One hundred million is the natural number following 99,999,999 and preceding 100,000,001. It is the fourth power of 100 and the square of 10,000. It is also the approximate value of The Cape Cod Foundation’s assets.

Take a moment to let that sink in. We’ve reach a $100 million milestone. The Foundation was established in 1989 with a single $10,000 scholarship fund. This is a growth spurt worth sharing.

So is this number: $90 million. That’s the total amount we’ve invested back into the community over the past 33 years. That’s because while we’re building resources, we’re also deploying them. In 2021, distributions exceeded $6.2 million, an 11% increase over the year before.

We’re definitely reaching great milestones in our thirties. And I do mean ours. More and more people are partnering with the Foundation to support and expand their philanthropic efforts. And, together, we are having a profound impact in the community.

**More people are creating funds.** In 2021 alone, donors established 23 new funds with us, bringing the total number of funds we administer to over 330. That alone is a powerful force for good. As a side note, last year our Board approved an increase in the annual amount we distribute from endowment funds to help meet the increased need caused by the pandemic.

**More people are creating planned gifts.** At the end of 2020, we received a bequest targeted for visual arts on Cape Cod. This allowed us to distribute a total of $201,366 from our newly established Fund for Visual Arts to 14 arts organizations for operational, programmatic, and capacity-building support in 2021. These resources were a much-needed lifeline for our cultural sector, which has been especially impacted by the pandemic.

**More people are creating and contributing to scholarships.** The 2021 distribution total above includes almost $1.1 million in scholarship support from The Cape Cod Foundation and our partner, the Cape Cod Association. Last year, donors created 12 new scholarship funds with us, bringing our total number of scholarship funds to 96.

**More people are supporting our Strategic Emergency Response Fund.** To date, we have raised more than $3.58 million and distributed more than $2.5 million to 60 nonprofits across the region for immediate pandemic relief and recovery through this fund. In addition to support from individual donors, we have received funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, private foundations, and corporate partners that have relied on community foundations like ours to allocate resources where they’re needed the most. Our community knowledge, relationships in the nonprofit sector, and grantmaking experience are recognizable assets. Fundraising continues. More grants are planned.
More people are supporting our Civic Leadership initiatives. The $6.2 million distribution in 2021 includes almost $665,000 in grants to nonprofit organizations through our Program and Capacity-Building Grantmaking Programs. These grants, and all our other initiatives, impact all aspects of community life.

More people are listening. Last year, we hosted a series of virtual Community Forums with local experts to share information about community needs, challenges, progress, programs, resources, and opportunities. Hundreds of people tuned in to learn more about food security and access, housing and homelessness, mental and behavioral health, and supporting youth across Cape Cod. We're planning more meaningful conversations for this year.

Sometimes, it seems like I can think of a million reasons why it’s so difficult to drive social change. The coronavirus and recent emergence of the omicron variant have made it seem a million times harder. But I’ve come to the same conclusion a million times more. We are a mighty force. Every year, more and more people are lending support. We have built $100 million in assets which will help support our community now and in the years to come. There is nothing we can’t do when we work together.

And that’s the core focus for 2022—continuing to connect and deepen our relationships with our partners, donors, grant recipients, and community members. People who care. We will continue to move forward deliberately, strategically and optimistically together.

Stay tuned and stay connected!

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