



# Guide to Grants

From the Office of Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell  
Proudly Representing Alabama's 7th Congressional District



Nov 29, 2013

Welcome to the *Guide to Grants!*

I am honored to represent the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Alabama. One of the most important responsibilities as your representative is to provide you with information about funding opportunities. Now more than ever, grant opportunities are vital to the success of our local governments, organizations and other entities. This weekly guide will identify federal and foundation grant opportunities to assist you in goals for our communities. This Guide will include links to grant writing resources to help you make your proposals more successful. This Guide will also describe new funding opportunities for economic development, infrastructure, healthcare and educational projects as example. In addition, I am pleased to provide a Letter of Support for grant application projects in the 7th Congressional District of Alabama. Please let us know when grants are awarded, especially if you found the opportunities in the *Guide to Grants*.

For more information, please visit the website at <http://sewell.house.gov/> and you can subscribe to *Guide to Grants* at: <http://sewell.house.gov/contact-me/newsletter> or call 202-225-2665. Previous editions of the Guide to Grants are archived at <http://sewell.house.gov/guide-grants>.

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# **Statement from Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell on Ramsay High School Being Recognized as a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School**

November 20, 2013

Today, Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell released the following statement on Ramsay High School being named a 2013 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education (DOE).

“I am so proud of the teachers, administrators and students of Ramsay High School in Birmingham for earning this prestigious award. Ramsay High School is highly deserving of this recognition for its exceptional academic standards and exemplary student body.

As one of Alabama’s five National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2013, Ramsay High School has become a model and inspiration for schools across this nation. This achievement proves that public schools in Birmingham can succeed in educating and preparing our children to compete nationally. I am honored to have Ramsey High School in the 7th congressional district and congratulate them on this outstanding recognition.”

About Ramsey High School:

Ramsay High School is located in Birmingham, Alabama beneath the foothills of Vulcan. Over 750 students throughout the Birmingham-metro area in grades nine through twelve are enrolled. A wide array of advance placement courses and extracurricular activities are offered. Ramsay is also an International Baccalaureate World School.

Over sixty percent of Ramsay’s students are economically disadvantaged. Approximately sixty percent of its students come from single parent families and 68 percent receive free or reduced lunch. Despite these circumstances, the consistent academic performance of the students enrolled has landed Ramsay as the 6th best high school in Alabama by World News Magazine and one of the best in the nation.

About the National Blue Ribbon Award: The DOE will honor Ramsay High School along with 235 other public and 50 private schools in a recognition ceremony today in Washington, D.C. Ramsay High School is one of five schools in Alabama that have been nominated for the national Blue Ribbon School program.

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# **Statement from Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell on President Obama's Plan to Help Consumers Facing Cancellations to Healthcare Insurance Policies**

November 15, 2013

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell (D-AL) released the following statement in response to President Obama's Plan to Help Consumers Facing Cancellations to their Healthcare Insurance Policies:

“I remain committed to the Affordable Care Act which is designed to provide access to health care for all Americans. While no law is perfect, I believe it is imperative that we provide access to healthcare for the 42 million Americans that are uninsured. I am encouraged by the President's efforts to honor his promise to ensure that individuals keep their current plans while giving them one year to evaluate better coverage options under the Affordable Care Act. I hope that those individuals that have plans with insufficient coverage will take this year to evaluate alternative plans that may in fact be better. It is my hope that the Administration continues to make the regulatory changes necessary to improve the Affordable Care Act so that it works for all insured and uninsured Americans.

I voted against H.R.3350 (the bill sponsored by Rep. Fred Upton) because it is yet another attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Rather than working together to improve this law, this bill seeks to unravel the protections and securities provided to the American people through the ACA. This bill puts insurance companies back in charge of our health care which could allow them to continue discriminating against people with pre-existing conditions and forcing women to pay more than men for the same coverage. We need to work together to improve the unintended consequences of the Affordable Care Act rather than dismantle it.”

