

# THE Greater LEWES FOUNDATION

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

To maintain &  
enhance the  
quality of life in  
greater Lewes.

## Steady Growth for GLF

The past 12 months have seen a steady growth in assets, new charitable funds and charitable donations by the GLF. Key benchmarks for the Foundation through period June 23 include:

TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,600,000
CHARITABLE FUNDS	71
51 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS	\$57,885
123 CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS	\$254,160

## The Essential Role Played by the GLF

The GLF is one of more than 800 U.S. community foundations. Each plays an essential role promoting and facilitating philanthropy.

The GLF does this by periodically sponsoring major projects to involve local citizens in improving greater Lewes, like the Lewes Canalfront Park and Lewes Library. Our current priority is open space preservation.

Next, we assist members of our community in carrying out a wide range of charitable activities to support greater Lewes.

We do this by simplifying the cost-effective creation and management of philanthropic funds and by providing technical and financial management support. In the process, the GLF is developing local leadership and bringing fulfillment to those who participate.

Today, more than 70 philanthropic funds managed with our donor advisors at the GLF serve a wide range of charitable purposes, including:

- Scholarships for local high school and culinary students
- Grants to dozens of Lewes-area non-profits
- Emergency aid for lower income residents
- Police training and education



You can support the work being done by the GLF and its funds simply by clicking the **DONATE** tab on the home page of our Greater Lewes Foundation web site...

[greaterlewesfoundation.org](http://greaterlewesfoundation.org)

## Current & Recent Projects 2022-23

Our role in responding to the needs and interests of the Lewes community has grown significantly over the past 12 months.

# 2022-23

### The Open Space Alliance

The largest project undertaken to-date by the Greater Lewes Foundation is now underway.

In spring 2023, the GLF announced agreements with two local owners to purchase and preserve 120 acres of pristine land in Lewes.

The two tracts – the 4th Street Preserve and the Ard na Gréine Preserve – are environmentally important and within walking and biking distance of all greater Lewes residents.

A capital campaign has been launched in partnership with the Sussex County Land Trust to raise \$18.3 million to acquire these properties for their permanent use as public preserves. More than 20 community fundraising events are being planned.

This follows the GLF's leadership role with the Jones Farm acquisition in 2021-22, to protect the five well heads providing water through BPW to Lewes, funded by the City of Lewes, Lewes BPW and Sussex Council.



### Canalfront Park Repairs

Some \$500,000 in state funding was made possible through a joint request by the GLF and City of Lewes for essential boardwalk and Net House repairs at the Canalfront Park. The GLF has long enjoyed close partnerships with City officials in undertaking important projects.

### La Plaza Delaware

GLF has provided support and early non-profit status to Mary Dupont in her work creating La Plaza Delaware, to assist and network Latino small business owners in Sussex County. Hundreds of entrepreneurs are now benefitting from her program.



### Nassau School

The Delaware Office of Historic and Cultural Affairs assigned GLF the fiscal, construction and program responsibility for restoration and repurposing this historic Belltown school, which will remain at its original location on Rt. 9.

### Rally For Our First Responders

GLF has served as the fiduciary for this series of events sponsored by the Shaffer Family Foundation to raise and distribute funds to support coastal fire and emergency workers.



### Lewes Junction Railroad & Bridge Association

The GLF helped secure funding for the LJRR to acquire a caboose, steam engine and coal car for exhibition at the Lewes History Museum and Library.

### Bay Beach Association

The formation of this new organization to accept and process Federal funding for coastal preservation projects was facilitated by the creation of a fund within the GLF.



