



TURNER FAMILY
CENTER FOR SOCIAL VENTURES

2023–2024

Annual Report



VANDERBILT
UNIVERSITY



TFC Board & Staff 2023 – 2024

OUR MISSION

We aim to be the
leading organization
developing socially
conscious leaders
and fostering
innovative thinking
around market-driven
social change.

Established in 2015 through a generous gift from the Cal Turner Family Foundation, the Turner Family Center for Social Ventures (TFC), housed at the Owen Graduate School of Management, is a hub for interdisciplinary graduate student resources, fellowship, collaboration, and partnership across all graduate schools promoting responsible business practices, leveraging market-based solutions to alleviate poverty, and shaping future leaders of our domestic and international communities.

Directed by a graduate student-led programming board, The TFC has designed and grown specific programs and experiences for students to cultivate their leadership and ability to create social change through a business lens.



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OUTGOING 2023-2024



**Ben Ferrell
MBA '24**

*"It was a privilege
to learn so much
from you and I
am confident
your work will pay
dividends for the
center in coming
years."*

TFC EXECUTIVE CHAIR LETTER

Letter from Outgoing Chair 2023-2024

Team,

I am beyond appreciative for the opportunity to be the board chair for The Turner Family Center for Social Ventures. Upon reflection this experience has been one of the most rewarding of my time at Vanderbilt and I am truly grateful.

I find myself filled with a mix of gratitude, pride, and excitement for the future of the center. We expanded our impact, engaged with more students, and fostered new partnerships that will propel our mission forward. These accomplishments are a testament to the dedication, passion, and outright hard work of our incredible team and supporters.

To my fellow board members, thank you for your enthusiasm, creativity and commitment. It was a privilege to learn so much from you and I am confident your work will pay dividends for the center in coming years.

As I transition from my role and prepare to embark on the next chapter of my professional journey, I am beyond optimistic for the center's future. The team is in incredibly capable hands with Avery and will continue to push the boundaries of what the center can achieve.

Lastly, I would like to thank the incredible staff of The Turner Family Center for Social Ventures. Thank you for your guidance, mentorship, and collaboration. Your expertise and encouragement have been invaluable to me, professionally and personally. Your unwavering support has been the cornerstone of our success, and it will continue to inspire future leaders committed to social change.

Thank you all for this opportunity,

Ben Ferrell MBA '24

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'B' followed by a 'F' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

TFC STAFF & FACULTY LETTER

Dear Cal, Jr. and Family,

August 23, 2023

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. It is with immense gratitude and a sense of purpose that I write to you today, reflecting on the incredible impact your generous donations have made on our beloved Turner Family Center (TFC). Your support truly embodies the principles highlighted in "Start with Why" by Simon Sinek, and I want to express my heartfelt thanks for your unwavering commitment to our Center's mission.

Your commitment has not only transformed Owen and the TFC physically, but it has also left an indelible mark on the lives of our students, alumni, and the broader community. The ethos of "Start with Why" is deeply embedded in your contribution, as you've not only provided financial assistance but have also ignited a shared purpose that resonates across our campus. Your commitment to education echoes the principles outlined by Sinek, reminding us that the 'why' behind our actions should be rooted in a genuine desire to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

As our alumni continue to excel in various fields, the TFC has played a pivotal role in shaping their journeys. By investing in our Center, you've invested in their success, and your 'why' resonates in the achievements they attain. Through your generosity, you've created a legacy that extends far beyond the walls of our campus, touching countless lives and inspiring them to pursue excellence across the globe. Kathleen shares her gratitude and speaks to the Center's impact here:

"I am better for my time here with you, and it has been my distinct honor to watch you flourish (and even occasionally productively struggle) in this good and hard work. Work that is, in Bart Victor's words, 'the work worth doing'. That work has entailed envisioning and leading conferences and pitch competitions, joining and sticking with cohorts, day trips and weekends away to experience new and unique people/places/organizations, and sitting around a table with peers from around the world to discern a client's need, the Center's direction, or simply breaking bread together." Kathleen Fuchs Hritz, Vanderbilt BA '10, MBA '22