For more background about the President's announcement please visit:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2013/11/14/president-obama-announces-new-steps-help-americans-receiving-insurance-cancellation->

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# **Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell Releases Alert to Constituents Regarding Reports of Fraud in USDA Farmer Discrimination Cases**

November 14, 2013

Congresswoman Terri Sewell (D-AL) released the following warning to constituents against individuals soliciting funds in exchange for the re-opening of USDA farmer discrimination cases:

“Growing reports of fraud in the 7th Congressional District involving USDA farmer discrimination cases have been brought to my attention over the past several days. According to multiple sources, certain individuals are illegally soliciting funds from people with the promise of reopening several USDA farmer discrimination cases. Local law enforcement officials have reported that some of these individuals are fraudulently claiming to be collecting funds on behalf of my office in exchange for the re-opening of these cases. It is critical that the public is warned against these scams.

The fact is that the Black, Native American, Hispanic and Women Farmer Lawsuits have been adjudicated. No more claims in these lawsuits can be filed and there are currently no plans to provide additional settlement. The claims period for the Second Settlement Phase of the Black Farmer Lawsuit (Pigford II) ended on May 11, 2012. The Hispanic (Garcia v. Vilsack) and Women (Love v Vilsack) Farmer claims period ended on May 1, 2013. The Native American Farmer claims period (Keepseagle v. Vilsack) closed on December 27, 2011. In no instance will a member of my staff or a representative from my office approach an individual to request funds in exchange for assistance with these settlements. My constituents are advised to refrain from providing any funds to individuals or groups offering such assistance. If solicited, constituents should notify local law enforcement and report such instances to my Birmingham district office at 205-254-1960 so that perpetrators can be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

My office will continue to work with law enforcement to ensure that minority farmers are protected from these fraudulent scams.”

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# **Statement by Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell on the passing of Birmingham City Council President Maxine Parker**

November 12, 2013

Today, Congresswoman Terri A. Sewell released the following statement on the passing of Birmingham City Councilwoman Maxine Parker

"I am deeply saddened to hear about the loss of Birmingham's beloved Councilwoman Maxine Parker, who recently became Council President. She will forever be remembered for her public service, strength, kindness and relentless pursuit for environmental justice in North Birmingham. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, colleagues and constituents during this difficult time."

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## Recent Grant Awards

- **November 20, 2013** – Dallas County Commission receives \$350,000 sewer grant from ADECA to fix sewer pipelines on Dallas County Roads 911 and 912.
- **November 7, 2013** – Alabama Communities to receive \$839,000 in New Investments funded by the Delta Regional Authority.
- **November 7, 2013** – Whatley Health Services is awarded continuation grant through HHS for Health Center Cluster in amount of \$702,125.00.
- **September 26, 2013** – UWA is awarded \$101,941.00 from HHS for Campus Suicide Prevention Program
- **September 26, 2013** – Whatley Health Services is awarded \$85,000.00 from HHS for the Ryan White Title III HIV Capacity Development and Planning Grants
- **September 25, 2013** - Miles College is awarded \$300,000 from HHS for Prevention Partners for this mental health/substance abuse grant
- **September 25, 2013** – Aletheia House is awarded \$116,000 from HHS for the New Media grant program.
- **September 20, 2013** – City of Selma awarded \$500,000 for HUD’s Hope VI Main Street Program.
- **September 19, 2013** – UAB awarded \$367,500 for environmental research entitled, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards.
- **September 18, 2013** - Wallace Community College in Selma will receive \$3,251,562 DOL grant as part of a 6-college, multi-state grant led by Midlands Technical College in Columbia, South Carolina for the development and expansion of innovative training programs.
- **September 17, 2013** – UAB awarded \$394,091 for research for mothers and children.

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## Section I ACCESSING & REGISTERING FOR GRANT INFORMATION

- A federal grant is an award of financial assistance from a federal agency to a recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States. Federal grants are not federal assistance or loans to individuals. A federal grant may not be used to acquire property or services for the federal government's direct benefit. The 26 federal agencies offer over 1,000 grant programs annually in various categories. Website: <http://www07.grants.gov/aboutgrants/grants.jsp>
- To learn about Federal grant opportunities, register your organization and receive notices, please visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). It is the resource for all Federal grants.
- To apply for Federal Grants: [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply\\_for\\_grants.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp)
- [Grants.gov Applicant Training Video](#) - Need a quick lesson on how to Register, Find and Apply? Watch this short video to get tips on registering with Grants.gov; finding grant opportunities; understanding your search results; and, applying for opportunities.
- To learn about foundation grant opportunities, please visit <http://foundationcenter.org/>. The Foundation Center is a gateway to information about private funding sources and provides guidelines about how to write a grant proposal. It also provides links to state libraries with grants reference collections, and links to other useful Internet websites.

