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## **Community Foundation opens spring grant cycle**

**Submitted by the Dalton-Whitfield Community Foundation**

The Dalton-Whitfield Community Foundation announced that it is accepting spring grant request applications through Thursday.

“Beyond our efforts to promote charitable giving in and around Whitfield County, we also award grants to local nonprofit organizations twice each year — fall and spring,” said Linda Blackman, board chairperson for the Dalton-Whitfield Community Foundation. “Our community grants have totaled more than \$500,000 since 2005. These grants are made possible because of the gifts of local individuals, families, and businesses who have donated to the foundation’s permanent endowment funds.”

According to Blackman, these funds are invested, and a portion of their annual earnings are distributed each year by the board of trustees, based on recommendations from a grant committee made up of community leaders. The foundation’s grants committee is chaired by Sherwood Jones.

Blackman also said that the foundation awarded just over \$22,000 to local groups during last fall’s grant cycle. “We awarded grants to organizations such as Georgia Meth Project, Creative Arts Guild, Carter Hope Center, Oscar N. Jonas Memorial Foundation, and the Crisis Center,” she said. “We award grants to qualified organizations to support specific projects that are outside normal operating expenses.”

Community grants are typically modest in size — from \$2,000 to \$5,000 — and support a multitude of projects each year that create opportunity, nurture both individual and family self-sufficiency, target root causes of problems, and foster collaboration within the Whitfield County community.

The Community Foundation was created in 1997 to provide a centralized philanthropic endowment to meet future needs of Whitfield County.

“Our foundation works with local individuals and families every day to help them get the most out of their charitable giving,” Blackman added. “We offer a variety of fund types that deliver tremendous tax benefits to donors — that’s our main mission.”

The foundation welcomes applications from charitable nonprofit organizations that provide services to Whitfield County and have an IRS tax-exempt classification. To apply for a spring grant, visit their website at [www.CommunityFoundationNWGA.org](http://www.CommunityFoundationNWGA.org) and complete the online application before the March 31 deadline. Grant recipients will be announced in late April or early May.