



2022

Morris Foundation Impact Report



The Morris Foundation is a Lexington, Kentucky-based and Kentucky-focused charitable organization devoted to hands-on philanthropy and providing financial assistance and practical support to nurture and inspire charitable institutions.

The Morris Foundation was established by Rubicon Founder & CEO Nate Morris and his wife, acclaimed entrepreneur, and author Jane Morris. Its mission is to promote the cherished American value that a better life is possible to those who seek it, investing in causes that provide opportunities for self-advancement, with an emphasis on youth leadership development, the alleviation of rural poverty, girls' and women's empowerment, and access to higher education in Kentucky.

As part of this mission, the Morris Foundation enriches the lives of Kentuckians through charitable contributions to organizations that address Commonwealth-specific challenges and by providing organizations with access to resources and relationships to accelerate their development both within Kentucky and on a national scale.

The following organizations have received direct support from the Morris Foundation.

Red Cross of Kentucky

The first Kentucky chapter of the American Red Cross was chartered in 1917. Today, there are five chapters in Kentucky which comprise the Kentucky Region. The Kentucky Region of the American Red Cross serves 116 counties in Kentucky and 3 in Southern Indiana.

The Red Cross has been on-site in Kentucky and surrounding areas since the day after tornadoes swept the region on December 10, 2021, providing comfort and relief to those affected or left homeless by the storms. More than 1,000 trained American Red Cross disaster workers from all over the country provided assistance and continue to work with partners in Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Missouri, focused on providing shelter, meals, comfort, and support in the face of the deadliest tornado outbreak in a decade. In Kentucky alone, the Red Cross has provided over 101,000 meals and snacks and has provided assistance to more than 6,300 people to date.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has contributed funds to the Red Cross's ongoing relief missions in Kentucky.



Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation

MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that law enforcement personnel who are killed in the line of duty in the state of Kentucky are provided for financially and are honored in a fitting manner. The monument holds names of the lost in the front of the state training academy where they may be given respect at any time by their peers.

WHO THEY HELP

Kentucky Law
Enforcement personnel

HOW THEY HELP

The foundation awards educational scholarships to dependents yearly, provides medical and emergency assistance to officers/deputies who have unexpected expenses come up, and provides a line of duty death benefit to the family of a slain law enforcement officer within 48 hours of the death.

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KLEMF IS SUPPORTIVE OF THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL FOUNDATION AND MANY OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS ATTEND THE ANNUAL SERVICE IN WASHINGTON SUPPORTING OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

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OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY

THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The financial support from The Morris Foundation as an anchor sponsor for the annual golf tourney provides a day of fundraising and camaraderie for Kentucky law enforcement. The golf scramble is in the 21st year and at times, has barely been able to sustain funds to use for the next year. Since The Morris Foundation has stepped up, funds have been available to begin a public awareness campaign and encourage other businesses to participate as well.



Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels

MISSION STATEMENT

The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels supports worthy nonprofits by actively engaging Colonels, fostering strong relationships with Colonels and grant recipients, maintaining high grant vetting standards, and being good stewards of our resources and traditions with integrity and compassion.

WHO THEY HELP

Kentucky nonprofits who have had their 501 (c) 3 designation for at least five years. These nonprofits provide the following services: cultural and historic preservation, social services, youth services, community services, veterans services, education and health, rehabilitation, and mental illness. This grant program is called the Good Works Program.

HOW THEY HELP

Provide grants that help them purchase items that directly affect their beneficiaries. Examples include food for food pantries, clothing for homelessness, handicapped vans, roofs for shelters, medical equipment for clinics, preservation of artifacts, hearing assistance devices for theaters, among other important items.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation grants have been entirely used for the Good Works Program. All the dollars contributed by Kentucky Colonels or their foundations, such as the Morris Foundation, go into the Good Works Program. In 2021, the Kentucky Colonels provided \$2.1 million dollars in grants to 275 nonprofits in the Commonwealth.

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Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress Presidential Fellows Program

MISSION STATEMENT

Promote leadership in the presidency and the Congress to generate innovative solutions to current national challenges, preserve the historical memory of the Presidency by identifying the lessons from the successes and failures of such leadership, draw on a wide range of talent to offer ways to better organize an increasingly compartmentalized federal government, and educate and inspire the next generation of America's leaders to incorporate civility, inclusiveness, and character into their public and private lives and discourse.

WHO THEY HELP

The next generation
of national leaders.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY

THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has endowed the Nate Morris Fellowship, awarded to one student from the Gatton College of Business and Economics at the University of Kentucky to attend the CSPC Presidential Fellows Program.

The Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress (CSPC) created the Presidential Fellows Program in 1970 to inspire college students to become the public servants that would guide our nation's future.

