



2026 ANNUAL REPORT



Together, We Are Transforming Communities.





Building Capacity.
Expanding Impact.
Creating Opportunity.

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A Message From The President

Foreword: The Future Begins With Us

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

We are living through the most consequential reordering of opportunity in a generation. The global economy is being rewritten in real time, artificial intelligence is reshaping which skills hold value and which careers endure, and the distance between those prepared for that future and those left outside it is widening. For Black children and families, the stakes of this moment are not abstract. They are the difference between inheriting the next economy and being displaced by it.

The Jack and Jill of America Foundation exists for precisely this moment. For more than five decades, our mission has been to invest in the health, education, wellness, and to stabilize families. We believe that the surest way to build stronger communities is to prepare the children who will lead them, and that the surest way to prepare those children is to invest early, invest deeply, and invest with discipline.

This report is an account of how we honored that belief in 2026. You will see the grants we made, the scholars we supported, the families we strengthened, and the partners who multiplied every dollar entrusted to us. You will also see how we steward the assets in our care — because the promise we make to a child today must be backed by the financial integrity to keep it tomorrow.

“We are not simply responding to today’s challenges. We are preparing tomorrow’s leaders. The future isn’t waiting. The future begins with us.”

When we connect health, education, wellness, and strong families into a single strategy, we change the trajectory of a child’s entire life — and, through that child, the trajectory of a community. That is the work. Thank you for investing in it with us.

With gratitude and resolve,

Christopher C. Graham

PRESIDENT, THE JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA FOUNDATION



A Message From The Executive Director

Turning Vision Into Action

Every year, I have the privilege of witnessing something extraordinary. I see trustees evaluating opportunities to maximize our impact, volunteers giving generously of their time and talents, and nonprofit leaders working tirelessly in their communities. Most importantly, I see children discovering new possibilities, families finding support, and communities becoming stronger because people chose to invest in hope.

This year's theme, *The Future Begins With Us*, reminds us that meaningful change is never accidental. It is created through thoughtful leadership, strategic partnerships, responsible stewardship, and a shared commitment to serving others. Throughout this report, you will see the many ways that commitment came to life.

“Behind every grant is a story. A student who becomes the first in their family to attend college. A parent who gains access to life-changing resources. A community organization that can now reach hundreds more children because someone believed in its mission.”

These stories remind us that philanthropy is not measured solely in dollars. Its true measure is found in the lives transformed, the opportunities created, and the hope restored. This year, the Foundation continued to strengthen its commitment to strategic grantmaking by investing in organizations whose missions align with our three pillars of Education, Health/Wellness and Family Stabilization — supporting not only great ideas but organizations that demonstrate measurable outcomes, sustainable leadership, and the ability to create lasting change.

None of this would be possible without the extraordinary dedication of so many people. I am deeply grateful to President Christopher Graham for his visionary leadership, to our Board of Trustees for their faithful stewardship, and to our committee members, volunteers, corporate partners, donors, and the countless Jack and Jill mothers whose generosity continues to transform lives across the country. I also thank our nonprofit partners, whose work reminds us that lasting change happens not in boardrooms, but in classrooms, community centers, and the neighborhoods where children and families are building brighter futures.

Because together, we are doing far more than funding programs. We are creating opportunities. We are changing lives. And we are proving, every day, that the future truly begins with us.

Pier Blake

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA FOUNDATION

Together, We Are Transforming Communities.

For nearly six decades, Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has partnered with the Jack and Jill Foundation to create opportunities that change lives. Every fundraiser, every donor, and every community partner contributes to something much greater than a single grant—they help build brighter futures for children and families across the country.

This year, because of that partnership:

- ★ The Foundation awarded a record **114 grants**, representing a **25.3% increase** over the previous year's 91 grants.
- ★ We made our largest investment in chapter partnerships with local 501(c)(3) organizations, strengthening communities through Education, Health & Wellness, and Family Stabilization & Opportunity.
- ★ The JJ College GAP Fund continued to provide hope to students facing unexpected financial barriers, closing the gap between hardship and graduation with grants — not loans.

Every investment tells a story.



A child who discovers the joy of reading.



A family that gains access to critical health resources.



A student who graduates after a financial burden no longer stands in the way of earning a degree.

