

WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

As we focus on making an impact that improves lives today, we want to ensure it lasts to benefit future generations. That's why we are committed to the issues we work on for the long term, and why we're constantly evaluating our efforts to make sure solutions are effective and lasting.

Where Opportunity Takes Root

The Walton Family Foundation is, at its core, a family-led foundation. The children and grandchildren of our founders, Sam and Helen Walton, lead the foundation and create access to opportunity for people and communities. We believe the best ideas can come from anywhere, so we stay open to new thinking from all over. And we partner with those who are closest to the problem because they're usually closest to the solution.

We work in three areas: improving K-12 education, protecting rivers and oceans and the communities they support, and investing in our home region of Northwest Arkansas and the Arkansas-Mississippi Delta.

In 2017, the foundation awarded \$535 million in grants to further our mission. Our headquarters are in Bentonville, Arkansas, with offices in Washington, D.C.; Jersey City, New Jersey; and Denver, Colorado.

Our Mission:

We are a family-led foundation that tackles tough social and environmental problems with urgency and a long-term approach to create access to opportunity for people and communities.

Our Vision:

To live in a world where people can accomplish anything when they have opportunity and encouragement.

Our Values:

- **ROOTED** in the places we work and in a family legacy of giving back
- **ACTIVE** in our work with grantees and in enabling individuals to take an active role in determining their futures
- **STEADY** in our focused approach to creating lasting change
- **BOLD** in our belief about what's possible and in tackling big, complex problems
- **OPEN** about who we are and to ideas from anywhere

Media Contact

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Kyle Peterson

Executive Director



As executive director of the Walton Family Foundation, Kyle Peterson leads all foundation operations and, with the board of directors, guides program strategy and grantmaking of more than \$300 million annually. He has more than 25 years of social sector experience leading initiatives related to education, workforce development, domestic and global health, economic development and the environment.

Before the foundation, Kyle led global engagements for FSG as managing director and board member and managed more than 100 consulting projects in the areas of strategy, program design, operations and evaluation. He has advised leading private and public funders and corporate philanthropies including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, USAID, Eli Lilly & Company and GE. As a thought leader on the future of international NGOs, Kyle has worked directly with such organizations as Save the Children, Mercy Corps, and TechnoServe. He has also authored and contributed to several reports and publications, such as [“Extracting with Purpose: Creating Shared Value in the Oil and Gas and Mining Sectors’ Companies and Communities”](#) and [“Lobbying for Good.”](#)

Before joining FSG, he was a strategy consultant at the Monitor Group and a country director in Zimbabwe and Rwanda for Population Services International.

A former Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone, Kyle holds an MBA and MPA from the University of Texas, McCombs School of Business and Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, and a B.A. in international studies from American University.

Recent Publications

- ▶ [Creating Opportunity in America’s Heartland](#)
- ▶ [Seeding Success: Reflections on 30 Years of Philanthropy and Partnership](#)
- ▶ [An Open Letter and Commitment to Our Grantees](#)
- ▶ [Rooted in the Delta](#)
- ▶ [An Epic Ride](#)
- ▶ [Taking “On the Ground” Collaboration to New Heights](#)

Recent News and Announcements

Celebrating the Places That Sustain Us – and the People who Protect Them

Over the past year, we've told the stories about on-the-ground work we're supporting across the U.S. and internationally to solve some of today's toughest environmental challenges. Through a series of videos and articles, we showcased the special regions we're trying to protect – and the incredible people whose commitment to conservation demonstrates the power of individuals to make a difference.



Across Borders: Restoring the Colorado River Delta

In 2017, the United States and Mexico struck a nine-year deal, known as Minute 323, to increase water security for Colorado River users on both sides of the border. The agreement provides at least 210,000 acre-feet of water for ongoing restoration in the delta, supporting local economies and improving habitat for vegetation and wildlife that can thrive even with small increases in water supply.



