The Fund for Johns Island

The Fund for Johns Island of Coastal Community Foundation annually awards grants to nonprofit organizations serving residents of Johns Island, and scholarships to graduating high school seniors or current college students from Johns Island. It was established in 1995 after two years of fundraising between eleven local philanthropists. Since its inception, the fund has awarded more than $170,000. This would not have been possible without the 289 donors and their families who collectively gave more than $180,000 to the fund.

A SCHOLAR WITH A VISION

Ahna Decosty

Isabella Ahnawake “Ahna” DeCosty is a sophomore at Furman University from Johns Island. She was awarded the Fund for Johns Island scholarship in 2021 and 2022. Ahna said “attending Furman has been a dream come true, and it would not be possible without funding from the Fund for Johns Island at Coastal Community Foundation.” At Furman, she is President of the Native American and Indigenous People’s Association and has been working with the nearby Cherokee tribe on creating a more inclusive environment for Native Americans at the University. Ahna said that she is grateful for the Fund “providing the support of my hometown community and the financial support in helping me achieve my college degree.”

Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic (BIFMC) is a nonprofit organization based out of Johns Island, SC, with a mission to understand and serve the health and wellness needs of uninsured, low-income adults who live or work across the Barrier Islands and their connecting communities. Thanks to volunteers, community partnerships, and philanthropic support, BIFMC offers free, high quality routine primary care, low or no cost prescriptions, and specialty care to adults who reside or work on Johns, James, and Wadmalaw Islands, Folly Beach, Meggett, Ravenel, Hollywood, Walterboro, or adults who serve Charleston’s hospitality industry. With support from the Fund for Johns Island, BIFMC can now expand their preventative programs, serve more patients, and offer a variety of critical vaccines to fight preventable diseases. “We thank you for your continued support of our mission!” said Director of Development & Communications Director Carrie Moores.

Fund for Johns Island by the Numbers

$184,889
DOLLARS RAISED

289
DONORS

44
GRANTS TO

12
NONPROFITS SUPPORTING JOHNS ISLAND RESIDENTS

21
SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS ATTENDING A TOTAL OF 15 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
Thank you to the Donors of The Fund for Johns Island

The Fund for Johns Island continues to benefit from the generosity of individuals, families and businesses who have a passion for supporting Johns Island residents in need.

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Donor Spotlight
The Late John & Hannah Stewart

John and Hannah Stewart were two Seabrook Island residents who wanted to give back to their community. After an illustrious career with the FBI and American Express, John, with Hannah, moved from Westfield, New Jersey to retire in Seabrook Island, SC. They began the Fund for Johns Island in 1993 along with several other community members. In addition to his involvement with the Fund for Johns Island, John served as Director and Vice President of the Seabrook Property Owners Association, Director of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, and as a member of Coastal Community’s Foundation Board, and Investment Committee. Their daughter, Grier Novinger, said that her father was “the kind of man who always wanted to be involved.” John passed away in 2016 and Hannah passed away in 2017. Their philanthropic legacy lives on through the Fund for Johns Island.
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Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic  
Charleston Area Therapeutic Riding  
Church of Our Savior  
Communities in Schools of South Carolina  
City of Charleston  
Home Works of America, Inc.  
Lowcountry Land Trust  
Medical University of South Carolina Foundation  
Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach Services, Inc.  
Rural Mission, Inc.  
Sea Island Habitat for Humanity  
Sea Islands Hunger Awareness Foundation  

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