## Section II PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH FEDERAL AGENCIES

### National Endowment for the Arts

**Program:** **NEW - 2015 NEA Jazz Masters Announcement and Awards Ceremony & Concert**

**Description:** The National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Awards represent the highest honor that our nation bestows upon jazz musicians.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

### National Endowment for the Humanities

**Program:** **NEW – Digital Humanities Grant**

**Description:** The program can support innovative digital-humanities projects that address multiple audiences, including scholars, teachers, librarians, and the public.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppId=248354>

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## **Environmental Protection Agency**

**Program:** **NEW - FY14 Guidelines for Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grant**

**Description:** Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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**Program:** **NEW - FY14 Guidelines for Brownfields Cleanup Grants**

**Description:** EPA provides brownfields funding for three types of grants: Brownfields Assessment Grants, Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants, and Brownfields Cleanup Grants.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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**Program:** **NEW - FY14 Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Grants**

**Description:** The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act ("Brownfields Law," P.L. 107-118) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance to assist applicants in preparing proposals for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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## **National Science Foundation**

**Program:** **NEW - Historically Black Colleges and Universities - Undergraduate Program**

**Description:** Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) have awarded a large share of bachelor's degrees to African American students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and nine of the top ten baccalaureate institutions of African American STEM doctorate recipients from 2006-2010 are HBCUs.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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## **U.S Department of Agriculture**

**Program:** **NEW - Value Added Producer Grant**

**Description:** The primary objective of the VAPG program is to help agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of bio-based value-added products.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppId=248375>

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**Program:** **NEW-Utilities Programs**

**Description:** The Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant Program has been established to assist communities with water or wastewater systems through free technical assistance and/or training provided by the grant recipients.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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**Program:** **NEW- Solid Waste Management Grant Program**

**Description:** Funds may be used to: Evaluate current landfill conditions to determine threats to water resources in rural areas.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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**Program:** **NEW - Biorefinery Assistance Program**

**Description:** The program provides loan guarantees to viable commercial-scale facilities to develop new and emerging technologies for advanced biofuels. Applications are due Jan. 30, 2014.

**Website:**

<http://ethanolproducer.com/articles/10381/usda-accepting-applications-for-biorefinery-assistance-program>

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**Program:** **NEW- Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program**

**Description:** The RBEG program provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund

distance learning networks, and help fund employment related adult education programs. To assist with business development, RBEGs may fund a broad array of activities.

**Website:** [http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP\\_rbeg.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/BCP_rbeg.html)

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## **U.S. Department of Commerce**

**Program:** **NEW - FY 2014 Economic Development Assistance Programs**

**Description:** EDA supports development in economically distressed areas of the United States by fostering job creation and attracting private investment.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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## **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**

**Program:** **NEW - Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG)**

**Description:** The AFG program provides financial assistance to help fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Service (EMS) organizations and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA): for critically needed resources to protect the public, to train emergency personnel, and to foster interoperability and support community resilience, as well as enhance through direct financial assistance, the safety of the public and to provide a continuum of support for emergency responders regarding fire, medical, and all hazard events. The deadline is December 6, 2013.

**Website:** <http://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

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## **U.S. Department of Labor**

**Program:** **NEW-National Veterans Technical Assistance Center (NVTAC)**

**Description:** The primary objective of the HVRP NVTAC is to provide a broad range of technical assistance on veterans' homelessness programs and issues to existing and potential HVRP, HFVWF, IVTP, and SD grantees and applicants, employers, Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs), federal, state, and local agency partners including state and local workforce investment boards, non-profit organizations including faith-based and

community organizations, the general public, and other interested stakeholders.

**Website:** <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html>

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## **Section IV            PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH PRIVATE, CORPORATE & COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS**

**Program:**                    **Wal-Mart Foundation**

**Description:**            Through the Walmart Foundation's Local Giving Program, Walmart stores, Sam's Clubs and Logistics facilities support the needs of their communities by providing grants of \$250 to \$2,500 to local organizations.

