

A large, stylized graphic in shades of green and brown. It features a large, curved leaf-like shape on the left and a circular shape on the right, both with smaller, similar shapes nested inside them, creating a sense of growth and community.

guilford green grows

2006-2007 Annual Report



Guilford Green Foundation

u n i t i n g c o m m u n i t y



*i*t has been an exciting year for the Guilford Green Foundation (GGF)! Thanks to our dedicated supporters, our organization is celebrating its tenth year of promoting diversity and inclusiveness throughout the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and the greater Piedmont area. Since 1996 we have worked to raise and distribute funds for LGBT organizations and programs in order to further our mission of “uniting community.” Currently, we are thrilled to report that our endowment stands at over \$350,000 and, with your support, we will be able to grant over \$60,000 in 2006 to organizations that advance LGBT issues.

Not all of us remember Greensboro ten years ago. Not only was the city different in its appearance, but also in the way it felt to many of us. Greensboro has changed greatly over the last ten years, and we believe that GGF has helped create a city that is more open-minded, inclusive and diverse. We hope that we have made Greensboro feel more like home to our LGBT community, and that the Piedmont community-at-large has also felt the positive effects of GGF.

LGBT issues are further-reaching than just creating safe spaces, healthy communities, strong education systems and changing the hearts and minds of our straight allies. While the aforementioned are at the heart of our mission, economic studies have concluded that those metropolitan areas most welcoming, inclusive and supportive of their LGBT communities are more likely to attract and retain dynamic, high-paying businesses and young professionals. We thank you for supporting GGF as we work to create a better place to live for everyone; what is good for our LGBT community is good for our community as a whole. We thank you for your support of GGF and hope that you will continue to join us in “uniting community” throughout the year by attending many of our exciting events and fundraisers.

And now to the business of our 2006 annual report! In this report we will highlight the launch of our Straight Ally Campaign marking the first time in Greensboro that straight allies of the gay community spoke out in one unified voice. Also, we will introduce you to Brandan Tankard, a high school student who thrived in his own skin with the assistance of programs such as Gay Straight Advocates for Education (GSAFE) and National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ).

We hope you enjoy this annual report, and please feel free to call or email us with any reactions or feedback. Just as Greensboro continues to grow and change, GGF continues to grow and change in order to meet the evolving needs of our community, and to this end we always welcome hearing from you.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our organization.

2006-07 board of directors

Brian Cockman, Greensboro, *Co-Chair*
Ruth Heyd, Greensboro, *Co-Chair*
Ivan Canada, Greensboro, *Gala & Events Co-Chair*
Chris Cannon, Greensboro, *Secretary*
Jay Charles, Greensboro
Brian Cope, Graham, *Granting Co-Chair*
Bill Falcon, Greensboro, *Bingo Co-Chair*
Leslie Fox, Greensboro, *Friends of GGF Co-Chair*
Clark Gooden, Greensboro, *Treasurer*
Greg Hughes, Greensboro
Cile Johnson, Greensboro

Laurin Kier, Elon
Bonnie Kuester, Greensboro
Tamara Mason, Greensboro
John Melton, Greensboro, *Nominating Chair*
Alice Mitchell, Greensboro, *Granting Co-Chair*
Jeff Oleynik, Greensboro
Marco Paul, Greensboro, *Marketing Chair*
Tim Rains, Greensboro, *Bingo Co-Chair*
Barbara Shyloski, Greensboro, *Friends of GGF Co-Chair*
Dave Staub, Greensboro
Bob Weston, Greensboro, *Gala & Events Co-Chair*

lucky to know brandon lee tankard

imagine you are a high school sophomore spending an entire semester at an outdoor academy. You are away from home and have developed a sense of community with your fellow campers. To Brandon Lee Tankard this new environment felt like a safe haven, and was the first place Tankard felt secure enough to vocalize the fact that he was gay. A radical and scary act for any teen, Tankard's declaration was greeted with acceptance and assurance.



Tankard was fortunate in that he had come to his experience at the outdoor academy from another safe community, the Greensboro Day School (GDS), which he attended beginning in the second grade. At GDS Tankard flourished and grew into a remarkable young man. "I was different from everyone else, but not only was it was acceptable to be myself, it was encouraged by teachers and mentors."

Coming from a background where church services included sermons on how homosexuals would end up in hell made it difficult to find a balance as an African-American young man who knew he was gay. "I wasn't always 100% percent comfortable with who I was," says Tankard, "But there were many teachers and adults who helped me learn to love [myself] for being different. I am who I am and if you don't approve of my lifestyle, then you must at least respect me."

Tankard's quest for respect and understanding has already taken him on a journey that includes attending and then facilitating at the National Conference for Community and Justice's (NCCJ) Anytown Program and volunteering at Guilford Green Foundation events such as Green Queen Bingo. Tankard has also become a Lifeguards AIDS Peer Educator, and he speaks on panels about local and national diversity programs through the National Association of Independent Schools.

