

Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.

Delaplaine Foundation, Inc., is a place-based, family foundation located in Frederick, MD, although Delaplaine family history dates back to the early settlers in Frederick County, MD as evidenced by the fact that the first house in Frederick was built by their ancestor, John Thomas Schley. 2021 is Delaplaine Foundation's 20th year of serving its mission of impactful philanthropy for a greater good by supporting programs and services that enrich communities, families, individuals, and quality of life for all.

Spanning the past two decades, Delaplaine Foundation leadership has had widespread opportunity to meet, partner with, and support incredibly dedicated nonprofit organizations whose missions closely align with the Foundation's. Delaplaine Foundation President Marlene Young noted, "What a privilege to walk alongside the community through some challenging terrain at times, especially within the past year. We all felt the ground shift beneath us as norms were questioned and practices tested. It's been a time of urgency, yet a time to pause, reflect, gain clarity, and chart new paths forward." Between emergency relief grants that the Foundation made in response to the impact of the pandemic and its annual grant cycle, Delaplaine Foundation awarded a record 215 grants in excess of \$2,500,000 last year.

The genesis of Delaplaine Foundation stems from the sale in March, 2001 of the family's major newspaper and cable television/telecommunications businesses from which the Delaplaine family chose to take a portion of the proceeds to establish Delaplaine Foundation, Inc. The businesses, under the visionary leadership of Delaplaine Foundation Chairman George B. Delaplaine, Jr. had a long history of being good corporate citizens, giving back to the communities where we did business, which included Frederick County, Md. and portions of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. Consequently, to perpetuate that spirit of community enrichment, the Foundation's mission was born out of an intent that the Foundation be designed to operate in perpetuity. The Delaplaine family has always believed in the importance of not only being a good corporate citizen, but to serve the community at large. Today, their Board is comprised of 12 members, 10 of whom are Delaplaine family members.

Now in its 20th year, the Board of Trustees of Delaplaine Foundation has pledged to re-examine its stewardship devoted to six core areas of the Foundation's funding: the arts, education, health, human services, historic preservation, and spiritual enlightenment, while charting a strategic plan for the future. According to Young, "As we acknowledge the best of our past, we have recommitted to working with community partners to advance positive and transformative change in addressing the diverse and inclusive, ever-evolving needs around us while holding fast to our passion for preserving time honored history. With focused discernment bearing in mind our values of equitable and inclusive consideration, we've awarded \$20,215,000 in grants since our inception, with an average of 75% or those grant dollars supporting Frederick County, here where our roots are deep." She added that beyond Frederick County, MD, the Foundation funds

to a lesser degree, programs and services in the region, and in some cases, qualified 501 (c)3 organization of both national and international impact that perpetuates the Foundation's mission. Delaplaine Foundation remains resolute in being purpose driven and focused on increasing stakeholder impact and outcomes for community enrichment by working through its nonprofit organization partners while continuously building relationships and community connections.

Delaplaine Foundation has also participated in collaborative philanthropy with other local philanthropic funders when appropriate to increase impact and transform challenges into opportunities to bring hope in times of need. Young concluded by saying that "The resiliency, dedication and resolve of those we serve through grant funding embody countless stories of hope in action. We're committed to building on the Foundation's vibrant story – a shared story that belongs to all those who are continuing to help write it."