Help Us Build
What's Next
In Our Future

As our impact grows, so does our responsibility to ensure the Foundation has the strength to serve more children, support more communities, and create more opportunities for generations to come.

Your investment strengthens the Foundation behind every grant, every partnership, and every student whose future is forever changed. Make a gift today!



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History of the Jack and Jill of America Foundation

Our journey has been an incredible testament to the power of commitment, community, and an unwavering dedication to service.

This timeline shares more than just a recounting of key milestones; it encapsulates our journey of growth, resilience, and lasting impact.



1966

A resolution committee at the Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated National Convention in Atlanta, GA — 15 members were entrusted with the task of exploring the possibility of turning a not-for-profit foundation associated with the organization into a public charity.



1968

After two years of intensive review, the committee's vision was realized at the National Convention of Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated. On January 30, 1968, it was decided and voted that the Jack and Jill of America Foundation would be the philanthropic arm of Jack and Jill of America, with the mission of enhancing opportunities for children in education, cultural growth, and civic responsibility. The Foundation was legally incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois on February 4, 1968.



**1968–
2018**

For these five decades, the Foundation committed millions of dollars toward scholarships, mental health and wellness initiatives, early education programs, and collaborative programs with Jack and Jill of America, Inc.

The Foundation has remained vibrant and innovative, inviting community-building projects in 7 regions representative of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., while continuing our strategic priorities in Education, Health/Wellness, and Family Stabilization.



*The Rebuilt America Project
— collaboration with Habitat
for Humanity*



2018

The Jack and Jill Foundation celebrated its 50th Anniversary — 50 years of supporting communities.



2026

This is the largest grant award year yet, providing **114** grantees with an investment of **\$702,698**.

Vision

The Jack and Jill Foundation's vision is to transform historically underserved communities one child at a time by advancing equity, opportunity, and generational impact. We honor our legacy of service to African-American communities while broadening our commitment to all children and families facing systemic barriers to opportunity.



Core Values

- ★ Integrity
- ★ Community
- ★ Impact
- ★ Partnership
- ★ Communication
- ★ Child-Focused
- ★ Trustworthiness
- ★ Transparent
- ★ Committed to Success
- ★ Competence
- ★ Efficiency
- ★ Stewardship