Moreover, your commitment to our work has had a ripple effect on the community at large. The TFC has become a hub of engagement, hosting events, seminars, and workshops that bring together diverse voices and perspectives. Your 'why' has encouraged us to reach out to the broader community, creating a platform for dialogue, learning, and collaboration that transcends traditional boundaries.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your dedication and generosity over the years. You have been a beacon of inspiration that aligns perfectly with the philosophy of "Start with Why." Your 'why' has fueled our purpose, and we are committed to upholding that purpose in every endeavor we undertake.

With profound gratitude and warm regards,

TFC Student & Staff Leadership

Mario Avila | Director & Brooke Timberlake | Program Coordinator



TFC 2023 - 2024 Executive Board & Staff

TFC ENGAGEMENT 2023–2024

24

TFC 2023 – 2024 Events
(lunch & learns,
workshops, immersions)

20

Student Board &
Committee Members

5

TFC Social Impact
Certificates



TFC 2023 – 2024 Team at TFC Annual Summit Conference

SOCIAL IMPACT CERTIFICATE

The Social Impact Certificate is an academic and experiential learning credential that recognizes leadership skills and an understanding of social enterprise during students' time at Vanderbilt and the TFC. The certificate is open to Vanderbilt graduate students of all disciplines engaged with TFC and social impact programming through hands-on learning. This 2023 – 2024, five graduate students completed the certificate, representing three graduate schools and five distinct degree paths.



8TH TFC SUMMIT

The 8th TFC Summit, "Impact through Tech," set to discover how social impact leaders are using technology as a force for good, fostering innovation, sustainability, and social progress.



SEMIFINALISTS OUT OF 35 TEAMS

Vanderbilt's 2023-2024 MIINT (MBA Impact Investing Network & Training) Team competed in the semifinals at the Wharton Business School in Philadelphia.

ALUMNI AND ADVISORY BOARD



The TFC Alumni network grows each year in March, we had our inaugural. Current Advisory Board Members: Shani Dowell (Founder & CEO, Possip), Courtney Watson (Co-Founder Chestnut Catalyst Group, OGSM '04), Hattie Duplechain (M.Ed. '16, The Innovation Space), Ryan Lojo (MBA '21, Simon-Kucher & Partners) and Brian Mccann (Faculty Director OGSM).



TFC 2023-2024 Executive Board

Executive Board Chair

Ben Ferrell (MBA '24)

Academics & Experiences

Sarah Hagan (M.Ed. LOP '24)

Branding & Marketing

Aryan Thapa (M.Ed. LOP '24)

Immersions

D'Ana Rogers (MBA '24)

Impact Investing

Parker Willmon, PhD
(Biomedical Engineering '25)

Project Pyramid

Allie Reichert, PhD (Anthropology '26)

Social Innovation Strategy

James Keck (MBA '24)

Social Innovation Partners

Lance Johnson, MD '25

Annual Summit Conference

Amrita Keswani (MBA '24)

ACADEMICS & EXPERIENCES



LUNCH & LEARNS



Lunch and Learns are an opportunity for graduate students from different schools to listen to and engage with experts in social entrepreneurship and social impact. This academic year TFC hosted 7 Lunch & Learns featuring speakers such as **Tarun Khanna from Harvard Business School, David Chak co-founder of Arus Academy, and Mike Rabil, CEO of Premier Lacrosse League.**

WORKSHOPS



Workshops are a valuable part of students' engagement with the TFC. These are hosted for TFC members and focus on skill-building and practice. This academic year TFC had two workshops including "**Applied Entrepreneurship: Translate Ideas into Business Models,**" in collaboration with the Learning Incubator: a Vanderbilt Endeavor (LIVE) and Owen Venture and Entrepreneurship Club (OVEC).



IMMERSIONS



In late January, the TFC led a local immersion to Second Harvest Food Bank and Nashville Food Project. Students learned how each organization tackles food insecurity in Davidson County.



