Todd Graham of Petersburg
Named President of The Cameron Foundation

After a nationwide search that included a review of more than 220 sources and prospects in 35 states and the District of Columbia, the board of The Cameron Foundation arrived at a unanimous conclusion: Petersburg resident Todd Graham is the clear choice for president of the Foundation.

Born and raised in Southside Virginia, Graham has succeeded Handy Lindsey, the Foundation’s first and only president, who stepped down at the close of 2012. For the past year, Graham had been executive director of the Robins Foundation, a private family foundation noted for its longtime commitment to early childhood development, nonprofit organization building, and the University of Richmond.

About the post with The Cameron Foundation, Graham said, “When my wife and I returned to Virginia last year and located in Petersburg, I never expected to have the opportunity to head a major foundation in my new home town.” Graham added that his experience with the Robins Foundation in Richmond had been very gratifying, “but the opportunity to play such a significant role with the most impactful grantmaker in the Petersburg area was simply too compelling to ignore.”

Noting a repeat relocation of sorts, Graham says he and his family, which includes two daughters now living out of state, had planned to settle in Petersburg permanently 10 years ago. “We briefly owned a home on Marshall Street around 2002, but a job opportunity lured us to the Great Plains,” said Graham. “It feels great to be home. My entire career has been focused on improving local communities, but until now the best job opportunities have been elsewhere.”

Community Representative
Joins Grants Committee

Carolyn Thompson has been appointed to the grants committee as a community representative. A resident of Colonial Heights with a background in elementary education, Thompson also served as a deputy clerk for Petersburg General District Court for 11 years.

“I am honored to be appointed to serve The Cameron Foundation. The Foundation’s grants have such an impact on the quality of life in the areas of education and health for the community,” said Thompson. “I am grateful to be a part of this mission.”
Graham, who has held executive positions at nonprofit organizations and grantmaking foundations for nearly 30 years, commented that the board and staff of the Foundation are well known for their commitment to the people and progress of Petersburg and the surrounding areas. “It will be a privilege to build on the good work of Handy Lindsey and the team he assembled as together we capitalize on the significant opportunities ahead,” Graham said.

The new president is motivated by the the region's challenges and the Foundation’s vision in addressing them. “The Foundation wisely has embraced a holistic approach to improving the quality of life in the region. The Foundation has had success in building the capacity of the nonprofit sector and addressing immediate needs in the areas of healthcare and human services as we rebound from the recession.”

Graham added that going forward the Foundation has an opportunity to serve as a catalyst for innovative, tangible projects that will make the Southside area a more attractive, competitive, and livable region.

Before returning to the region with his wife of 33 years, Tina, and assuming the position with the Robins Foundation, Graham had been president and CEO of the Iowa West Foundation, a $350-million grantmaking foundation focused on improving communities in southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

During his eight-year tenure as president, the Iowa West Foundation facilitated the planning and development of a $34-million collaborative human services campus that enabled five vital agencies to provide integrated services in a central location. Other important initiatives included a comprehensive partnership with the local school district to bolster graduation rates and the implementation of an innovative art and culture economic development strategy to revitalize the local community.

From 1999 to 2003, Graham was at the helm of a unique foundation funded by Paul Allen, co-founder of Microsoft and owner of the Seattle Seahawks, to address the impact of the new Seahawks Stadium on surrounding downtown neighborhoods. From 1983 to 1999, Graham served as the founding executive director of a Cleveland-based collaborative of 40 educational institutions, healthcare facilities, human service agencies, and businesses that pooled resources to carry out a wide range of programs and services to benefit underserved communities on the eastern edge of downtown Cleveland.

Larry Tucker, chair of The Cameron Foundation's board and an ex-officio member of the search committee, said the process was a thorough one, but well worth the effort. “We are exceptionally pleased that our efforts resulted in the appointment of such a seasoned foundation executive with a proven history of community impact. The fact that Todd Graham had already chosen to make Petersburg his home made his candidacy just that much more convincing.”