By the Numbers

Grantees Awarded

2025-2026

91

2026-2027

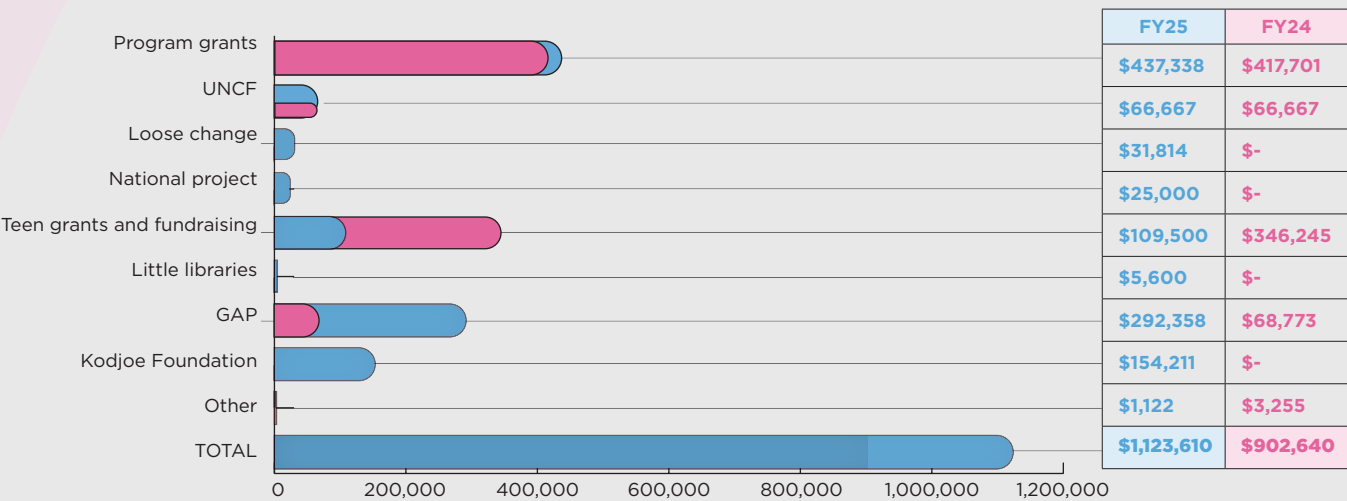
114

Total Funding Approved

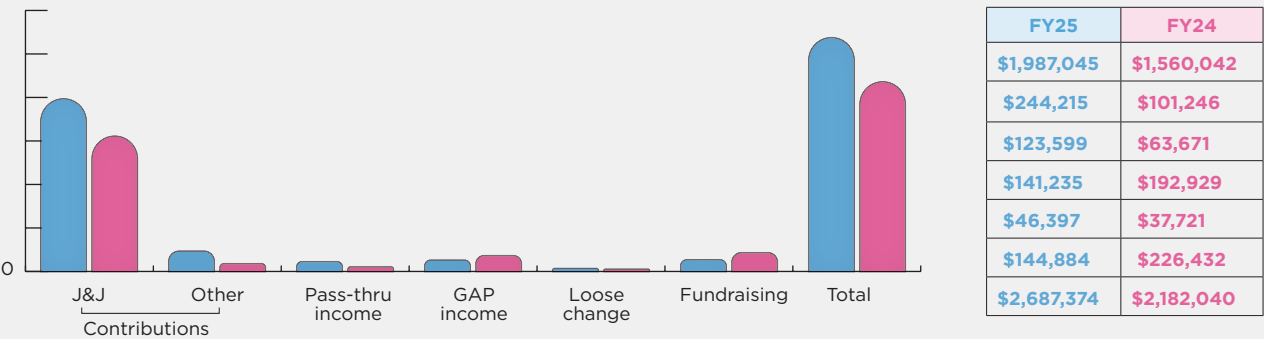
\$560,258

\$702,698

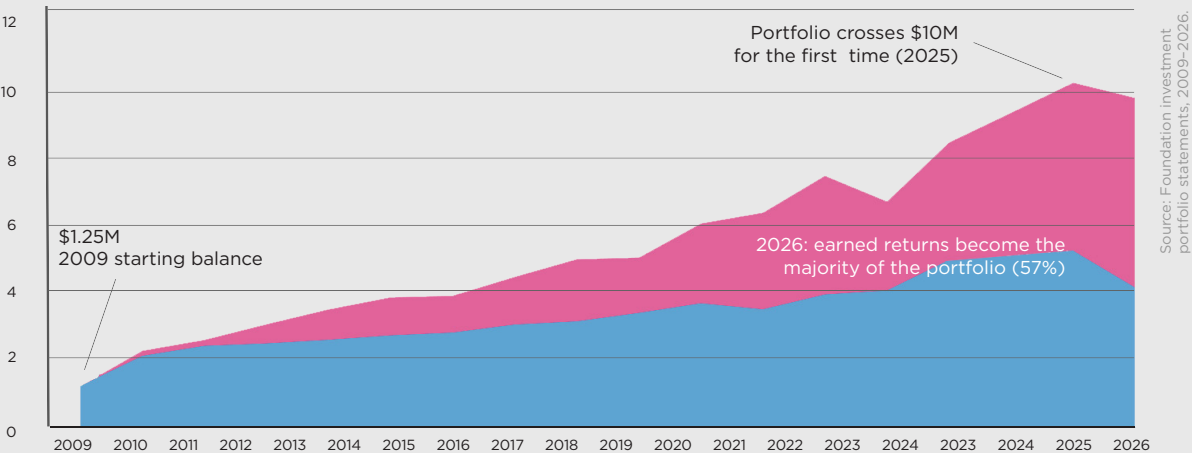
Grants and Scholarships



Income



Investments



Grant funds awarded and not spent are carried forward to the next program year. The financials reflect actual disbursements made to the grantees.

2026-2027 Focus Areas

Education is a core focus. Every child deserves access to high-quality education, regardless of their background, zip code, or income. We invest in organizations that provide educational opportunity, academic support, and pathways to success for students from under-resourced communities.

Through an investment of **\$368,397**, Jack and Jill Foundation partnered with chapters and community organizations to expand literacy, strengthen STEM learning, and prepare students for college and career success. Together, **61** grantees created opportunities that inspire achievement, foster leadership, and open doors to brighter futures.