## GLF Funds

- Jason Anderson Foundation
- Art in Bloom
- Bay Beach Association
- Paul & Beth Bechly Charitable Giving Fund
- T.W. Becker Fund
- Brown / White Fund
- Canalfront Park Maintenance Fund
- Cape Community Fund
- Cape Gazette Fund
- Coolie Cares
- Cape Henlopen Educational Foundation
- deVries Monument Fund
- Dewey Beer Company
- First State Pickleball Club Fund
- The Fitzgerald – Keith Charitable Fund
- Fort Miles Museum
- Friends of the Canalfront Park Fund
- Gallo Gives Foundation
- Go Fourth Lewes! Fund
- History Book Festival of Lewes
- Christian & Julie Hudson Family Foundation
- Irish Eyes Foundation
- Jim Kiernan Scholarship Fund
- Dr. Vincent B. Killeen Scholarship Fund
- La Plaza Delaware Fund
- La Vida Hospitality – Celebrate Wellness
- Dr. Laura M. Leach Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Lewes Bee Keeper Club Fund
- Lewes Community Gardeners Fund
- Lewes in Bloom
- Lewes Police Foundation
- Lewes Public Library Fund
- Lewes / Rehoboth Rotary Fund
- Sue Watts Marshall Fund
- Miller Foundation Fund
- Misphillion Children's Choir Fund
- Mary Ann Morris Scholarship Fund
- Nassau School Fund
- Ocean 98 Foundation
- Open Space Alliance Fund
- Jamie Parsons Foundation for Culinary Arts
- Lillie Patterson Fund
- PCKM Charitable Fund
- Pennsylvania Merchant 1733 Fund
- Prospect AME Church
- Rehoboth Foodie – Touch of Italy Foundation
- Dr. David E. and Linda S. Robinson Scholarship Fund
- Darlene K. Rust Scholarship Fund
- Maureen Schab Fund
- R. Marshall Schell Fund
- Shaffer Family Foundation
- Hon. George H.P Smith Scholarship Fund
- The Steward Fund
- Sunrise Rotary Club
- D. Russell Tatman Memorial Fund
- Lorraine and Steve Walker Fund

## HOW TO CREATE A CHARITABLE FUND AT GLF

Call us any time at 302-644-0107 to discuss how GLF can support your philanthropic objectives.

We offer a variety of charitable fund options including Donor Advised, Field of Interest, Scholarship and Permanent Endowments, which are often funded by lifetime gifts then bequests.

There is no cost to create a fund and our fees are modest. The GLF can also provide a host of support services including fundraising advice, graphic design, event management and program development. Donations to your fund can be made through the GLF web site.

As a fund advisor, your donations are fully tax deductible the year you make them and grants can then be made at your request. We handle all tax filings, financial record keeping, investments (for endowment funds) and regular reports.

GLF endowed funds are invested with the Delaware Community Foundation.

Our new FOUNDANT management system will allow you to view your fund status and activity whenever you wish. It will also generate online acknowledgements for any gifts others may make to your fund.



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## The Steve & Lorrie Walker Fund

*How the GLF Works with Our Donor Advisors*

During a visit to Warrenton, VA, Lewes residents Steve and Lorrie Walker were impressed by the Town Clock installed there.

On their return, they discussed bringing a similar clock to downtown Lewes with Mayor Ted Becker, which City Council subsequently approved if necessary funds could be raised.

Steve and Lorrie then came to the GLF, where they had already established a donor-advised fund to make local grants. Together, we developed a fundraising plan to enable other Lewes residents to participate, which Steve and Lorrie financed through their fund, while making a lead gift of their own.

In just four months, their campaign raised more than \$30,000 to purchase, install and permanently maintain the new Lewes Town Clock. The supplier, Verdin Co. of Cincinnati, said this was the fastest any community had raised project funding in its 180-year history.



*The Lewes Town Clock now proudly displays the time on Second St.*

## OVER THE PAST 23 YEARS,

the GLF and its funds have played central roles in developing numerous projects now benefitting Lewes residents and visitors. Among those are:

The Lewes Canalfront Park  
& Friends Group

Lewes Public Library

Lewes-Rehoboth Bike Trailhead

Lewes Unleashed Dog Park

Sussex County Land Trust

Lewes-Rehoboth Rotary Club Pavilion

Lewes Community Gardens

Lewes Bocce Courts

Cape Community Fund

Lewes Go Fourth! Fireworks

History Book Festival

Art in Bloom Projects

St. Georges Cemetery Historical  
Research Project

Cape Henlopen Educational Fund

Fort Miles Museum

Lewes Post Office Plantings

EACH PROJECT SUPPORTS THE GLF MISSION:

**To maintain & enhance the quality of life in greater Lewes.**

Your support and participation makes all this happen.  
Tell us how you would like to make a difference.



[greaterlewesfoundation.org](http://greaterlewesfoundation.org)

302-644-0107

P.O. Box 110

Lewes, DE 19958