If you have met him you can't help but want to know him. A champion for those children who are often subject to bullying and teasing, Tankard's assurance has helped many of them rise above normal and sometimes extraordinary teen troubles. Melanie Soles, a community leader in Guilford County, says that she could see his potential as a 5th grader. "I told my own children that one day the kids who had picked on Brandon for being different would be bragging that they knew him before he was famous – he [was] destined for something spectacular."

Tankard states that one of his role models has been Ches Kennedy, former chair of Guilford Green Foundation and local business and community leader. "He is talented, creative and most importantly," says Tankard, "he understands what it is like to be coming to terms with your identity. He listened to me and that is the biggest gift an adult can give a teen during this time. I want to be able to make the same kind of impact on my community." At the rate that Tankard is going, the impact he makes on our community will grow exponentially and as he continues to give of his heart and mind he will inspire thought, tolerance and growth to those lucky enough to know him.

"i am who i am and if you don't approve of my lifestyle, then you must at least respect me."

update from the piedmont unity project

Coming off the success of the Piedmont Unity Project fundraising, the Project recently moved \$25,000 into the Guilford Green Foundation Endowment Fund. This fall, a Comprehensive LGBT Needs Assessment will be completed by the Center for Public Affairs at Elon University. At the completion of the Needs Assessment the Unity Project Advisory board will schedule a special grant cycle and determine the allocation of over \$100,000.

To learn more about the Piedmont Unity Project, please contact GGF at 790-8419.

UNITY 

2006 friends of Guilford Green

Partner (2,500 +)

Susan Edwards
Barbara Kretzer
Mike Brosmith & Chris King
Joe Bryan Jr.
Lee Carter & Greg Bradley
Dawn Chaney & Sandra O'Connor
Brian Cope & Barry Ramsey
Ron Johnson & Bill Roane
Bob Page & Dale Frederiksen
Larry Richardson

Sustainer (1,000 +)

Keith Phillips	Ches Kennedy & John Overfield
Michael Byrd & Keith Hyler	Joe Kinnarney & Michael Ward
Chip Calloway	Becci Menghihi & Heather Hazelwood
Laura Currie – The Whitner Foundation	Dr. Chris Rama
Caroline Faison	MM Reynolds & Leslie Fox
Massimo Fantechi & Rodney Ouzts	Jonathan Rubens
Pam Frye and Ruth Heyd	Ranjan Sharma & Stacy Lawson
Clark Goodin	Andrew Spainhour
Joe Hoesl & Bill Crowder	Laurie Truesdell
Michael Horney	Howard Upchurch

Innovator (650 +)

Allen Broach & Bob Weston	Cile Johnson
Ivan Canada	John Lalonde
Waban Carter	Robbie Lafar
Jay Charles	Susan Lowe
Brian Cockman	Mary Lynne McElhaney
Donald Draggoo & Joe Nichols	John Melton
Phillip Eckhardt	Tim Rains
Melissa Greer	Joe Wheeless

Trendsetter (300 +)

Bill Baites	Mark File
Mark Abrams	Scott Fleming
Alice Mitchell	Jeff & Charlotte Oleynik
Maria Byers	Gary Palmer
Thomas Campbell	Marco Paul
Chris Cannon	Myriam Saenz
Jeanine Falcon & David Bergen	Barbara Shyloski

Ally (125+)

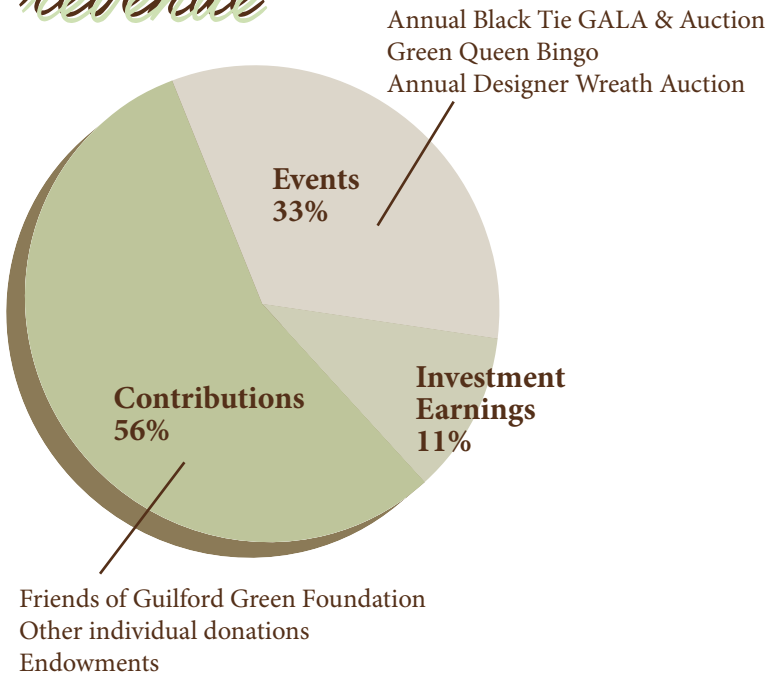
Donna Allred
Christie Elkins
Kevin Jones
Mac & Linda Stroupe