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**Q:** Can you tell us a little bit about yourself and your family?

**A:** I grew up on the Southside of Richmond and attended Midlothian Middle School and High School. My father’s side of the family has Petersburg roots. My wife, Tina, has been a practicing pharmacist for nearly 40 years with hospitals and retail. We’ve been married for 33 years and have two daughters who currently reside in Los Angeles and Cleveland (my wife’s hometown).

**Q:** What do you want the nonprofits and the communities served by them to know about you and your vision as president of The Cameron Foundation?

**A:** Although I have extensive experience in philanthropy, my vision is grounded in practical experience gained from working for local government and leading a nonprofit community development organization for 16 years in challenging efforts to revitalize Cleveland.

**Q:** Did you see any of this year’s Academy Award-nominated films? If so, which was your favorite?

**A:** I saw “Lincoln” and “Les Miserables” – with “Lincoln” being my favorite for the local scenery.

**Q:** What was the last play, musical, or concert you enjoyed?

**A:** The last concert that I enjoyed was a Rolling Stones concert in Omaha, Nebraska.

**Finish this sentence:** “Clarion readers would be surprised to know…

…that I recently held the licenses to three Las Vegas-based casinos: Harrah’s, Ameristar, and Horseshoe. The three casino properties were located in Iowa where casinos are required to have nonprofit sponsors or license holders to insure that some gaming revenues remain in the local community. In return for holding the licenses, the casinos contributed approximately $8 million annually that the Iowa West Foundation redistributed in the form of grants to the community.

New Addition to the **Grants Committee** (cont.)

Thompson replaces Linda Coleman, who left the post last year after having served four years. Dr. Marion H. Wilkins holds the other community representative seat on the Foundation’s grants committee.

The grants committee serves a central role in helping the Foundation fulfill its mission to support programs and activities that improve both the health and quality of life for people living in the region. By including board members and community representatives, the Foundation is able to engage a variety of community voices in its decision-making process for grants. After proposals have been reviewed by staff, recommendations are presented to the grants committee for consideration and approval before a final decision is made by the full board.
The 2012 recipients include: Crisis Assistance Response Emergency Shelter, Inc. (CARES); The James House Intervention/Prevention Services; Chesterfield-Colonial Heights Alliance for Social Ministry (CCHASM); and Gateway Homes. All of these honorees were presented with their awards during The Cameron Foundation’s October Grant Awards Ceremony on October 24, 2012.

The recognition award selections are the result of two annual competitions for nonprofit organizations within the Foundation’s service area of Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, the counties of Dinwiddie, Prince George, and Sussex, and the portion of Chesterfield County south of Rt. 10. Review committees for the award categories consist of volunteers who live or work within the community.

Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service

Named for The Cameron Foundation’s first president (and current board member) for his exemplary and untiring commitment to the Foundation’s mission, the Cleveland A. Wright Award is truly a bridge to the community. Nominations for the award originate with community members who are encouraged to put forward an organization believed to demonstrate a commitment to caring and generosity of spirit, as well as openness and accessibility.

Thirteen organizations were nominated for the Cleveland A. Wright Award, eight of which were eligible for consideration and moved forward through the competitive process. A panel of community representatives led by Foundation Director Donald L. Haraway reviewed and scored the applications then recommended CARES to The Cameron Foundation’s board. In addition to receiving the award, CARES was given an unrestricted $40,000 gift.

Excellence in Organizational Management Award

The Organizational Management Award – which the board announced would be renamed in honor of the Foundation’s first president and CEO, Handy Lindsey, Jr. – presents nonprofits with an opportunity for self-assessment and rigorous measurement against national best practices in organizational management. The Foundation calls for nonprofit staff or board members to apply for the award, submitting nominations on behalf of their organization. Due to the rigorous nature of this process, what has been compared to an internal audit, a smaller pool of candidates competed for the award than those who vied for the Cleveland A. Wright award.

