dollars generate maximum impact where they're needed most.

FOUNDATION SERVICES

GHCF serves private and corporate foundations as an invaluable administrative, managerial and operational resource, taking care of day-to-day details so foundation directors can focus on the bigger picture of grant-making.

FAMILY FOUNDATION GENERATIONAL PLANNING

GHCF can help your family foundation capitalize on the diverse giving goals of family members, while also preserving organizational integrity. We'll work with you to develop the forward-thinking mission, strategy, program structure, governance design and general vision that will secure your family's legacy for generations.

GRANT-MANAGEMENT SERVICES

At GHCF, we know that grant management is one of the most time-consuming tasks faced by philanthropic families and foundations today. That's why we offer full-scale grant-management services, ranging from strategic grant design to the management of requests, applications, awards and declinations. We'll see the process through grant closing, and can then provide an evaluation of your ultimate funding impact.

PARTNERS IN PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS (PIPA)

Through our PIPA accounts, GHCF empowers nonprofits and foundations with access to our time-tested investment programs. Capitalize on practiced money-management strategies that combine a risk-mitigated portfolio with diversification opportunities and expert committee oversight — all while maintaining legal control over the assets.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Whether you aim to honor a loved one, support a special school, or provide academic assistance to your employees and their children, GHCF can customize a scholarship program just for you. Simply set your criteria, donation amount and desired number of awards, and leave the administration and management to us.

CORPORATE SERVICES

We help business leaders give back to the community through responsible, efficiently managed corporate contribution programs. GHCF acts as a vital operational partner to corporate foundations, handling the fine points of competent grant management and fund administration while injecting a keen awareness of community need.

SMART GIVING. BETTER RESULTS.



GREATER HOUSTON
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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