The Foundation has identified four core areas of giving:

- Hunger Relief & Healthy Eating
- Sustainability
- Women's Economic Empowerment
- Career Opportunity

**Website:**                    <http://eeinalabama.org/resource/about.aspx?s=87756.0.0.37934>

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**Program:**                    **Annie's Grants for School Gardens**

**Description:**            Annie's offers \$500 or \$1,500 grants to K-12 school gardens that connect children directly to real food. These funds can be used to buy gardening tools, seeds or other needed supplies.

**Website:**

<http://eeinalabama.org/resource/about.aspx?s=80445.0.0.37934>

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## Section IV INTERNSHIPS/ SCHOLARSHIPS / FINANCIAL AID

**FAFSA** - Free Application for Federal Student Aid  
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

**HBCU Scholarship Directory**  
<http://hbcuconnect.com/scholarships/>

**Federal Aid** Website: <http://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/federal-aid/>

**Alabama Scholarships** Website: <http://www.scholarships.com/financial-aid/college-scholarships/scholarships-by-state/alabama-scholarships/>

**Alabama's Scholarship and Grant Programs**  
Website: <http://www.collegescholarships.org/states/alabama.htm>

**Scholarship Experts Website:** <http://scholarshipexperts.com>

**Fast Web** Website: <http://www.fastweb.com/>

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## Section V RESOURCES

### **The Health Insurance Marketplace is Open!**

Enroll now in a plan that covers essential benefits, pre-existing conditions, and more. Plus, see if you qualify for lower costs.

[Apply Now](#)

<https://www.healthcare.gov/>

### **The SHOP Marketplace is Open for Business!**

You can enroll in health coverage that works for you—and your employees.

[Apply Now](#)

<https://www.healthcare.gov/small-businesses/>

[What do small businesses need to know?](#)

[What if I currently have COBRA coverage?](#)

[What if I'm losing job-based insurance?](#)

[Can children stay on a parent's plan until age 26?](#)

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## [Enroll America](#)

### **Alabama**

Health Insurance Marketplace - [HealthCare.Gov](#) is the Health Insurance Marketplace for Alabama. Consumers can apply as early as October 1, 2013. Visit [HealthCare.Gov](#) to learn more.

Find out where the uninsured live in Alabama: [Enroll America's Outreach Maps](#)

The new Alabama Health Insurance Marketplace is operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Visit [marketplace.cms.gov](#) to see how you can partner with HHS to help people enroll in the new coverage options in Alabama.

See more at: <http://www.enrollamerica.org/states/alabama#sthash.uT0mDsbB.dpuf>

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## **REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS IN ALABAMA**

Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments  
P.O. Box 2603  
Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662  
Phone: 256.389.0500  
Fax: 256.389.0599  
Executive Director: Keith Jones  
Visit the Web site of Region 1 - <http://nacolg.com/>

West Alabama Regional Commission  
4200 Highway 69 North  
Northport, Alabama 35473-3505  
Phone: 205.333.2990  
Fax: 205.333.2713  
Executive Director: Robert B. Lake  
Visit the Web site of Region 2 - <http://www.warc.info/index.php>

Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham  
1731 First Avenue North, Suite 200

Birmingham, Alabama 35203  
Phone: 205.251.8139  
Fax: 205.328.3304  
Executive Director: Charles Ball  
Visit the Web site of Region 3 - <http://www.rpcgb.org/>

East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission  
P.O. Box 2186  
Anniston, Alabama 36202  
Phone: 256.237.6741  
Fax: 256.237.6763  
Executive Director: Bill Curtis  
Visit the Web site of Region 4 - <http://www.earpdc.org/>

South Central Alabama Development Commission  
5900 Carmichael Place  
Montgomery, Alabama 36117  
Phone: 334.244.6903  
Fax: 334.270.0038  
Executive Director: Tyson Howard  
Visit the Web site of Region 5 - <http://scadc.state.al.us/>

Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Commission  
107 Broad Street  
Camden, Alabama 36726  
Phone: 334.682.4234  
Fax: 334.682.4205  
Executive Director: John Clyde Riggs  
Visit the Web site of Region 6 - <http://www.alarc.org/atrc/index.htm>

Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission  
P.O. Box 1406  
Dothan, Alabama 36302  
Phone: 334.794.4093  
Fax: 334.794.3288  
Executive Director: Thomas B. Solomon  
Visit the Web site of Region 7 - <http://www.sanman.net/searpdc/searpdc.htm>