How Data Produces Economic and Environmental Benefit for America's Farms

An op-ed by senior program officer Moira McDonald, which originally appeared in the Kansas City Star, focuses on the value of data for agriculture. Farmers understand the need to be good environmental stewards. Clean water and healthy soils are essential to making a living and sustaining

Louisiana Moves Closer to Delivering on Coastal Restoration

On April 2, the Army Corps of Engineers and the Louisiana Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority (CPRA) announced an update to the permit timeline for the Mid-Barataria Sediment Diversion – a project critical to the restoration and rebuilding of the Gulf coast. Following the announcement in January of an agreement between Louisiana state officials and federal agencies to modify

Walton Family Foundation Launches Two New Nonprofit Lending Funds

The Walton Family Foundation announced the creation of the Charter Impact Fund and Facilities Investment Fund. The two distinct non-profit funds are supported through the foundation's Building Equity Initiative, an unprecedented effort to make it easier and more affordable for public charter schools to find, secure and



Walmart Foundation, Walton Family Foundation Partner on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative

The Walmart Foundation and Walton Family Foundation announced joint support of TRUE Northwest Arkansas (TRUE), a new three-year community-based initiative to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in Benton and Washington counties. The program will foster an environment where all members of the Northwest Arkansas community can thrive and feel included, building on both foundations' efforts to enhance quality of life in the region.



Bicycling Provides \$137 Million in Economic Benefits to Northwest Arkansas

With an increasing number of locals and tourists taking advantage of its network of natural-surface trails and shared-use paved paths, bicycling provided \$137 million in economic benefits to Northwest Arkansas in 2017. According to three new studies from the Walton Family Foundation, the region has reaped these positive economic, social and health benefits while still managing to keep its trail building costs lower than many regions with comparable bicycle infrastructure.



Growing Populations, Strong Development Reported in Northwest Arkansas Downtowns – February 1, 2018

Downtowns in Northwest Arkansas continue to experience strong population growth and increased demand for residential and commercial development, according to a new report commissioned by the Walton Family Foundation. Amidst the positive economic progress, the data also reaffirm the region's need for additional accessible housing options in Benton and Washington counties.

Walton Family Foundation Announces Major Investments to Fuel High-Quality School Growth Nationwide

The Walton Family Foundation announced efforts to build and expand on two decades of school startup grants to fuel the growth of high-quality schools across the country. The strategy includes continued grants to proven organizations, like those that help create successful charter schools, with an expanded focus on innovative school models to meet the learning needs of all children. Foundation grants totaling more than \$100 million will allow educators and leaders to launch hundreds of schools in the coming years.

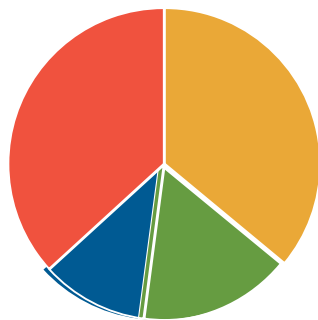
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2017 Walton Family Foundation Grantmaking

In 2017, the Walton Family Foundation's grantmaking exceeded \$530 million as we pursued our mission to solve tough social and environmental problems and create access to opportunity for people and communities. Over the past 30 years, the foundation's giving has reached \$6.2 billion and nearly 6,300 grantees. A full list of 2017 grants is available [here](#).



2017 Grants

\$535.5 million in grants awarded in 2017

- K-12 Education (\$192.7 million)
- Environment (\$86 million)
- Home Region (\$59.9 million)
- Special Projects (\$196.9 million)

30 Years of Impact

Helen Walton had a favorite saying: "It's not what you gather in life, but what you scatter in life that tells the kind of life you have lived." That spirit of giving has guided the Walton Family Foundation in its philanthropy over the past three decades. Our vision is to live in a world where people can accomplish anything when they have opportunity and encouragement.

Thirty years ago, Sam and Helen Walton started the Walton Family Foundation to encourage future generations of the family to come together to give back. A lot has changed over the past three decades – the foundation has grown and so has the Walton family.

No one ever solved big problems by thinking small. Creating lasting change in society requires leaders driven by a spirit of innovation, a curiosity to explore what is possible and an urgent willingness to be bold where others are cautious.

30 Years of Impact

2,235

NUMBER OF SCHOOL STARTUP
GRANTS AWARDED

300

FISHERIES CERTIFIED AS SUSTAINABLE
OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS

164

MILES OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS
TRIALS FUNDED

\$6.2B

TOTAL GRANTMAKING SINCE 1987

6,297

NUMBER OF GRANTEES SINCE 1987

3.5M

ACRES OF FARMLAND UNDER MORE SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE PRACTICES IN 2017

\$137M

IN ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM BICYCLING
IN NORTHWEST ARKANSAS IN 2017

85,000

ACRES OF BOTTOMLAND HARDWOOD FORESTS
RESTORED IN LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER BASIN
SINCE 2009

3.7M

VISITORS TO CRYSTAL BRIDGES MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN ART SINCE 2011

50%

OF NEW ORLEANS CHARTER SCHOOLS HAVE
SIGNIFICANTLY MORE POSITIVE READING GAINS
THAN DISTRICT PEERS