

How We Live, Where We Live

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

JESSIE BALL
DU PONT
FUND



Letter from

The Chair & President

The work of the Jessie Ball duPont Fund is grounded in community — particularly how and where individuals live and relate as members of a community.

Community, we believe, lies at the heart of a democratic society. For communities to be healthy places, they need effective and open government, a robust private sector and a vibrant and healthy nonprofit sector composed of community-based organizations and philanthropic entities.

It is this nonprofit sector that bridges the divide between government and capitalism and seeks to bring together the best of both of those in support of the common good. It is the nonprofit sector that provides much of our education, our health care, our leisure and recreational opportunities and virtually all of our cultural life. It nurtures the human spirit.

The three major areas in which the Jessie Ball duPont Fund focuses its work reflect this belief:

- Building the organizational capacity of nonprofits to better serve their communities;
- Strengthening the independent sector to better fulfill its proper role in communities;
- Building the assets of people, families and communities.

In 2014, our work took some new directions, we launched some new projects and we did some different things. But we

have not wavered from our fundamentals. We intensified our focus on housing, building on decades of experience supporting a variety of housing and community development projects. This work is linked to our conviction that healthy communities must offer safe, decent and affordable housing to their residents. We continued our efforts to educate children and prepare young people for the world of work, reflecting our desire for all people to have the skills and the opportunity to be successful.

We constantly strive to be good stewards of the resources provided by Mrs. duPont. Since 1977, the Fund has invested more than \$350 million in the communities and organizations that she loved. Our financials are available on our website - www.dupontfund.org.

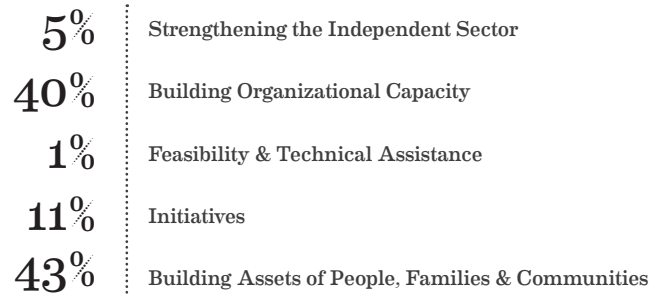
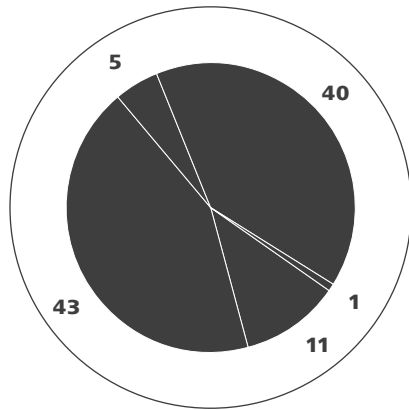
As we work with our grantees, we seek to help them build stronger communities wherever they are. For our future — individually and collectively — will be determined by how we live and where we live.

Sherry Magill
President

Chair for the Trustees
Rev. Eddie Jones



Grants in 2014



GRANTS AWARDED 2014

	Number of Grants	Value of Grants
Building Organizational Capacity		
General	44	\$ 4,688,783
Energy Conservation Initiative	4	\$ 313,942
Strengthening the Independent Sector		
General	6	\$ 651,872
Nonprofit Institutes at Georgetown University	22	\$ 21,674
Building Assets of People, Families & Communities		
General (financial, health, educational & cultural assets)	25	\$ 4,715,042
Supporting the Safety Net	64	\$ 640,000
Initiatives		
Church Repair & Restoration	10	\$ 478,334
Diocesan Enrichment Fund	6	\$ 60,000
Executive Directors' Discretionary Fund	43	\$ 430,000
Independent Schools' Discretionary Fund	3	\$ 30,000
Presidents' Discretionary Fund	3	\$ 30,000
Small Liberal Arts Colleges' Fund	22	\$316,332
Feasibility & Technical Assistance	41	\$ 150,001
Total	293	\$ 12,525,980



Our Work

in 2014

Building stronger communities begins with people. We focus on some of the essential needs of healthy people: safe, decent housing and good education. But communities also need strong nonprofit organizations, and those organizations must work together as a sector to be most effective.