fall 2006 gifting

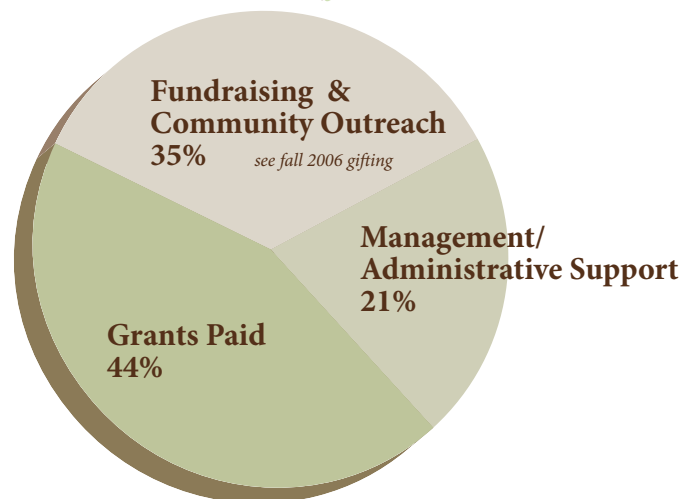
Alamance Cares - Interpreter and Educational Material	\$5,000
Alternative Resources of the Triad - Advertising	\$2,500
Elon University Student Life & Multicultural Affairs - Speaker Host	\$3,000
Elon University Spectrum - Fine By Me T-shirt Program	\$3,000
Equality NC Foundation Inc. Triad Equality Alliance - Multi-media Publicity Campaign	\$5,500
National Conference for Community & Justice - Anytown Project	\$1,500
New Garden Friends School Gay & Lesbian Action Meeting - Educational Training for Staff	\$1,000
PFLAG Greensboro - Newsletter	\$1,000
PFLAG Greensboro - Leadership Conference Attendance	\$2,000
The Women's Resource Center of Greensboro - Support for Community Resource Counseling	\$3,500
Triad Friends - Triad Friends House Operating Expenses	\$3,250
Triad Health Project - General Operating Expenses	\$11,000
Triad Health Project - Winter Walk Sponsorship	\$1,000
UNCG Nicolas A. Vacc Counseling & Consulting Clinic - Project Safe Love	\$4,650
UNCG PRIDE! - Annual Pride Week	\$700
UNCG Wellness Center - Safe Zone Project	\$3,500
Win-Win Resolution, Inc. - C.R.E.W. Program at High Schools	\$1,500
YWCA of High Point - Safe Zone Training	\$3,500

\$57,100

revenue



expenses



Detailed financial information available upon request.

straight allies grows gaily forward

in 1996, the founders of Guilford Green Foundation recognized the need for an organization to provide support to Guilford County's LGBT community. For years GGF strove to make the Piedmont a more welcoming and comfortable place for the LGBT community in Guilford County mainly by raising and granting funds for LGBT groups and programs. The foundation achieved much success for their efforts and has watched Greensboro and surrounding cities become more inclusive and diverse, but GGF felt that it could do more. What the foundation needed was a way to raise awareness of LGBT issues among the straight community.

Guilford Green Foundation
STRAIGHT



After attending a National Funders for Lesbian and Gay Issues conference in the spring of 2006 Cecelia Thompson, GGF's executive director, knew just what to do. Inspired by a similar program she had witnessed at the conference, Thompson crafted the Straight Ally Campaign, a program that specifically targeted the straight community in Guilford County. Furthermore, with the community's embracing of such GGF events as Green Queen Bingo and the Holiday Wreath Auction, Thompson felt the time was right to build on the areas enthusiasm and launch GGF 's newest endeavor. "There have always been straight supporters and donors of GGF who realized the importance of a community that values all people," says Thompson. "And I thought [Straight Allies] would be a great way to visually show that support".

Straight Allies began as an ad campaign in 2006 that in its first year raised \$6,000 and garnered more than 300 participants for GGF. The aforementioned numbers alone were impressive, but just as important was the creation of newfound support for GGF from every corner of Guilford County including businesses, families, students, clergy from all denominations as well as community leaders. The 2007 campaign was as successful as the first and Straight Allies is now looking at other opportunities to educate and inspire more participation from the community at large.

"That is why we, as straight people, speak out today for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people," says Thompson, "We want to live in a community where unity and fairness are valued. Please join us in making this a reality because unity builds our community."

"we're straight, but not narrow."

upcoming events

October 10, 2007

2008 Granting Ceremony & Friendship Drive Kick-Off
Sponsored by Triad Financial Advisors

October 5, 2007

Triad Takeover at Zeto Wine

November 17, 2007

3rd Annual Holiday Designer Wreath Auction
Sponsored by Hearthside Homecare

March 15, 2007

11th Annual Black Tie Gala & Auction

For more information, please visit www.ggfnc.org

