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**Communities Foundation of Texas (CFT) funds 20 Scholarships
for Black and African American Fundraisers**

CFT awards \$2,000 to Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Dallas Chapter

Dallas, Texas – In July 2020, the Communities Foundation of Texas partnered with the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Dallas Chapter to offer scholarships for 20 Black and African American fundraising professionals to be used for membership to AFP Greater Dallas. The mission of AFP Greater Dallas is to work to advance philanthropy through advocacy, research, education, and certification programs. In June 2020, AFP Greater Dallas publicly [committed](#) to providing support and programming to support and stand with the Black community. The organization is proud to roll out these scholarships, thanks to Communities Foundation of Texas, as the first of many action steps in accordance with that statement.

AFP Greater Dallas President, Shawn Wills, CFRE, shared, “From my first day as president of this chapter, one of my goals has been to recruit and diversify our membership and our programming, and I am absolutely thrilled to have the support of not only my fellow board members, but Communities Foundation of Texas as well! These scholarships, provided by CFT, will help us build a stronger pipeline of African American and Black fundraisers who far too often are overlooked for executive level positions in this industry. My hope is that through this opportunity, our new members will take advantage of the programming, trainings, educational resources, and the social network that this chapter offers - all of which are made possible through the generosity of CFT and their commitment to this effort and outreach.”

“Communities Foundation of Texas is thrilled to partner with AFP on this special initiative to get more people of color engaged in our local AFP chapter,” said Monica Egert Smith, CFT’s Chief Relationship Officer. “Now more than ever, our nonprofits need skilled development professionals, and particularly more leaders of color. We are excited to help support scholarships for new members so that they can benefit from the training opportunities, best practices and professional network that AFP is known for.”