AN UP-CLOSE LOOK AT THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE NORTHSORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IN 2016 AND THROUGHOUT OUR FIRST TEN YEARS
WHILE IT IS TRADITION IN ANNUAL REPORTS to review the work and impact of the most recent year, in this edition we have the pleasure of also reflecting on our first ten years, and as we do that, we discover our tenets. In these core principles that weave throughout all we do, it becomes clear that each of them not only define our organization, but also the people who make it all possible. Our donors and stakeholders share our commitment to a beautiful, safe and prosperous Northshore and they embody these very qualities. It is our great pleasure to harness all of that goodness and exceed expectations at every turn. For that opportunity, we are very grateful.

2016 was an amazing year, full of change and growth. Building a new home, tackling new challenges and growing the fuel to better serve our region. This momentum proudly propels us through our mission of uniting human and financial resources to enhance the quality of life in the Northshore region.
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COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS ARE SYNONYMOUS WITH LEADERSHIP
We lead in philanthropy, we lead in service and we lead in addressing the opportunities and challenges facing our region.... And we depend on a highly-qualified Board of Directors to lead us. Well known for their generosity, professional success and community service, our Directors are stellar members of our Northshore communities who stand out and stand above for leading by example. Our Foundation is built on their shoulders.

No better example of this character personified is our recently departed Founding Board member, Richard F. “Dick” Knight. Dick was known to all for his love of this place, from his roots in Washington Parish to his professional work and volunteerism in St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and St. Helena. In order to honor Dick in a way he most deserves, this November – National Philanthropy Month – the Northshore Community Foundation will award the first annual Dick Knight Award for Community Excellence to a recipient who embodies Dick’s love for our region and his heart for service.
“I spent the first third of my life learning, the second third of my life earning and the last third giving back.”

Dick’s was a very well-lived life and we were blessed to have him share that life with us.

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HOW WE MEASURE IS AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT WE MEASURE

While most community foundations measure their success by the assets they manage, we look at things a little differently.

Assets that we have and hold are important, without a doubt, but not nearly as important as the assets that we move out the door to those who need it the most. The economy of philanthropy is driven by motion, and we count that robust movement as our success.

We count this way because it is nearly impossible to quantify the human impact of all that we do.
dollars in philanthropic fuel moved since inception
13 million grants since inception
17 million total assets
2.9 million grants in 2016
33 million dollars in philanthropic fuel moved since inception
3.9 million dollars in philanthropic fuel moved in 2016
PARTNER NON PROFITS, BOTH BIG AND SMALL

After the 2010 oil spill, the locally organized and executed “Gulf Aid Concert” recognized that our fishing communities would need long term support and it rallied a huge audience to the cause. Today, fishermen are still recovering from the impacts of the spill. With that in mind, the Audubon Nature Institute’s Gulf United for Lasting Fisheries team reached out to the leaders of the Gulf Relief Foundation Fund at the Foundation to join forces to secure a vibrant future for Louisiana’s fishing industry. With a grant from the Foundation of $324,000 in 2016, the GULF team is working to not only ensure the sustainability of our local seafood, but also our precious fishermen’s way of life.

It’s not all check writing, though. In fact, some of our most rewarding efforts with our nonprofit partners is in promoting their missions and assisting them in their work. When our nonprofits are healthy, we are all thriving and we feel a great responsibility in ensuring their success.
Keep Louisiana Beautiful promotes environmental activism among our local youth.

Our local Food Banks nourish literally thousands of residents with food insecurity.

Protecting Louisiana fisheries is as important as protecting our fishermen.

Grace (left) has lived at the Milne Home for 72 years. She is 91 ans still works on campus.
ENgage

just as math and language are core subjects in any level of education, we believe that the value of generous and selfless spirits must be taught over a lifetime as well. That is why our Foundation actively engages the youth of our region in programs and opportunities to serve and grow. We believe in youth empowerment and we strive to ignite a passion and a will for action in the hearts of our youth. That passion delivers a desire for the betterment of themselves and our world.

