

LETTIE PATE WHITEHEAD FOUNDATION



History, Program, and Administration

The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation is a charitable private foundation dedicated to the support of needy women in nine southeastern states. The Foundation provides scholarship grants to schools and colleges for deserving female students and operating grants to a small number of institutions serving the needs of elderly women.

LETTIE PATE WHITEHEAD

Early Years

Lettie Pate Whitehead was born Letitia Pate in Bedford County, Virginia, in 1872. She was educated at private schools in Bedford and Lynchburg. In 1895, she married Joseph Brown Whitehead, a young attorney, and moved with him to Chattanooga, Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead had two sons, Joseph B., Jr. and Conkey Pate.

In 1899, Mr. Whitehead and an associate approached The Coca-Cola Company with the idea of bottling Coca-Cola, a fountain beverage then growing in popularity in the South. The two entrepreneurs secured an exclusive contract to bottle and sell Coca-Cola throughout most of the United States, and the Whitehead family moved to Atlanta to found the Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Company. The Coca-Cola bottling business prospered, and Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead became business, church and civic leaders in Atlanta.

Business Career and Remarriage

Mr. Whitehead died in 1906 at the age of 42. Mrs. Whitehead immediately assumed responsibility for the family's business affairs, overseeing not only the expansion of the Coca-Cola bottling business, but also the family's real estate investments. She served as Chairman of the Board of the Whitehead Holding Company and President of the Whitehead Realty Company. Mrs. Whitehead became one of the first women to serve on the board of directors of a major American corporation, serving as a

director of The Coca-Cola Company for almost twenty years beginning in 1934.

Seven years after Mr. Whitehead's death, Mrs. Whitehead married Colonel Arthur Kelly Evans, a retired Canadian army officer. She and Col. Evans made their principal residence in Hot Springs, Virginia, where she became active in cultural and civic affairs.

Philanthropy

Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans felt a keen sense of duty to those in need. A gracious and generous woman, she contributed to numerous charities during her lifetime. Her philanthropies in Georgia included major gifts to Agnes Scott College, Berry Schools, Emory University, Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Tallulah Falls School and Georgia Institute of Technology. She served as a trustee of Emory University and Agnes Scott College.

In Virginia, she gave generously to the College of William and Mary, Washington and Lee University, Episcopal Theological Seminary, Episcopal High School, Hot Springs Valley Nursing Association, Protestant Episcopal Church Home, Boys Home in Covington, Old Customhouse in Yorktown and Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg. She served as a trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond.

Her benevolence extended also to England and France. She made personal donations to the Queen's Fund for air raid victims during World War II, furnished ambulances for the French, and served on the board of the American Hospital in Paris.

Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans survived both of her sons and her second husband. Her oldest son, influenced by his mother's generosity, created the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation. Before her death in 1953, she established the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation. Through the benevolence of those two foundations and the Lettie Pate Whitehead

Foundation, charitable institutions and individuals continue to benefit from the extraordinary legacy of Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans.

HISTORY OF THE FOUNDATION

Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans' youngest son, Conkey Pate Whitehead, was born in Chattanooga, reared in Atlanta, and educated in local schools before matriculating at Yale University. He served as an officer of the Whitehead Realty Company and other family business enterprises.

Influenced by the generous example of his parents, Conkey provided in his will for the creation of the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation as a memorial to his mother. The Foundation was chartered in 1946 for the aid and benefit of poor and needy Christian girls and women in nine specified states — Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation devotes most of its resources to the Lettie Pate Whitehead scholarship program. Annual grants are made to accredited educational institutions in the nine specified states to fund scholarships for the education of women. In accordance with guidelines prescribed by the founder, the grantee institutions award scholarships on the basis of need to Christian women who reside in one of the specified states.

More than 200 institutions participate annually in the Lettie Pate Whitehead scholarship program. Thousands of women receive financial assistance each year in individual amounts determined by the recipient institutions.

While most of the Lettie Pate Whitehead scholarships go toward undergraduate higher education, the Foundation maintains a special interest in health education. A significant number of its scholarship grants support education in the medical, nursing and allied health care fields.

ELDERLY CARE PROGRAM

In establishing the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Conkey Pate Whitehead professed the "greatest sympathy for elderly women . . . who have met with adversity in their declining years." The Foundation has responded to this concern by providing support to a few selected nursing homes and retirement communities in Georgia, Virginia and North Carolina.

ADMINISTRATION

The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation is a Georgia not-for-profit corporation governed by a self-perpetuating board of trustees. The Foundation shares a common administrative arrangement with the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation and the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation.

The Foundation does not make grants to individuals. Applications for individual scholarship aid should be made directly to educational institutions. All other correspondence, including inquiries from institutions eligible for Foundation support, should be directed to the President of the Foundation.

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