Along with committee chair and Foundation Director Pam Comstock, four additional community members reviewed the applications then voted to recommend The James House as the award recipient. The James House received an unrestricted gift of $30,000 for demonstrating excellence in overall organizational management. This nonprofit had secured an honorable mention in 2011 under this program and also claimed the Cleveland A. Wright Award four years ago.

The review committee also voted this year to recognize CCHASM and Gateway Homes with honorable mention gifts of $10,000 each for exemplifying excellence in one or more of the specific areas reviewed during the scoring process.

The new deadlines to apply for both of these programs will be announced in the spring. All of the 2013 recognition award recipients will then be honored in the Foundation’s October ceremony.

A Bridge to the Community

Who decides how the lucrative recognition awards are bestowed each year? The review committees of the Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service and the Organizational Management Award consist mainly of volunteers who live or work within the region the Foundation serves. They are identified by the Foundation staff and board members, and following approval by the Foundation’s board, invited to participate. Each committee is chaired by a member of the board, as well.
Meet the 2012 CAWA Committee Members

Led by Foundation Director Donald L. Haraway, the review committee for the 2012 Cleveland A. Wright Award consisted of several community representatives.

Ms. Betty Moore Beverly is an active leader in the community who last worked for E.I. DuPont in integrated health services and is now retired. Beverly is currently retired, holds a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and a master of science in allied health. She serves on the Chesterfield Advisory Board of Chesterfield County Families First Program, and is President of Chester Garden Club and Chairman of Argent Federal Credit Union Board of Directors.

Mr. Robert S. Carlon, a retired vice president with SunTrust Bank, has a 35-year career of service centered on finance and economic development in the region. He has a bachelor’s degree in finance from Virginia Tech. The early part of his banking career involved branch management positions, with the latter half devoted to commercial banking, focusing on the financial needs of hospitals, universities, and municipalities. He also is retired from his farming operation in Prince George County. He serves as vestryman and junior warden of Merchants Hope Episcopal Church and Vice President of Merchants Hope Church Foundation, Inc.

Ms. Shikee Franklin is director of Head Start for The Improvement Association, managing a $2 million federal grant to provide comprehensive services to children in The Cameron Foundation’s service area. She holds an associate’s degree in business management, a bachelor’s degree in business organization management, and a master’s degree in education. Franklin is president of the Virginia Council of Directors for the statewide Head Start Initiative, represents Southeast Virginia on the State Collaboration Council for Early Childhood Education, and serves on the Crater Smart Beginnings Coalition. She also is an officer of the Coalition for Delaying Parenthood in Youth as well as the Greensville Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization.

Dr. William D. Irvin, president of William D. Irvin, Inc., an appraisal and organizational consulting firm, has more than 25 years of experience in community and rural development program design and delivery with government, corporate, and nonprofit partners. Prior to his current position, he worked for 10 years with Kuehl Shepherd Kozlowski & Associates, Inc., where he was responsible for strategic planning and implementation, teambuilding, and human resource development.

Ms. Angela M. Orrell has lived in Dinwiddie County for nearly 30 years and is widely recognized as an artist and documentary photographer. Her exhibition about a Dinwiddie County farming community (“From the Seed to the Hand”) has traveled across state through the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and has earned her commendation from Dinwiddie County. This collection has recently become part of the permanent collections at the Virginia Historical Society. Orrell also is a nurse for Bon Secours Medical Practice Group. Her nonprofit affiliations in Petersburg are with health, human services, and cultural enrichment organizations.

Pastor J. David Tolbert, a Petersburg resident for over 20 years, has served as pastor of Emmanuel Apostolic Temple in the city since 2002. He is a licensed minister with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, serves as chairman of the budget and finance committee with the Virginia State Council Apostolic, Inc., and is president of Nehemiah – The Petersburg Project, a local congregation-based community organizing group.

