"Beyond the Check: The Patterson Foundation's Approach to Innovative Philanthropy" was a one-credit course offered by Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy designed to dive deep into TPF with its president and CEO, Debra Jacobs.

An impactful leadership-development experience based on TPF's approach, the course explored network building, values-driven work, creating value beyond the check, systems thinking, the balance between foundation leadership and community leadership, and the importance of communication.

Assignments and discussions challenged participants to think about what's possible in philanthropy when one looks beyond how things have always been done. The value-heavy, six-week journey through life in a private foundation featured Zoom sessions with Debra Jacobs, TPF Fellow Hannah Saeger Karnei, and TPF consultant Donna Puhalovich.

"While I could fill hours with TPF concepts, we chose to bring other TPFers into the virtual classes, with No Margin, No Mission's Mike Oxman and Larry Clark taking the students on a journey into building nonprofit thrivability through mission-aligned decision-making. Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading's Beth Duda brought TPF colleague Ashley Coone and Dive into Reading's founder Amanda Horne to the class to share how working in community strengthens shared aspirations. Spoken Word Poet, Cedric Hameed, touched our souls as we wove words about bravery into poems." -- Debra Jacobs

Students valued the diversity and perspectives featured in INNOVATING FOR THRIVABILITY

TPF has partnered with mission-based data and analytics company HundredX, Inc. to connect regional nonprofits with HundredX's Express Feedback for Good™ program. Aligned with TPF's effort to strengthen organizations, this pilot project leverages nonprofits' relationships with board members, staff, volunteers, partners, donors, and other stakeholders to generate new revenue streams to sustain their work in our community.

HundredX's Express Feedback for Good™ program offers nonprofit organizations a nontraditional way to diversify and maximize donor engagement and activation. Through the program, nonprofits can invite board members, volunteers, and other stakeholders to provide valuable feedback on well-known brands for consumer research purposes. Each time a stakeholder provides valid input, which takes around 60 seconds, their organization will generate funding from HundredX.

Through the pilot project, TPF has engaged No Margin, No Mission to provide weekly consulting support to a select group of nonprofit organizations on ways to effectively utilize the Express Feedback for Good™ program toward strengthening relationships and generating revenue.

TPF is offering this opportunity to eight organizations that previously worked within its NGO Thrivability initiative to explore how this initial pilot project might evolve into a proven model that additional nonprofits in the region can use.

The organizations participating in this pilot project include:
Students valued the diversity and perspectives featured in "Beyond the Check." The lessons held over the six-week span cultivated opportunities to make lasting connections with leaders in philanthropy while learning from their experiences. Through the course, the students learned creative, innovative ways to practice philanthropy that complemented their robust coursework at the school.

"Some of the themes I know I will carry with me into my future work include joyful stewardship, never arrive with the answer, change happens at the speed of trust, seek opportunities to build connective tissue, be IN community, and always ask, who else cares?"

"I want to take this opportunity to thank TPF for the time and energy you have put into this course. The content has been outstanding and incredibly useful. I truly appreciate your willingness to opening share the tools presented throughout 'Beyond the Check.' Your passion for your organization and those you serve is contagious. I look forward to staying connected and expanding our connective tissue."

"The last six weeks with the incredible professionals, consultants, and speakers from TPF has exceeded expectations. I have learned valuable techniques, exposed to different perspectives when working with foundations, nonprofits, or projects. I have made strides in personal and professional growth from participating in the 'Beyond the Check' course."

Interested in learning more? Read the blog series here:

- "Charting a Path for Discovery: Building the Beyond the Check Syllabus" by Hannah Saeger Karnei, Inaugural TPF Fellow
- "Behind the Curtain: Personal Experiences with Beyond the Check" by Donna Puhalovich, consultant with The Patterson Foundation
- "People Pursuing Possibilities via Beyond the Check" by Debra Jacobs, president and CEO of The Patterson Foundation

STRENGTHENING NONPROFITS WITH STRATEGIC DECISION-MAKING CONSULTING SESSIONS

TPF has selected six regional nonprofit organizations to receive five weeks of 1:1 consulting through their participation in Advancing Mission Thrivability 2.0. This opportunity educates nonprofits on strategic approaches to making mission-focused, economically informed decisions for their programs, products, and services.

"With the pandemic continuing to introduce and compound challenges for our vital nonprofit community, Advancing Mission Thrivability is needed more than ever in today's resource-challenged world," said Debra Jacobs. "Through this opportunity, TPF helps organizations in our communities learn ways to make sound operational and financial decisions that are aligned with their missions. This additional consulting opportunity will further strengthen their impact across our region."

Dozens of regional nonprofit organizations have participated in online learning sessions through Advancing Mission Thrivability (AMT). During each session, nonprofits learned how to strengthen their organizations by making decisions aligned with their mission focus and economic considerations.

Following the completion, participating organizations that committed to embracing this decision-making approach had the option to apply for an additional learning opportunity.

Organizations participating in AMT 2.0:
- Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity
- Charlotte Players, Inc.
- Humane Society of Manatee County
- Literacy Council of Sarasota
- Manatee County Habitat for Humanity
- Manatee Performing Arts Center
- Peace River Wildlife Center
- Visual Arts Center

Click here to learn more about NGO Thrivability and this new pilot project.
In this moving production, Frederick Douglass, black abolitionist leader and former slave, and Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States of America, clashed in their ideologies regarding race, politics, and slavery.

Frederick Douglass, a true radical with a fiery spirit, believed in racial equality for everyone. He dedicated his life, writings, and career to abolishing slavery everywhere. Abraham Lincoln, cautious and considered, while opposed to slavery, was first and foremost a patriot, intent on preserving the Union at all costs.

These two self-made men, at a time when our divided nation faced annihilation, faced their differences with courage and compassion, forging a friendship that helped to end the Civil War and reunite our nation. Through their own words, we explored the walk of these two great American leaders from conflict to understanding.

Bill Wagy created a 2:40-second video to engage folks in the magic and inspire them to participate.

Now, as a gift to the community, TPF is pleased to offer virtual screenings of *Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, A Walk to Respect*. Screenings are free and include a link to the full-length recording as well as a live Zoom panel discussion with the actors and playwright to dive into the themes of respect, community, and civil discourse.

The play is appropriate for ages 9+. If you are interested in hosting a virtual screening and panel discussion, please contact Hannah Saeger Karnei: hsaegerkarnei@thepattersonfoundation.org.

We welcome your thoughts. Connect with us at thepattersonfoundation@gmail.com.