1 ASSETS - HOUSING

2 ASSETS - EDUCATION

3 CAPACITY BUILDING

4 INDEPENDENT SECTOR

1

BUILDING ASSETS -
AFFORDABLE
HOUSING

2

BUILDING ASSETS -
THE EDUCATION
SPECTRUM



In 2014, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund staff and trustees deepened the Fund's commitment to affordable housing and community development that goes back more than two decades.

Motivated by the meltdown of Florida's housing market during the Great Recession, the Fund worked with the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies at the University of Florida to better understand the dynamics of housing in Jacksonville, Florida. In 2014, the Fund brought together housing experts from the fields of philanthropy, higher education, the nonprofit sector and the business sector to discuss ways in which the Fund could effectively stimulate and support housing initiatives in communities.

The Fund chose to use its resources in three distinct ways:

- 1) To inform the conversation through research,
- 2) To bring diverse constituencies together around the issue and build strategic alliances,
- 3) And to identify resources within and outside of communities that can be useful in developing and sustaining affordable housing stock.

In Jacksonville, the Fund engaged The Reinvestment Fund to conduct a Market Value Analysis of all residential real estate markets in the city and county. Once completed in 2015, this research will help inform development and investment decisions by government, financial institutions, private developers and nonprofit developers. A similar study is soon to get under way in Wilmington, Delaware.

The Fund also has used its Program Related Investments to support housing initiatives in Virginia, through Virginia Community Capital, and Delaware, through NCALL, as well as continuing to invest through grantmaking in those programs such as LISC that are already working in communities.



About 100 Jacksonville-area teens get the opportunity to have summer jobs through the Fund-supported Youth Employment Program. In addition to work experience and a paycheck, they receive coaching in proper workplace behaviors. (Photo by Ingrid Damiani)

Recognizing the critical link between education and a self-sustaining adult life, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund invests at different points in the learning continuum.

In eight pre-school classrooms in the Northern Neck of Virginia, students participate in the Nemours BrightStart! Program with support from the Fund.

BrightStart! screens very young children for pre-literacy skills and identifies those who may be at risk for reading failure. It then provides an intensive intervention program for those at-risk students, improving their preparedness for kindergarten and primary grade reading. At-risk pre-kindergarteners completing BrightStart! gain an average of 114 percent on their reading readiness scores.

While 2014 marked the introduction of BrightStart! in the Northern Neck, pre-school students in Port St. Joe, Florida, have had access to the program, thanks to the Fund's support, since 2009.

For those students in high school, the Fund supports multiple initiatives to help them access post-secondary education and employment opportunities.

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BUILDING THE CAPACITY OF THE FUND'S GRANTEES



Representatives from philanthropy, government, nonprofits and higher education toured the Springfield neighborhood of Jacksonville and met with the Fund's leadership to discuss ways philanthropy can stimulate development of affordable housing. (Photo by Ingrid Damiani)

In Jacksonville, the Fund is in the fourth year of supporting a summer youth employment program. Community-based nonprofits identify about 100 students each year who would benefit from the program. The young people then receive intensive training in the "soft skills" - how to present and conduct oneself in a professional work environment - before taking a six-week paid summer job at a local business, nonprofit or religious organization.

In the Northern Neck of Virginia, the Fund has supported the University of Virginia's participation in the Virginia College Advising Corps, a program that puts recent college graduates in high-need high schools to serve as "near-peer" counselors and advisors to students thinking about and planning for post-secondary education.

The Virginia College Advising Corps began in 2005 with the goal of addressing the gap in college access for low-income, first-generation and under-represented students. The program recognizes that many such students do not receive the advice and support they need to identify and enroll in colleges where they will persist to graduation.

More than 65 of the Jessie Ball duPont Fund's eligible grantees are colleges and universities, with the majority being small, independent liberal arts colleges. The Fund looks for ways to improve operations and strengthen their financial position.