8TH ANNUAL TFC SUMMIT CONFERENCE



James Edward Murray



Helen Makhdomian



Steven Shaw



Chitra Rajeshwari



Miguel Nunez



Read Ezell



Miguel Cuj

In partnership with the Wond'ry, the TFC presented the 8th Annual TFC Social Ventures Summit with the theme: Impact through Tech, an event dedicated to celebrating the ideas, solutions, and individuals making a difference in the world by harnessing the power of technology.

The conference featured panels covering a range of themes, including global technology solutions, digital inclusion, education, data science, and mental health.

Keynote speaker, James Edward Murray, CEO and co-founder of Therify, a mental health technology startup, addressed the audience on the global mental health crisis and how his platform connects patients with high quality, affordable care.

Our summit embodied a unique opportunity for us to come together, share knowledge, and address the most pressing societal challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. The overarching theme, "Impact Through Tech," underscored our unwavering commitment to leveraging technology as a catalyst for positive change.

Amrita Keswani, Summit Board Chair 2023-2024





Courtney Watson



David Chak



Charreau Bell



Nick Arbuckle



Violaine Panasci



Breakout Sessions Included

1

Building an Equitable Society Through Tech Entrepreneurship

2

Lawtech and Sustainable Development

3

Education Equity Through Tech

4

Data Science for Social Good

5

Trauma, Trust, and Tech

6

Empowering communities through tech education

7

Fundraising in the DIGITAL era

8

Addressing Global Mental Health Challenges Through Tech

The Wond'ry designed a Summit track specifically for Vanderbilt undergraduates: Build Your Social Innovation Toolbox – a hands-on day of learning focused on building an innovator's mindset and learning to use the tools of systems mapping and the Social Innovator Model Canvas.



MIINT (MBA IMPACT INVESTING NETWORK & TRAINING)

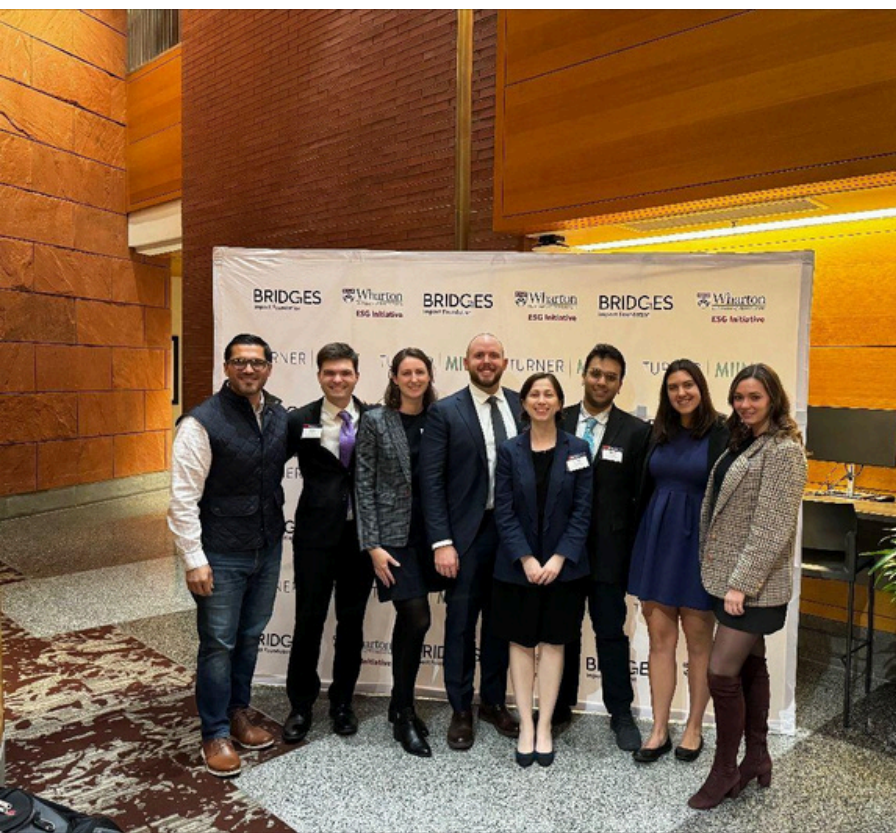


2023-2024 VU MIINT TEAM

Parker Willmon, PhD '25
Kimberly Meehan, MBA '25
Clint McHenry, MBA '25
Mariam Malidze, MSF '24
Ishan Basu Ray, MPH '25
Maggie Orlova, PhD '27