Meet the Organizational Management Award Committee Members

In addition to committee chair and Foundation Director Pamela Comstock, this review committee is comprised of the following community members.

Dr. Virginia R. Cherry, library director emerita for Richard Bland College, completed her bachelor’s degree in philosophy at William and Mary, her master’s degree at Emory University and her doctorate at Virginia Commonwealth University. A member of the American Library Association, the Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Virginia Library Association, Dr. Cherry is president of the Sussex County Virginia Historical Society and president-elect of the Rotary Club (Luncheon) of Petersburg.

Dr. Ray L. Drinkwater has served John Tyler Community College for more than 38 years in a variety of roles. He currently is vice president for student affairs, and has previously held positions in counseling and student activities as well as serving as interim dean for the institution’s academic divisions on several occasions. He also is a professor of history and has published several papers on nineteenth century southern history. Dr. Drinkwater completed his bachelor’s degree at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), his master’s degree at the University of Virginia, and his doctorate at VCU.

Ms. Carol D. Woodward has spent 25 years as an attorney in the greater Richmond area. Her practice focuses primarily on administrative law procedures and advising nonprofits. She obtained a bachelor of science degree in education from Missouri State University, a master of science degree in education from the University of Southern California, and a juris doctorate from the University of Oklahoma, College of Law. In addition to her private law practice, Woodward serves as a volunteer consumer arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau of Central Virginia. She served eight years as a member of the Prince George County Planning Commission, including one year as chair. She currently serves on the Prince George County Board of Zoning Appeals and is an active member of the Rotary Club of Prince George County.

Ms. Heather Turbyne-Pollard has been employed at United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg for 11 years and is vice president of the community impact department. She works with community volunteers, local government officials, foundations, local coalitions, and other nonprofits that share United Way’s goal in creating solutions that positively address the education, income, and health of Greater Richmond and Petersburg residents. Pollard graduated cum laude from Randolph-Macon College with a bachelor of arts in psychology.
The Healthcare Advisory Council provides valuable input regarding the health sector to The Cameron Foundation, identifying needs in the Foundation's service area along with projects that address those needs. The Council's comprehensive mission also includes offering recommendations for enhanced project management and a system for scrutiny and accountability to guide the Foundation as it implements approved projects in the service area according to established priorities.

Because the Foundation gives priority to committing resources in the area of health, the Council is tasked to focus on two important questions: What is the Council’s assessment of the Foundation's performance with regard to spending in the health sector? Are there better ways to use the resources?

Cameron Foundation Program Officer Valerie Liggins says that through the Council’s work and influence, the bar is raised for health outcomes throughout the community.

“The Council helps the Foundation to be a better catalyst for improved health in the community, mainly by identifying noteworthy projects, by promoting collaborations and partnerships, by offering advice and guidance, and by questioning traditional thinking and stimulating new approaches,” said Liggins.

The Council also has played an important role in shepherding the process for The Cameron Foundation to conduct an updated regional health needs assessment. This report is expected to be released in the spring and will be housed on the Foundation's web site (camfound.org).

New Members

Dr. Karen Faison, Director of Nursing, Virginia State University
Michelle Grate, Health Service Coordinator, Prince George County Public Schools
Dr. George Lyons Jr., Pastor of Gillfield Baptist Church, Petersburg

Current Members

Shayla Anderson, Community Health and Prevention Supervisor
Dr. J. Elisha Burke, Director of Health Ministry, Baptist General Convention of Virginia
Karen Cameron, Owner, Cameron Targeted Solutions
Jill Coleman, Vice President for Programs, The Cameron Foundation
J. Todd Graham, President, The Cameron Foundation
Dr. Alton Hart, Director, Crater Health District
H. Anne Holsinger, Director of Assessment and Student Services, Dinwiddie County Public Schools
Joseph Hubbard, Director, District 19 Behavioral Health Authority
Joan Ivey, Director, Stony Creek Medical Center
Ann Key, Coordinator, Sussex County Resource and Technology Center
Valerie Liggins, Program Officer, The Cameron Foundation
Sheena MacKenzie, Development Director, Central Virginia Health Services
Gail Sutler, Director of Nursing, Chesterfield Health District
Sharon Williams, Nurse Manager, Sr., Crater Health District

