



# IGS Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT **2021**



# Message From Our Chairman

**Dear sponsors, supporters and friends,**

As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic we hope the last year has been successful for our donors and supporters. We have all had to adapt to new ways of working but the IGSF Board of Trustees has been striving to continue to support educational projects and to ensure engagement remains strong despite the ongoing travel and work restrictions.

Highlights have included:

- Holding seven virtual meetings with the IGS to better understand how the IGSF can support its educational aims and initiatives.

- Funding the creation of new IGS Educate the Educators digital lectures for students and academic instructors, ensuring learning can continue anytime, anywhere.
- Welcoming 12 new companies and individuals to our Founding Donor cohort, and receiving repeat donations from five inaugural supporters.

Whether you are an IGS Young Member, IGS Corporate Member or IGS Chapter we're here to support your goals. If you have an idea for an educational or sustainable development initiative using geosynthetics that would benefit from financial assistance then please [get in touch](#).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the contribution of Board of Trustee member Ian Fraser, who departs after serving two terms, and welcome his replacement Kent von Maubeuge.

Thanks to all our Founding Donors for their contribution this year, without which none of our work would be possible. We look forward to continuing our efforts to attract more donations and fund more educational projects to further the understanding and use of geosynthetics for a better and brighter tomorrow.

**Jacques Côté**  
Chairman



**"Whether you are an IGS Young Member, IGS Corporate Member or IGS Chapter we're here to support your goals."**



# Our Year In Numbers



Boyd Ramsey

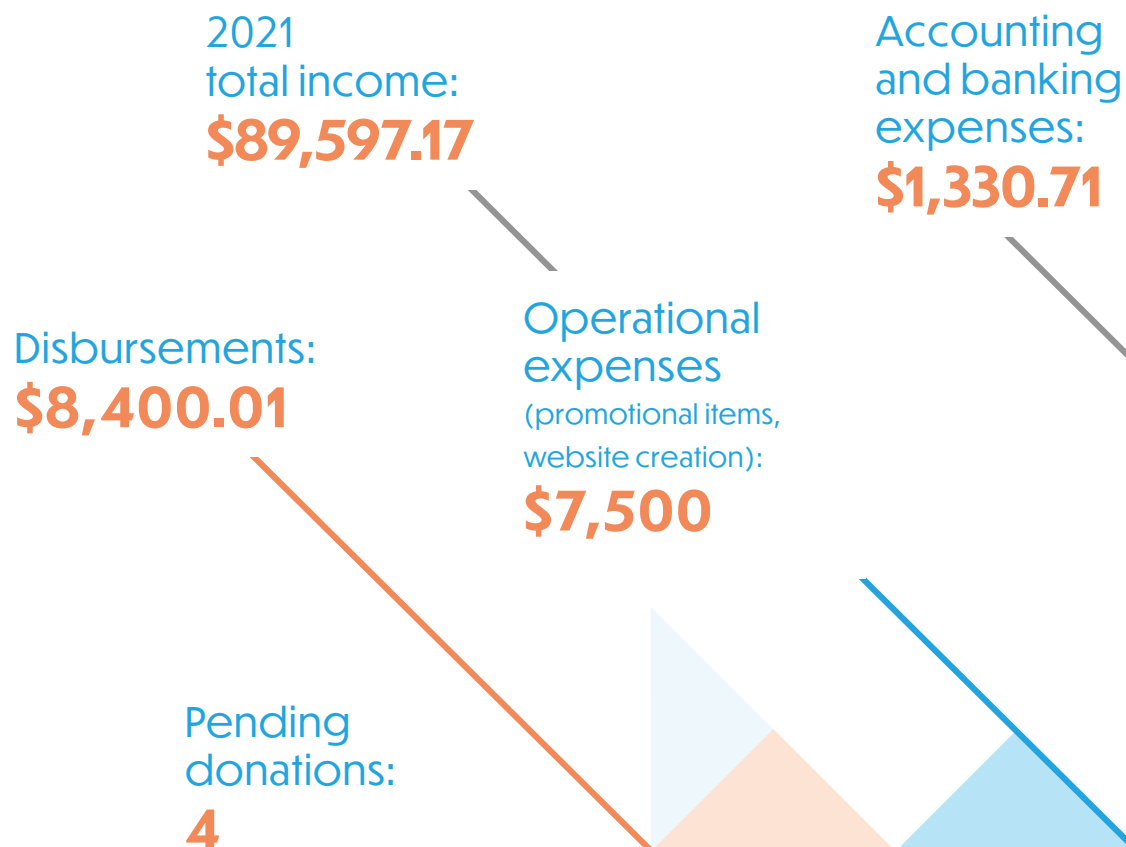
Secretary/Treasurer

We continue to build on the strong foundations that defined our first year as an official charity, welcoming repeat donations from five inaugural donors including Platinum donor Solmax. We also welcomed 12 new companies and individuals giving to the IGSF for the first time.