STEM education specialty clubs, business development and leadership programs, community service projects and access to higher education are just some of the ways we stay tuned-in and engage the Northshore’s next generation of leaders. Just to point out a few numbers: 48 student entrepreneurs have been trained, more than 75 student youth volunteers have given almost 1,000 hours of meaningful community service and the amount of fuel we have deployed overall to engage these youth in our communities has topped $1,013,000.

This is one of our favorite numbers.
Youth in Philanthropy strive to make the most of their service hours.

Just a few of the YEA 2016 students ready to take on the world.

COLLEGE-BOUND is not a phrase that all of our students identify with... But with 97 individual scholarships granted so far, we are working hard to change that.
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS ARE CONSIDERED “CREATIVE ALLIANCES” formed between government entities and the private sector to achieve a common purpose, to paraphrase our friends at the Urban Land Institute. Others have joined such partnerships—including foundations, educational institutions, community-based organizations and business support groups. Our Foundation has been at the forefront of these partnerships since our inception and local policy makers have taken notice and are using us as a resource in diverse and important ways.

Partnerships around the region have successfully impacted a range of ventures from single projects to long-term plans for land use and economic growth. Partnerships have involved positioning our educational community to access private resources, land donations for flood prevention, public facilities such as a behavioral health campus and a community service campus, and after-school programs serving our most valuable and vulnerable youth.

Working hand-in-hand with the public sector allows us to impact needs and opportunities outside the scope of government’s reach. Where there is a project that can bring together visitors and residents with quality of life, and economic development, that’s our sweet spot—and we are on it.
A BIKESHARE to get the Northshore peddling.

After-school programs are crucial to the safety and well-being of our underserved youth.

Ribbon Cutting for the new NTCC STEM Campus in Lacombe.
FIRST IN MARCH, AND THEN AGAIN IN AUGUST, our state saw unprecedented rainfall that culminated in historic flooding in our region. Many in drier areas could only watch as 24 inches of rain fell in 48 hours, 40,000 people had to be rescued, 13 people died and the destruction of more than 100,000 homes left multitudes suddenly homeless and stranded in shelters. Witnessing these tragedies brought about the immediate Foundation response of, “What can we do to help?”

Using our nimble infrastructure, our Foundation created the Northshore Weather Relief Fund and we quickly raised and deployed nearly $600,000 for flood relief and rebuilding. Most of the that money was pushed out immediately to the organizations that were in the trenches rescuing, feeding, gutting homes, and rebuilding lives. It didn’t hurt that national media outlets, including a personal shout-out from Stephen Colbert, recommended the Northshore Weather Relief Fund as an effective tool to give. Thousands of dollars came in quickly from around the country to help our people recover and that immediate generosity mattered.
A special note of thankful recognition to our other flood-related funds, the Northshore Cajun Army and STPCares, for taking on flood relief efforts at the front lines.
IF THERE IS ONE THING SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATIONS have in common, it is vision. We believe in it, we encourage it and it is at the root of what drives us. Unapologetically bold vision is a powerful force and we use it to take big ideas, put them into words, and then most importantly, turn them into action.

Our work to elevate the Northshore Region to become a critical third point in the South Louisiana Super Region is just one example of holding to this bold vision. Our efforts are redefining the conventional thinking of “Point A (NOLA) to Point B (BR)” linear growth, to now include “Point C (Northshore)” creating an all-encompassing triangle of prosperity for Southeast Louisiana. We all stand to gain by an integrated approach with a clear focus on a planned future.

By collaboration and working with similar organizations to maximize our quality of life and economic development efforts, our successes will be richer, and our outcomes greater.
SuperRegion

The plan is to grow our thriving community around economic and cultural partnerships.