A 2011 grant from The Cameron Foundation, combined with the tireless work of stakeholders from the Crater Region’s Continuum of Care (CoC) lead agency, the United Way of Greater Richmond and Petersburg, and a variety of other service providers from the area has resulted in the creation of a community strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness in the Foundation’s service area.

The Crater Region’s Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness is available for review online at camfound.org. It represents the culmination of over two years of community collaboration and partnerships focused on improving housing stability and streamlining homeless services in the Crater Region.

Valerie Liggins, program officer with the Foundation, said, “The plan provides the community with a blueprint and structure for developing the capacity needed to meet the needs of those experiencing a housing crisis. It’s an important part of an ongoing discussion among community stakeholders.”

Rather than being based on a ten-year time frame, the plan is a three-year strategic plan that provides direction for establishing the needed structure for a successful continuum and implementing the best practices that will help the community achieve its programmatic goals.

This project has been sustained with the philanthropic support and technical assistance of The Cameron Foundation, and the guidance and expertise of all involved proved extremely helpful in navigating the community development process that supported the creation of this plan. To stay abreast of the Crater Coalition and the Continuum of Care, check in at CraterCoalition.blogspot.com.
Southside Community Partners
2013 Learning and Leadership Calendar

Workshops and training developed to assist nonprofit organizations striving to bring sustainable, positive change to the Southside region.

Monday, March 11, 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Building Blocks for Nonprofit Board Members Presenter: Tiffany Harris

Wednesday, March 13, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Introduction to QuickBooks Presenter: Melody Stone, CPA
Note: This workshop will be held at the John Randolph Foundation, 112 N. Main Street, Hopewell, VA. 23860

Wednesday, March 20, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Grant Writing Level II Presenter: Laurie Jarrett-Rogers

Tuesday, March 26, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Introduction to Outcomes Evaluation Presenter: Trina Willard

Thursday, April 11, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Principles of Board Governance Presenter: Amy Nisenson

Wednesday, April 17, 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Webinar: The Art of (Donor) Cultivation Presenter: Keith Curtis

Thursday, April 18, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Engaging & Recruiting Volunteers Part I Presenter: Sherry Williams, CVA

Thursday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Engaging & Recruiting Volunteers Part II Presenter: Sherry Williams, CVA

Thursday, May 9, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The Board Member's Role in Fundraising Presenter: Patricia Morris

Thursday, May 30, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Managing a Successful Volunteer Program Presenter: Alison Jones-Nassar, CVA

Thursday, June 6, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Introduction to Change Management Presenter: Susan Wilkes, Ph.D.

All workshops, with the exception of Introduction to QuickBooks (at the John Randolph Foundation, 112 N. Main Street, Hopewell, VA. 23860), will take place at the Appomattox Regional Library, 209 E. Cawson Street in Hopewell.

Workshop fee is $25 with advance online registration, or $30 at the door. Register online at ConnectSouthside.org/NPTrainings.

To learn about important resources tailored to the needs of your nonprofit organization, visit the Southside Community Partners’ Nonprofit Resource Center (NRC).

Located in the Appomattox Regional Library and open for walk-in use, six days a week, the NRC is a specialty library and support center designed to assist local nonprofit organizations working to bring sustainable, positive change to the Southside region. Patrons invest their time in building knowledge, networking, and exploring funding options in the facility’s comfortable resource room.

Featuring a circulating collection of 500-plus titles, and a large reference collection, the NRC also includes BoardSource®, a special section for building and supporting effective nonprofit boards, and Independent Sector reports and data. Users can also access the Foundation Directory Online, Directory of Virginia Foundations, and Find It Virginia, via two convenient computer workstations. Printers also are available.