Turner MIINT is an opportunity for graduate students to get hands-on training in impact investing. Students from top business schools get together to be part of a growing impact investing network. Turner MIINT, co-sponsored by the Wharton Social Impact Initiative and the Bridges Impact Foundation, is a unique experiential learning opportunity for students interested in understanding the perspective of investors in the social impact sector.

During the program, team members completed a series of modules on various aspects of impact investing, from sourcing to investment strategy. This year's team pitched **Cloud Apartments**, a startup founded by a former SpaceX engineer, with a mission to cut housing costs by 30% with modular apartments. Vanderbilt's 2022-2023 MIINT Team made it to the semifinals out of 35 participating teams.



PROJECT PYRAMID

Project Pyramid started in 2006, and since then, it has brought together Vanderbilt students from multiple disciplines to engage meaningfully with socially conscious organizations across the globe. An interdisciplinary, student-led program that uses in-classroom and hands-on learning experiences to examine the causes and symptoms of global poverty, addressing the innovative and entrepreneurial ways organizations attempt to alleviate poverty. Seeking to establish market-driven solutions that help fulfill the missions of those organizations.

This Spring '24, students had the opportunity to work with organizations from Antigua, Guatemala and Quito, Ecuador traveling there during Spring break to meet their clients in person.



2024 Guatemala Partners:

- Stove Team International
- Tierra & Lava

2024 Ecuador Partners:

- Amazon Learning
- Sinchi Warmi
- Upina

I saw firsthand examples of social impact in practice and the crucial role small businesses play in this context. Witnessing the dedication of Guatemalan women in business, provided a moment of reflection to reassess my priorities and values as a professional.

- Ariana Matos MPH '25, Project Pyramid Participant 2024





SOCIAL IMPACT AT OWEN

The Owen Board Fellows Program offers MBA students a chance to serve as non-voting board members on nonprofit boards in the Nashville area. The program prepares students with the necessary experience to engage as community leaders, business leaders and equips them for board service in their future careers and communities. The program's dedicated nonprofit partners share a board seat and project work, which invests in students' development as professionals and community leaders.

Owen Board Fellows

MBA Cohort '23-'24
31 Board Fellows,
28 Nonprofit Partners

"The Board Fellows program was one of the reasons I picked Owen over other MBA programs! The opportunity to sit on a local board as a student gave depth and meaning to my Owen experience. I was able to see firsthand the business side of a nonprofit and work on projects with board members who are experts in their fields. It gave me exposure on nonprofit strategy work that I wouldn't have received in class."

- Gabriela Moran, MBA'24 | Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: PARKER WILLMON

TFC PATHS: Growth and development of a student leader.



Parker, Biomedical Engineering PhD candidate has been an integral part of the Center's success. Checkout his trajectory as a member and leader.

2021

- Social enterprise consultant for Voces de Nashville
- Competed and won TFC's social venture pitch
- Participated in food sustainability immersion

2022

- Selected for Project Pyramid and consulted for Massey's Nudge
- Enrolled in Introduction to Social Ventures



Our students' growth and development over the span of their time as leaders in the TFC is an ongoing process. Here is a featured student who consistently engaged with the TFC and served as a leader.



2022-2023

- Led Hult Prize Pitch Competition
- Competed and placed in the MIINT finals

2023-2024

- Elected as MIINT Board Chair
- Co-organized workshop, “Applied Entrepreneurship: Translate Ideas into Business Models.”

2024-2025

- Elected as Social Strategy Board Chair

INCOMING 2024-2025 TFC EXECUTIVE CHAIR LETTER

Hello!