Since 2008, the Fund has supported energy conservation grants to the small private liberal arts colleges, recognizing that reducing energy expense is fiscally wise, programmatically smart and helps colleges reduce their carbon footprints.

In 2014, the Fund released *Financing Sustainable Energy Projects at Small Liberal Arts Colleges*, a publication intended to help leaders at these institutions think about creative ways to finance energy conservation initiatives. The publication, which can be downloaded from our website, provides expert guidance from the staff at the Environmental Finance Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The Fund also supports capacity building in more traditional ways, helping organizations assess the feasibility of new ideas, plan strategically, grow new initiatives and hire staff. In 2014, for instance, the Fund helped:

- The Delaware Historical Society recruit and hire the first curator for the Society's Center for African-American Heritage;
- The Museum of Contemporary Art in Jacksonville bring in three new exhibits intended to reach different sectors of the community;
- The Florida Orchestra implement an innovative strategy to test new programming concepts and assess their viability before embedding them in the orchestra's regular programming and financial budget.

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STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENT SECTOR - THE JESSIE BALL DUPONT CENTER

Construction on the Jessie Ball duPont Center began in January 2014, after roughly six months of planning, testing and preparation. The Center, located in downtown Jacksonville, will house more than a dozen nonprofit and philanthropic organizations, including the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, and serve as a gathering place for the sector.

The Center is located in the former Haydon Burns Library, the city's main library from 1965 to 2005. Vacant and abandoned, the building was purchased by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund in summer 2013.

The iconic, three-story building is a classic example of mid-century modern architecture. The exterior of its upper two floors is wrapped with 88 concrete "fins" that influence wind and light. These fins, along with bright green tilework and a blue and orange brick mural, have made the building a standout of the downtown scene for decades. Countless Jacksonville residents have fond memories of the old library, its "puppet theatre," where children were entertained, and its vast basement of stacks and archives.

Once renovated, the new Jessie Ball duPont Center will feature energy efficient glazing and systems, including a rainwater recapture system that will irrigate gardens on the roof and on the south side of the building.

The Center is a major economic development project for downtown Jacksonville, bringing an anticipated 200 new workers to the heart of the city. Through the project, the Jessie Ball duPont Fund is making a lasting investment in Jacksonville, demonstrating green building practices and preserving one of Jacksonville's important architectural treasures.



The Jessie Ball duPont Center, scheduled to open in summer 2015, will house about a dozen area nonprofit and philanthropic organizations (including the Jessie Ball duPont Fund). It also includes a conference center, training center and reception spaces. (Photo by Ingrid Damiani)

Expanding access and creating opportunity by investing in people, organizations and communities that were important to Jessie Ball duPont.

The Jessie Ball duPont Fund is a national foundation that makes grants to a defined universe of organizations whose eligibility is determined exclusively by Mrs. duPont's personal philanthropic decisions. An organization is eligible if it received a gift from Mrs. duPont between January 1, 1960 and December 31, 1964. Today, there are more than 300 eligible organizations.

The Fund organizes its resources around the following focus areas:

- Strengthening the Independent Sector
- Building the Assets of People, Families and Communities
- Building the Capacity of Eligible Organizations

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President

Mark Constantine
Senior Vice President

Davena Sawyer
Executive Assistant to the President

Katie Ensign
Senior Program Officer

Barbara Roole
Senior Program Officer

Chris Crothers
Program Officer

Mark Walker
Knowledge Management and Technology Officer

Geana Potter
Grants Manager & Administrative Assistant

Marilyn Benjamin
Grants Database Manager & Front Desk Administrative Assistant

Betsy Thompson
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Jordan Kinser
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Jean W. Ludlow
Trustee 1985-2005



Jessie Ball duPont Fund
40 East Adams Street
Suite 300
Jacksonville, Florida 32202-3302

(800) 252-3452
(904) 353-0890
(904) 353-3870 Fax
www.dupontfund.org