

# THE GREATER GOOD

Summer 2024

A Quarterly Report from Delaplaine Foundation, Inc.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

The arrival of summer always brings to mind Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* song, "Summertime" and the lyrics "Summertime and the livin' is easy." Yet, in a time of increasing political and societal polarization, it seems far from "easy" and is more



challenging and crucial than ever to find and forge common ground. The good news is that local nonprofit and philanthropic organizations stand apart from these

divides, remaining united and steadfast in enhancing the quality of life for us all. Together, we seek to hone our skills, forge strategic partnerships, foster open collaboration, and leverage deep expertise. An excellent example of this is found in the annual Frederick County Nonprofit Summit.

Summing up the Summit – It was once again an honor for Delaplaine Foundation, Inc., to co-host the annual Summit with our colleagues at Ausherman Family Foundation with additional support provided by other community partners. This event is a hub for innovation, education, and networking.

The 2024 Frederick Nonprofit Summit welcomed a sellout crowd of attendees who were encouraged to immerse themselves in the latest trends, gain new insights, and acquire additional tools necessary to drive success in the nonprofit sector. It was an invaluable opportunity for local nonprofit leaders, their staffs, board members, and volunteers to gain additional professional development, broaden their community connections, and in the process, to further fuel the outcome and impact nonprofits make in our local community.

As one enthusiastic attendee shared, "We're excited to implement new strategies we learned and continue to work alongside our fellow nonprofits to create lasting change."

Special thanks to the planning committee members (including two of our own Foundation team) who poured so much into the robust programming designed to enrich the quality of life in our communities as together we serve "The Greater Good."

*Marlene*  
MARLENE B. YOUNG  
President



Some 200 staff members of local nonprofit organizations attended the daylong 2024 Frederick County Nonprofit Summit, which provided expanded programming and the all-important opportunity to network with one another. Below, Dr. John Brothers of T. Rowe Price is seen delivering an address during the morning session.

## Nonprofit Summit Expands Programming with Wide Array of Customized Sessions

On Wednesday, June 12th, approximately 200 nonprofit professionals gathered together at Frederick Community College for the annual Frederick County Nonprofit Summit. Sponsored by Ausherman Family Foundation and Delaplaine Foundation, the event included breakfast, lunch and networking, as well as the presentation of the Touching Lives awards, where local individuals working in the nonprofit sector are recognized by the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce. The 2024 summit was a sell-out event and the largest ever hosted by the Frederick County Nonprofit Summit Committee.

The day started early with breakfast and a "mini-keynote" delivered by Dr. John Brothers of T. Rowe Price. Brothers led a group exercise, splitting the crowd into groups and asking about the needs and resources of their respective organizations



to discover how local organizations can "Share the Sugar". Afterwards participants were assigned to sixteen individualized breakout sessions exploring a variety of topics. Certain sessions were curated specifically for the nonprofit sector, such as grant writing and Board recruitment, while others more broadly addressed business-related issues like navigating

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Delaplaine Foundation, Inc., is a private family foundation based in Frederick, Maryland, dedicated to the enrichment of communities and families within Maryland, nearby states and the District of Columbia by supporting programs to strengthen the arts and sciences, historical preservation, educational advancement, spiritual enlightenment and well-being.

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Attendees are seen at the “Voices of Resilience” Photovoice exhibit at the Delaplaine Arts Center during the TAP’s 2024 exhibition. 2024 © TAP

## Transformative Arts Project Gives Voice to Underrepresented

The Transformative Arts Project (TAP) is a locally-based nonprofit whose mission is to empower communities—particularly marginalized communities—through art programming. Laura Sherwood, PhD., founded the 501(c)(3) in 2021 following a personal and academic journey that took her to India where she researched activists using visual storytelling to help elevate the voices of marginalized groups.

Sherwood moved to Frederick in 2021. Through her research and interactions with artists from around the globe, she recognized art could provide an outlet for expression for local residents. Having previously worked as a professional photographer, she decided that photography could serve as the art medium for visual expression.

“Photovoice,” the research method she developed during her academic studies, “allows groups to document their own lives and voice issues that are of importance or of concern to them,” said Sherwood.

Sherwood was befriended and counseled by community philanthropic and arts leaders who put her in touch with a number of nonprofit and public sector groups, many of whom had interest in

incorporating Photovoice and her other arts programming to support their constituents.

In 2023, the Delaplaine Arts Center hosted TAP’s exhibition of participant’s work. The exhibit was a resounding success and repeated in 2024. “The majority of the TAP participants had never even stepped inside the Delaplaine much less been part of an art exhibition,” said Sherwood. “Conversely, those who attended learned about many segments of the community they had little previous exposure to.”