My name is Avery Hale, I am so grateful to be writing this letter as the new Executive Chair of the Center for Social Ventures here at Vanderbilt University. As a second year MBA candidate at Owen Graduate School of Management, I cannot stress enough the impact that the Center has had on my education and on my personal growth and development.

My journey with the Center began during my first few days at Owen, where I had the chance to connect with members from across campus and discuss using our education and resources to advance social causes. I had the opportunity to participate in Project Pyramid, social events, immersions, the annual Summit, and more, which all inspired me to seek further leadership opportunities and involvement with the Center.

This year, we have an excellent multidisciplinary board committed to bringing value to the student body. I am incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work with such an inspiring group of people, and I can't wait to see all of the impact we can bring to the Vanderbilt student body this year.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the Center for Social Ventures.

Sincerely,

Avery Hale, MBA '25



Avery Hale
MBA '25

"I am incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work with such an inspiring group of people, and I can't wait to see all of the impact we can bring to the Vanderbilt student body this year."

Incoming Executive Board 2024-2025

Executive Board Chair – Avery Hale, MBA '25

Brand & Marketing – Haniya Shariff, MPH (Policy) '25

Academics & Experiences – John Ide MBA '25

Impact Investing – Clint McHenry MBA '25

Social Innovation Strategy – Parker Willmon, PhD (Biomedical Engineering '25)

Social Innovation Partners – Lance Johnson, MD '25

Project Pyramid- Ferna Alvarez-Carrascal , PhD (Earth & Environmental Sciences) '26

Immersions – Irisi Gjishiti, MBA '24

Annual Summit Conference – Abdullah Azhar, MBA '25



TFC 22 - 23 Board and Incoming Board at the TFC Retreat



PARTNERS & FRIENDS

Bongo Java
 Cafe Momentum
 Center for Latin American & Latinx
 Studies at Vanderbilt
 Ecofiltro
 Flint Global
 The Housing Fund
 Humphreys Street Coffee & Harvest
 Hands
 LUCI
 Ring On
 Silverline Strategic Partners
 Simple Homes
 Thistle Farm
 Trevecca Urban Farm
 Turner MIINT (MBA Impact Investing
 Network & Training with Bridges Impact
 Foundation & Wharton Social Impact
 Initiative)
 Urban Land Conservancy - Denver
 Vanderbilt Athletics
 Vanderbilt Humphrey Fellows
 Vanderbilt Credit Union
 Weave Finance
 WeFunder
 Wonder Worm Farm
 The Wond'ry at Vanderbilt

Project Pyramid Ecuador & Guatemala Partners 2024

Amazon Learning
 Sinch Warmi
 Stove Team International
 Tierra & Lava
 Upina

Owen Board Fellows Partners

AbleVoices
 Alive Hospice
 Book'em
 Community Resource Center
 Day 7
 End Slavery Tennessee
 FiftyForward
 The F.I.N.D. Design
 Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee
 Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee
 Hands On Nashville
 Harpeth Conservancy
 The Heimerdinger Foundation
 HopeKids of Middle Tennessee
 Interfaith Dental
 Junior Achievement of Middle Tennessee
 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of
 Tennessee-Alabama
 Make A Wish Middle Tennessee
 Martha O'Bryan Center
 Nashville Ballet
 Nashville in Harmony
 Nashville Symphony
 Nurture the Next
 Operation Stand Down Tennessee
 PENCIL
 Retrieving Independence
 Second Harvest Food Bank
 Sexual Assault Center
 Special Olympics of Tennessee
 Springboard Landings
 Tennessee Youth Symphony
 Urban Green Lab
 Vanderbilt Credit Union
 WiTT (Women in Technology of
 Tennessee)
 Youth Villages
 YWCA of Middle Tennessee



*To those who have supported us and partnered with us -
thank you for another great year!*

Turner Family Center for Social Ventures

www.turnerfamilycenter.com

Vanderbilt University

Owen Graduate School of Management

Nashville, Tennessee