Health and Wellness are equally essential. We support programs that promote physical and mental well-being, increase access to care, and address health disparities that impact low-income communities and communities of color.

40 grantees and **\$204,301** invested during this year in health resources, healthy eating initiatives, and health fairs to give access to resources to children and families that promote well-being.



Family Stabilization & Opportunity. Strong families are the foundation of strong communities. We invest in efforts that expand economic mobility by removing barriers to housing, food access, digital connectivity, and financial empowerment. By addressing these systemic challenges, we aim to help families build stability, resilience, and pathways to opportunity — unlocking generational potential.

Our investment of **\$130,000** Jack and Jill Foundation partnered with **13** grantees to provide resources that may include digital learning access, academic support services, parent and caregiver resources, food security programs, and health and wellness to unlock pathways to long-term opportunity and generational impact.

JJ College GAP Fund



Closing the Gap. Opening the Door.

Sometimes the difference between staying in college and leaving isn't thousands of dollars, it is one unexpected expense.

An unexpected fee.

A housing balance.

A meal plan.

An emergency that places a dream just out of reach.

The JJ College GAP Fund exists because opportunity should never be determined by a temporary financial obstacle.

Unlike a loan, the JJ College GAP Fund is an investment in a student's future. It closes an immediate financial gap so students can remain enrolled, continue pursuing their education, and move one step closer to graduation.

Every scholarship represents more than financial assistance; it represents hope, dignity, and the confidence that someone believes in their future.



Spring 2026 Graduates From

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

SPELMAN COLLEGE

Through an investment of **\$133,000**, the JJ College GAP Fund removed financial barriers, enabling bright young minds from these diverse institutions to experience promising futures and achieve greater economic mobility.



On behalf of Bowie State University, the Division of Philanthropic Engagement, the Office of Private Scholarships, the Bowie State University Foundation, and our graduating Class of 2026, thank you sincerely for your generous award of **\$26,600** through the Jack and Jill Foundation's College GAP Fund. We are deeply grateful for your continued investment in our students and your commitment to helping them cross the finish line to graduation.



JaiSun McCormick

FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE
PARTNERSHIP OFFICER

Bowie State University

Board of Trustees

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PRESIDENT



Bridgette Coleman,
VICE PRESIDENT



Randi Adkins Warren,
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Leila Clay

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Sherida McCullen
Rafik Mohamed
Renee Morris
★ Tasha Penny

Libi Rice
Joachim Rogers
★ Jasmine Smith
Dana Ugwonali
Jackie Ward
Cynthia Wheeler
★ Darlene Whittington

Emeritus Member Listing

Vara Allen-Jones
Jacqueline Moore Bowles
Joli Cooper
Mavis James

Charles Noble
Anthony Trotman
Tammy King

Staff Listing

Pier Blake, *Executive Director*
Terri Parker, *Chief Financial Officer*
Denija Smith-Hartwell, *Staff Accountant*
Fay Ali, *Executive Assistant*

Operational Consultants

Celeste Adams, *Program Manager*
Jordan Wooten, *Program/Social Media*

Special Recognition



Alice Leigh Peoples

(20TH NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.)

The Board of Directors voted to bestow special recognition upon Alice Leigh Peoples, 20th National President of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., in honor of her enduring legacy and transformational impact on the Jack and Jill Foundation. Her visionary leadership in advancing community service inspired the creation of the Foundation's Regional Teen Conference Community Service Grants, strengthening partnerships between Jack and Jill of America, Inc. regions, and local nonprofits while expanding opportunities for children and families across the country.



Jacqueline Moore Bowles

(21ST NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF JACK AND JILL OF AMERICA, INC.)

The Board of Directors voted to honor Jacqueline Moore Bowles, 21st National President of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Past Foundation President and Emeritus Member in recognition of her extraordinary commitment to philanthropy and expanding educational opportunities for students. Through her leadership and steadfast support of the Foundation's scholarship initiatives, she helped strengthen the organization's investment in higher education in partnership with UNCF. To celebrate her enduring legacy and commitment to student success, the Foundation proudly renamed its UNCF-administered scholarships the Jacqueline Moore Bowles Scholarships, ensuring her impact will continue to inspire and empower future generations of scholars.

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Help Us Build What's Next In Our Future

As our impact grows, so does our responsibility to ensure the Foundation has the strength to serve more children, support more communities, and create more opportunities for generations to come.