For more information on Southside Community Partners and the Nonprofit Resource Center, visit ConnectSouthside.org or call 804 458 6329.
When Handy Lindsey, The Cameron Foundation’s first president and CEO, announced his departure, he did so with aplomb and purpose.

Putting the mission of the Foundation first, Lindsey commented that he wanted to allow the board sufficient time to find a successor and work toward a smooth transition in leadership, “without impacting the stability and quality of the grantmaking process.”

At a farewell ceremony to honor Lindsey and his work in the region, community members and area stakeholders joined Foundation staff to thank Lindsey, the only president the Foundation had known since its inception in 2004.

Larry Tucker, chair of the board, spoke of a man who worked tirelessly over his tenure to shape the Foundation’s mission, its bylaws, and its direction.

“As the public face of The Cameron Foundation, he has forged partnerships and built alliances in the nonprofit sector that will serve as a living legacy for decades to come,” Tucker said.

Under Lindsey’s management, the Foundation has distributed just under $60 million dollars in total grant funding into the community, including $3.9 million last year. Tucker said both the Foundation and the communities it serves are better off for having known Lindsey.

Tucker further commended Lindsey’s ability for advancing the demand for best practices in nonprofit management and governance. It also was announced in the fall that the Foundation’s organizational management award would be renamed in the former president’s honor, beginning this year.

As a veteran in philanthropy with over three decades in service, Lindsey’s next career move will be to establish channels to disseminate some of that valuable knowledge. Recently relocated in the nation’s capital, he is establishing a consulting practice that advises foundations and philanthropic associations in the areas of strategic philanthropy, organizational development, and executive leadership.

The board and staff of The Cameron Foundation extend a special thank you to everyone in the community who helped to show an outpouring of support and well-wishes to Handy as he was departing.
2013 Calendar of Events

**Grant Letter of Intent (LOI) Deadlines:** Letter of Intent (LOI) deadlines are January 2, May 1, and September 3.

**Grant Proposal Deadlines:** After reviewing an organization’s LOI, The Cameron Foundation will inform the applicant if it is invited to submit a proposal. The deadlines for submission of proposals are February 15, June 17, and October 15.

**Grant Decisions:** If approved, proposals submitted in February are awarded in June; proposals submitted in June are awarded in October; and proposals submitted in October are awarded in February 2014.

### Information Workshops

The Cameron Foundation hosts information workshops for organizations to learn about The Cameron Foundation, its mission, and grant submission procedures. Onsite workshops are offered at the Foundation’s headquarters at 228 S. Sycamore St., in Petersburg and are conducted by the Foundation’s program officers.

Sessions begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. and run for approximately two hours. Organizations are encouraged to have a representative attend one of these workshops to find out more about the Foundation’s priorities and the application process. Existing grantees or organizations currently under review for grant consideration do not need to attend information workshops.

To inquire about the onsite workshops, interested organizations should call the Foundation’s offices. Because space is limited, participation will be on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve a space at an onsite workshop or to request a copy of the Foundation’s guidelines and application materials, you may email us or call Dianna Lester, administrative associate, at dlester@camfound.org or 804 732 8900.

Please provide the following information when you make your reservation: organization, your name and position in the organization, phone number, date of workshop you would like to attend, and email (if available).

The onsite session dates that are currently scheduled include:
- March 28, 2013
- July 25, 2013
- November 21, 2013

More onsite sessions will be scheduled as needed, so please sign up to receive notification of new information workshop dates as they are added.

### Rural Outreach Information Sessions

The Foundation periodically schedules offsite information sessions to accommodate nonprofit organizations that may be located in the outlying areas of the Foundation’s service region. For further information or to reserve a space at one of the Rural Outreach Information Sessions, please email us or call 804 732 8900.