South Alabama Regional Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 1665  
Mobile, Alabama 36633  
Phone: 251.433.6541  
Fax: 251.433.6009  
Executive Director: Russ Wimberly  
Visit the Web site of Region 8 - <http://www.sarpc.org/>

Central Alabama Regional Planning Development Commission

125 Washington Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104  
Phone: 334.262.4300  
Fax: 334.262.6976  
Visit the Web site of Region 9 - <http://www.carpdc.com/>

Lee-Russell Council of Governments  
2207 Gateway Drive  
Opelika, Alabama 36801  
Phone: 334.749.5264  
Fax: 334.749.6582  
Executive Director: Suzanne G. Burnette  
Visit the Web site of Region 10 - <http://www.lrcog.com/>

North-Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments  
P.O. Box C  
Decatur, Alabama 35601  
Phone: 256.355.4515  
Fax: 256.351.1380  
Executive Director: C. Ronald Matthews  
Visit the Web site of Region 11 - <http://www.narcog.org/>

Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments  
5075 Research Drive, NW  
Huntsville, Alabama 35805-5912  
Phone: 256.830.0818  
Fax: 256.830.0843  
Executive Director: Robert B. Culver  
Visit the Web site of Region 12 - <http://www.tarcog.org/>

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## **COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS IN ALABAMA**

Website: <http://alabamagiving.org/cf-directory/>

Autauga Area Community Foundation  
c/o Central Alabama Community Foundation, Inc.  
434 N. McDonough Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Phone: 334-264-6223  
Website: [www.aacinfo.org](http://www.aacinfo.org)

The Community Foundation of South Alabama  
c/o The Community Foundation of South Alabama  
P.O. Box 990  
Mobile, AL 36601  
Phone: 251-438-5591  
Website: [www.communityendowment.com](http://www.communityendowment.com)

Black Belt Community Foundation  
609 Lauderdale Street  
Selma, AL 36701-4555  
Phone: 334-874-1126 Fax: 334-874-1131  
Website: <http://blackbeltfound.org/>

The Greater Brewton Foundation  
P.O. Box 87  
Brewton, AL 36427  
Phone: (251) 867-4881

Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama  
P. O. Box 36202  
Anniston, Alabama 36202  
Telephone: 256-231-5160 Fax: 256-231-5161  
Website: <http://www.yourcommunityfirst.org/>

Central Alabama Community Foundation, Inc.  
434 N. McDonough Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Telephone: 334-264-6223 Fax: 334-263-6225  
Website: <http://www.cacinfo.org>

Elmore County Community Foundation  
c/o Central Alabama Community Foundation, Inc.  
434 N. McDonough Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Phone: 334-264-6223  
Website: [www.eccfinfo.org](http://www.eccfinfo.org)

The Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham  
2100 First Ave. N., Ste. 700  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
Telephone: (205) 328-8641 Fax: (205) 328-6576  
Website: <http://www.foundationbirmingham.org>

The Community Foundation of Greater Decatur  
P.O. Box 2003  
Decatur, AL 35602  
Phone: 256-353-5312  
Website: [www.cfogd.org](http://www.cfogd.org)

The Community Foundation of Huntsville/Madison County  
659 Gallatin Street  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
Phone: 256-564-7430  
Website: <http://www.communityfoundationhsv.org/>

Limestone Area Community Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box 578  
Athens, AL 35612  
Phone: 256-232-4200

Riverbend Community Foundation  
635 West College Street  
Florence, AL 35630  
Phone: 256-764-3431

Shelby County Community Health Foundation  
Shelby Baptist Medical Center  
1000 First Street N.  
Alabaster, AL 35007  
Phone: (205)669-3737

Southeast Alabama Community Foundation  
  
P.O. Box 1422  
Dothan, AL 36302-1422  
Phone: 334-671-1059, Fax: 334-793-0627  
Website: [www.sacinfo.org](http://www.sacinfo.org)

Community Foundation of West Alabama  
P.O. Box 3033  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35403  
Telephone: 205-366-0698, Fax 205-366-0813  
Website: <http://thecfwa.org/>

Walker Area Community Foundation  
P.O. Box 171  
Jasper, AL 35502-0171  
Telephone: 205-302-0001, Fax: (205) 302-0424  
Website: <http://www.wacf.org>