Today, the program continues that mission by providing top collegiate students in the United States and around the world with the opportunity to study the U.S. Presidency, the public policymaking process, and our President's relationships with Congress, allies, the media, and the American public. Over the course of an academic year, the Fellows learn about leadership and governance, share their outstanding research, and explore careers in public service.

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Kappa Sigma

Kappa Sigma is the largest college social fraternity in the world, with more than 250,000 living members, including over 17,000 undergraduates and nearly 300 chapters and colonies located throughout the United States and Canada. Founded in 1869 at the University of Virginia, Kappa Sigma International Headquarters is based in Charlottesville, Virginia.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has endowed an annual scholarship in the name of Morris Foundation founder and Kappa Sigma alum Nate Morris. The annual scholarship will be available to members of the Kappa Sigma Beta-Nu Chapter at the University of Kentucky.

The gift was presented to the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund, which will award the annual scholarship to one brother of the Beta-Nu Chapter of Kappa Sigma Fraternity at the University of Kentucky who meets the Endowment Fund's criteria. The endowment will provide for the scholarship in perpetuity to a member of the Chapter who has distinguished himself in commitment to outstanding scholarship and who has been a leader in his Chapter or on the University of Kentucky Campus. The award will be known as the Nate Morris Scholarship-Leadership Award.

The University of Kentucky (UK)

MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Kentucky facilitates learning, informed by scholarship and research; expands knowledge through research, scholarship, and creative activity; and serves a global community by disseminating, sharing, and applying knowledge.

WHO THEY HELP

There were 31,110 students enrolled at UK for the 2020-21 school year. Of those, 20,748 are in-state students, 21.9 percent are first-generation college students, and 15.4 percent are underrepresented minority students, as defined by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The 724 bed UK Albert B. Chandler Hospital and Kentucky Children's Hospital, along with 221 beds at UK Good Samaritan Hospital, are supported by a growing faculty and staff providing the most advanced subspecialty care for the most critically injured and ill patients throughout the Commonwealth and beyond. The number of patients served by the medical enterprise has increased from roughly 19,000 discharges in 2003 to more than 38,000 discharges in 2017. UK Chandler Hospital includes the only Level 1 Trauma Center for both adult and pediatric patients in Central and Eastern Kentucky.

HOW THEY HELP

Established in 1865, the University of Kentucky (UK) is a public land grant university dedicated to improving people's lives through excellence in education, research and creative work, service, and healthcare. As Kentucky's flagship institution of higher education, the University plays a critical leadership role by promoting diversity, inclusion, economic development, and human well-being. In fall 2020, UK enrolled more than 31,000 students on its 784-acre urban campus in Lexington, Kentucky. The University is one of only a small number of U.S. institutions having a major academic medical center with all six health sciences colleges and the full spectrum of academic colleges on a single campus.

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The University of Kentucky (UK)

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation's financial support of the Gatton College Capital Campaign had a significant impact on building the renovation and expansion of the Gatton College. The Gatton College space increased in size to hold 1,200 more students, 20 new classrooms, more than 40 study rooms, 100 new faculty offices, and saw a 40 percent enrollment growth. The expansion itself increased space by 40 percent to a total of 210,000 square feet. The new facility fosters more in-depth interactions among students and faculty and encourages students to learn, network, and socialize in a business community and environment.

Gatton College of Business and Economics at the University of Kentucky

MISSION STATEMENT

The Gatton College of Business and Economics prepares principled leaders for the global economy, produces impactful research, and elevates economic growth in Kentucky and beyond.

WHO THEY HELP

Undergraduate and graduate students as well as business executives through providing classes and instruction. They also help alumni through networking and job placement. They help the business community and government through our research.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

Nate Morris has generously donated both money and time to help the success of students.

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The Governor's School for Entrepreneurs (GSE)

MISSION STATEMENT

To complement teenagers' traditional learning environments, immersing them in a creative space and arming them with the tools needed to unleash their innate entrepreneurial spirits for the betterment of Kentucky.

WHO THEY HELP

They serve 9th, 10th, and 11th grade entrepreneurially minded Kentucky teens.

HOW THEY HELP

They want to give more teens the opportunity to go from high school students to business owners - for free. GSE alumni have launched more than 20 new businesses, filed multiple patents, and developed new ideas and relationships that lead to business formation.

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP
HAS BEEN THE
ENGINE OF AMERICA'S
ECONOMY SINCE ITS
FOUNDING, AND GSE
KIDS ARE ITS FUTURE.
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OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has provided funding that paves the way for additional Kentucky teens to participate in the GSE program for free.



Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame

The Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame is a physical and virtual destination that shares and celebrates the stories of Kentucky's most successful entrepreneurs.