Fueled by the power of regionalism, big-thinking successes are within reach.
GRATITUDE

IT IS OUR DEEPEST HOPE THAT WE ARE KNOWN FOR THIS, perhaps above all else. We aspire to say thank you more often than we ask for more. And while we thank the people of the Northshore continually, we have been remiss in not better acknowledging perhaps the single most important driver to our success.

Ten years ago, the leadership of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation undertook the bold step to start a community foundation for our Northshore region. From that moment on, they have invested over $2.5 million and thousands of staff hours believing in and breathing life into our success. They are one of the most well-respected community foundations in our country, they graciously serve all of South Louisiana in their work, and they chose us to help further their mission of a thriving Louisiana.

Our Board and our staff will forever be indebted to and deeply grateful for their commitment, their investment, their leadership and their partnership. We are so honored to be a part of such an amazing team and without them, we simply would not “be.”
"The Water Campus will be home to scientists, engineers and many others who are teaming up to offer the best science for coastal problems."
LEVERAGE

IF EVER THERE WAS A CONCRETE EXAMPLE of the somewhat vague concept that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, our Foundation would be that example. Leveraging is perhaps our greatest asset because we do the following, (and we borrow this description from our colleagues at the Rockefeller Foundation because they nailed it.)

- We develop new investments from diverse and often unexpected sources.
- We ensure existing fund resources are spent in the most effective ways.
- We influence our region as a thought leader and convener.
- We capitalize on tipping points to bring about positive change.

Our donors drive everything in our ability to accomplish these purposes. They invest in us, they hold us accountable, they give us their time and ideas and they allow us to combine their resources with others to build a better place.

They ring their bell, and all the bells toll.
From one bell all the bells toll. — Dejan Stojanovic

ACCESS Fund
Adult Stem Medical Science & Research Fund
The Bill and Susan Baker Fund
Bogalusa Scholarship Fund
Fay and Phelan Bright Endowment Fund
Camellia City Kids Fun Fest Fund
Carpenter Family Fund
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SOS - An Abita Beer Charitable Fund
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St. Tammany Cancer Fund
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STARC Endowment Fund
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True Body Kids Charitable Fund
Jinx Vidrine Legacy Foundation Fund
Voelkel McWilliams Construction Fund
We Lift You Up Fund
Wilbert H. Reisig Scholarship Fund for Parkinson’s Awareness
The Wilson Family Fund
Workforce Housing Opportunities Fund
World of Wonder (WOW Fund)
YEA! Northshore Fund
SEVEN THOUSAND SQUARE FEET OF FUNCTIONAL, SHAREABLE SPACE to elevate our community by strengthening the nonprofits who serve it. Our new offices are a joyful and energetic hub where community partners, nonprofits and donors can come together to do smart, innovative work around philanthropic and civic issues.

Anchored by the 35-person Coatney Center for Philanthropy, a conference and meeting space available at no charge to ANY nonprofit in the region, Northshare and its many facets are at the heart of the Foundation’s mission. Augmented by monthly programming and classes for learning, everything in the building is driven by shared information, passions and resources.

Nonprofit collaborative workspaces exist all over the country but this is the first of its kind in Louisiana. Believing in the power of connection and human proximity, the Foundation is passionate about pairing people with a purpose and when the two are enriched, positive change happens.
The Coatney Center is a free, configurable conference space for use by any local nonprofit needing a place to meet.
All of the ARTISTIC photographs in this book were 100% donated by world famous, Albert Koetsier, a Dutch artist who uses x-rays to highlight the complexities of nature. You can read about his fascinating life and see details of his amazing work at beyondlight.com. Thank you Albert.

YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
AND WE CAN HELP YOU DO THAT. TODAY.
Join us at the Northshore Community Foundation and we will help you mobilize, plan and launch.
NorthshoreFoundation.org/join

YOU CAN FIND US AT:
807 N. Columbia St.
Covington, LA 70433
985.893.8757