Since then, Sherwood has expanded her courses to include a creative aging and technology program that links tech-savvy young people with elders in setting up or expanding the latter’s tech capabilities; meditation and movement classes developed for a variety of transformative purposes, as well as others. Learn more about TAP’s programming at: [www.transformativeartsproject.org](http://www.transformativeartsproject.org).

“Delaplaine Foundation and the Community Foundation of Frederick County were immediately supportive of TAP,” said Sherwood. “On behalf of our Board of Directors, I want to thank them both and so many others who have helped make TAP a success in just a few short years.”





An MSF water and sanitation agent helps children carry water to their tent in the southern Gaza town of Rafah, Palestine. 2024 © MSF

## Doctors Without Borders Serves Vital Health Care to Millions Each Year in 70 Countries

**D**octors Without Borders (MSF) was founded in 1971 in France by a group of 13 doctors and journalists in the wake of war and famine in Biafra, Nigeria. Their aim was to establish an independent organization that focused on delivering emergency medical humanitarian aid quickly, effectively, and impartially.

The organization was originally comprised of 300 volunteers, including doctors, nurses, logistics experts, and other staff. MSF was established on the premise that all people should have access to high quality health care, regardless of gender, race, religion, creed, or political affiliation. From the start, its teams made a commitment not just to care for patients but to bear witness to their experiences and speak out to call attention to the problems driving emergency needs.

Over the past 50 years, MSF has grown to become an international movement of more than 68,000 staff, caring for millions of people in more than 70 countries each year. But the core values of humanitarianism, independence, neutrality, and impartiality that brought

its original members together in 1971 continue to drive the organization's work today.

Irene McPherron, Senior Foundations Officer of MSF's U.S.-based office in New York City recently met with Marlene Young and Ted Delaplaine at the

### Delaplaine Foundation has provided funding to Doctors Without Borders for the past 22 years.

Delaplaine Foundation offices to update them on the organization's latest efforts. "MSF is incredibly grateful to Delaplaine Foundation for its long-term support of our medical and humanitarian relief programs," said McPherron. "Delaplaine Foundation has helped our teams provide emergency medical care, surgery, and vaccinations to millions of the world's most neglected and vulnerable people."

McPherron also noted that MSF teams



Irene McPherron, Senior Officer, Foundations, of the U.S.-based MSF office (center) is seen with Marlene Young and Ted Delaplaine, following their meeting earlier this Spring.

are launching programs ranging from vaccination campaigns to therapeutic feeding centers to water and sanitation services, among many other emergency medical response programs. "From Gaza to Sudan, from Ukraine to Yemen, people urgently need access to medical care. We are deeply appreciative of Delaplaine Foundation's continuing support."

Learn more at:  
[www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org)



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Christina May of Illumine8 leads a session entitled "The One-Hour Marketing Plan."

leadership transitions, accounting and marketing. Networking opportunities were designed for young professionals and people of color as well.

"This year's summit format was designed in response to comments we received after the 2023 Nonprofit Summit," stated Delaplaine Foundation Program Manager and Nonprofit Summit Committee member Blair Wilson. "Our intention was to provide customized, targeted learning opportunities that could immediately

benefit nonprofit employees. Past summits focused on big themes of importance for the nonprofit community, and we wanted to balance that with more immediate takeaways, hopefully providing some tools to help nonprofit organizations thrive in Frederick County."

Information about the annual Frederick County Nonprofit Summit can be found on the newly designed website, <https://nonprofitsummitfrederick.org/>.



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A Doctors Without Borders psychologist works with children in Gaza. Learn more about the work of this important organization on page 3.

Delaplaine Foundation Celebrates 2024 Carson Scholars



The Carson Scholars Program is designed to encourage students to achieve academically and use their knowledge to serve their communities. Educators nominate students who display the qualities of "future leaders." Students then apply for a Carson scholarship by submitting a report card, an age-appropriate essay, community service completed, and 1-3 educator recommendations. Winners receive a college scholarship, invitation to an honorary banquet, and a gift bag compliments of Delaplaine Foundation. Delaplaine Foundation has underwritten the awarded scholarships since 2020.

Seen left to right are: Sidharth Parandapalli, Walkersville High School (HS), Caitlyn Sivilla, Linganore HS, Juliana Brawner, Frederick HS, Abigail Zimmerman, Tuscarora HS, Andrea Thomas, Tuscarora HS, Aleesha Bora, Gov. Thomas Johnson HS, Kayla Delcid, Catocin HS, Alayna Hu, Middletown HS, Armin Rahman, Brunswick HS, Evie Graham, Oakdale HS, and Andrew Chen, Urbana HS.