Our mission is to raise awareness of the impact that entrepreneurship has made in the Commonwealth and encourage others to pursue similar ambitious endeavors.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation is a sponsor of the Awesome Inc Fellowship Program. The Fellowship program is a Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame initiative designed to accelerate the growth of Kentucky's next wave of high-potential entrepreneurs and tech startups. Companies with demonstrated market potential receive access to mentors and investors, legal services, and technical talent.

With mentorship and support of the Kentucky Entrepreneurship Hall of Fame inductees, Fellowship companies have raised over \$40m in outside funding as well as created over 250 jobs for the state of Kentucky.



Eastern Alumni Community Association

Eastern Alumni & Community Association, Inc. (EACA) represents the alumni and community of Eastern High School in Louisville, Kentucky, one of Kentucky's oldest public schools.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of EACA is to serve as a liaison between the alumni of Eastern High School and its administration, staff, faculty, students, and community. It shall be the purpose of the EACA to:

- Keep alumni acquainted with the programs and activities of Eastern High School by developing programs that foster fellowship and encourage a lifelong relationship;
- Enhance communication between EHS, its alumni, and the surrounding community; and,
- Provide financial support to EHS and its programs to assist in the growth of its academic, administrative, cultural, and extracurricular activities.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has contributed funds and logistical support to scaling EACA to address the challenges of renovating and maintaining the programs of Eastern High School, a 72-year-old public school in the heart of Louisville, Kentucky.

Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR)

MISSION STATEMENT

Bring Appalachia Kentucky back to prosperity.

WHO THEY HELP

The 54 Appalachian Regional Commission counties in Kentucky.

HOW THEY HELP

They convene, connect, and collaborate around ideas and projects related to a seven-pillar blueprint plan for the future of Appalachia Kentucky.

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**WE HELP AMERICA
BY SHOWING HOW
SUSTAINABLE AND
RESILIENT ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IS
POSSIBLE IN RURAL
AMERICA.**

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OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

Thanks to the generosity of the Morris Foundation SOAR was able to bring together more than 15 women from across Eastern Kentucky for its first-ever Women's Founders Cohort. They heard from inspirational females starting, running, or leading businesses in the region and how, no matter where any of them were currently in their own entrepreneurial journey, they were capable of making a difference and continuing to be trailblazers for other women in Appalachia.



CARE

CARE works around the globe to save lives, defeat poverty, and achieve social justice.

CARE is a global leader within a worldwide movement dedicated to ending poverty. We are known everywhere for our unshakeable commitment to the dignity of people.

CARE seeks a world of hope, inclusion, and social justice, where poverty has been overcome, and all people live with dignity and security.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has created a \$100,000 grant in support of CARE's expanding role in addressing poverty and disaster relief in Kentucky.

National Museum of African American History and Culture



The National Museum of African American History and Culture is a place where all Americans can learn about the richness and diversity of the African American experience, what it means to their lives, and how it helped us shape this nation.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation and its founders are Cultural Ambassadors for the Museum.

The Grace Hopkins Ruml Children's Fund

MISSION STATEMENT

Strengthen the region through inspired philanthropy and outstanding stewardship by:

- partnering with donors to ensure lasting impact
- leveraging their knowledge of communities across the Commonwealth
- offering its constituents an unmatched level of personal engagement

WHO THEY HELP

The Grace Hopkins Ruml Children's Fund has several programs that are aimed at helping children and families.

HOW THEY HELP

The Fund has several programs. The primary one is Grace's Books, which is administered through Norton Children's Hospital and gives books and support to families with infants in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Each family gets a book that is language appropriate and instructions on how to read to their infant because even the youngest child benefits from hearing words and being held and touched.

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**ALL OF THE FUND'S
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IN KENTUCKY AND
SERVE KENTUCKY
FAMILIES.**
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OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation helps by funding the expansion of the Grace's Books program, including funding the distribution of picture books to enable the program to include families who may use less widely-spoken languages or who come from less literate backgrounds. We are also expanding the Grace's Books program to Norton Suburban hospital and hope to expand it to all newborns in the Norton system.

USA Cares

MISSION STATEMENT

USA Cares' mission is to provide post-9/11 military veterans, service members, and their families with financial assistance and post-service skills training to create a foundation for long-term stability. Their services improve the quality of life for veterans and their families and reduce potential factors that can contribute to veteran suicide.

WHO THEY HELP

USA Cares assists post 9/11 military veterans, active duty service members, and their families.

HOW THEY HELP

To assist veterans and their families, we offer financial assistance with quality of life expenses such as rent, mortgage payments, auto payments, utilities, food, fuel, and other bills essential to keep them in their homes and successfully transition them into the civilian workforce.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE MORRIS FOUNDATION

The Morris Foundation has been a strong supporter of USA Cares in pursuit of our mission to assist military families in crisis. This assistance included support in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic from Rubicon Global. Additionally, the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky has offered support.