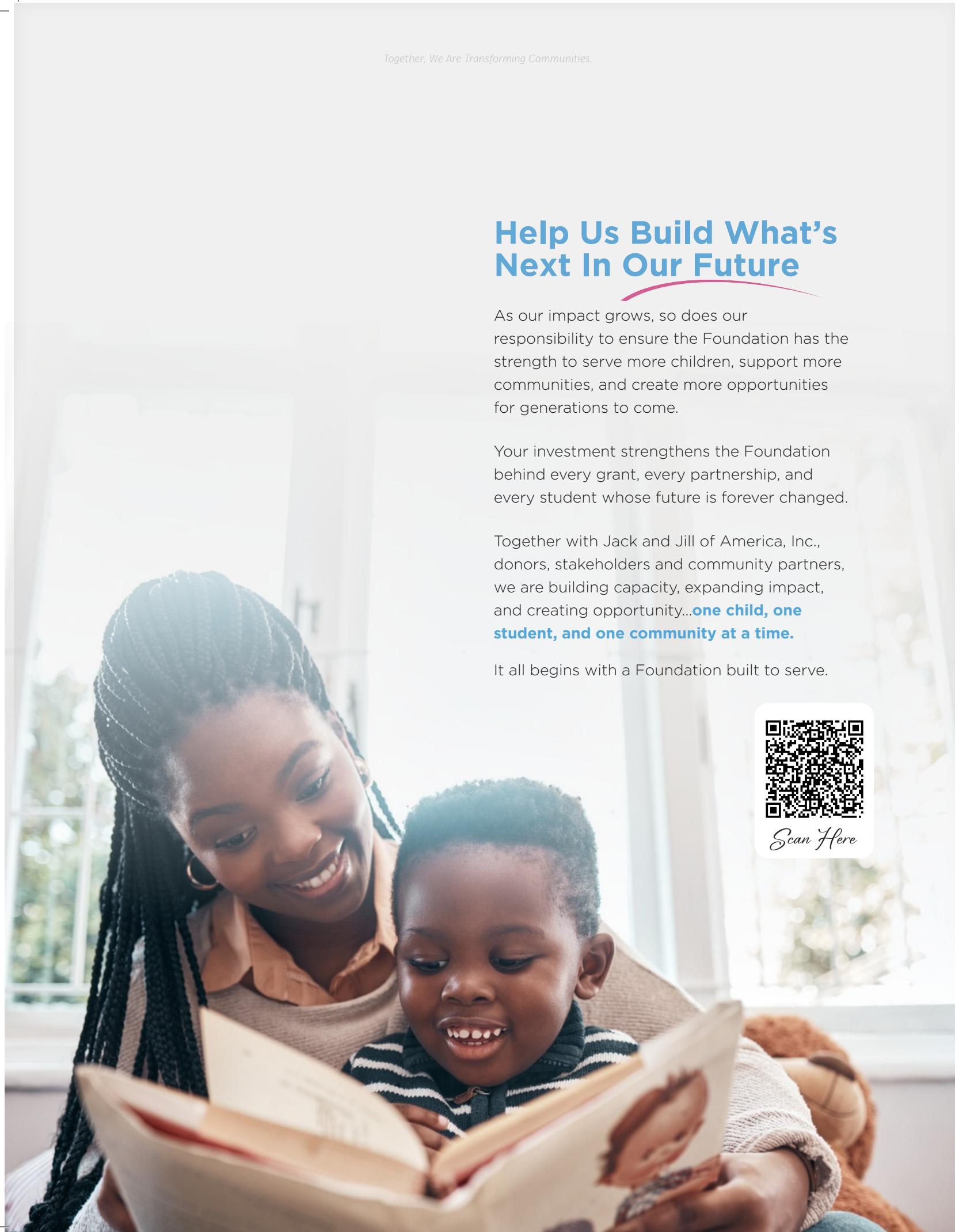
Your investment strengthens the Foundation behind every grant, every partnership, and every student whose future is forever changed.

Together with Jack and Jill of America, Inc., donors, stakeholders and community partners, we are building capacity, expanding impact, and creating opportunity...**one child, one student, and one community at a time.**

It all begins with a Foundation built to serve.



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www.jackandjillfoundation.org