These and pledged donations means we have so far secured nearly \$100,000 of aid which will be invested in geosynthetic education initiatives around the world.

Tax documentation for 2021 is being prepared and distributed and will be available on the USA Internal Revenue website of Charitable Organizations.

I would once again like to thank our donors for their invaluable support, and the Board of Trustee members for their advice and encouragement. Together we can continue to make an impact in geosynthetic education and the reduction of our carbon footprint to improve human sustainability worldwide.



# Our Aims

Our industry is an incredible success story and set for phenomenal growth. The geosynthetics market was valued at \$15billion<sup>1</sup> alone in 2020, and is projected to be worth \$27 billion by 2027<sup>2</sup>.

## OUR MISSION:

To **support education initiatives** able to provide an **understanding**, and **promote** the appropriate use, of **geosynthetic technology** throughout the world thus permitting a reduction of our carbon footprint for the **benefit of humanity**

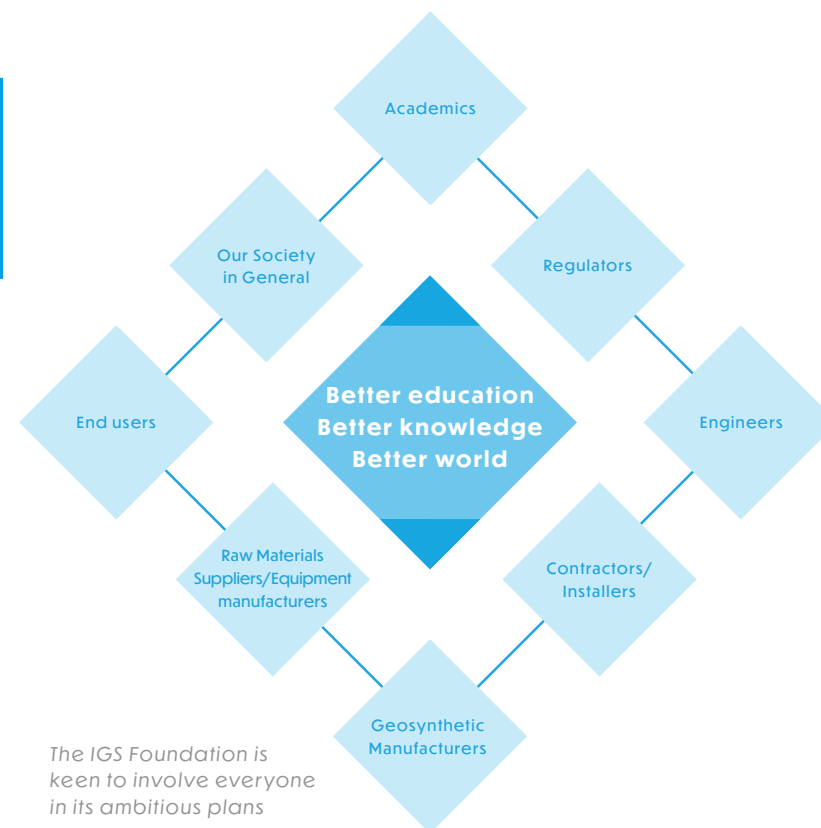
Rising demand in construction and infrastructure projects as well as environmental protection needs have contributed to increased interest. Growing recognition of the positive impact of geosynthetics on sustainable development is also hugely significant.

It is important therefore to ensure geosynthetics' applications and capabilities are clearly understood, materials are being used in the best way, and young engineers understand the full possibilities, potential and power of geosynthetics.

Doing this needs support and funding, and that's where the IGS Foundation comes in. We want to:

- Add impact to IGS initiatives through **education**, **student support**, **market expansion** and **research and development** via...
- **Better education** leading to **better knowledge** leading to a **better world**

We continue our ambitious plans to attract backing from various sources including regulators, end-users and wider society but we are delighted to have started our journey with you, the dedicated members of our industry.



*The IGS Foundation is keen to involve everyone in its ambitious plans*

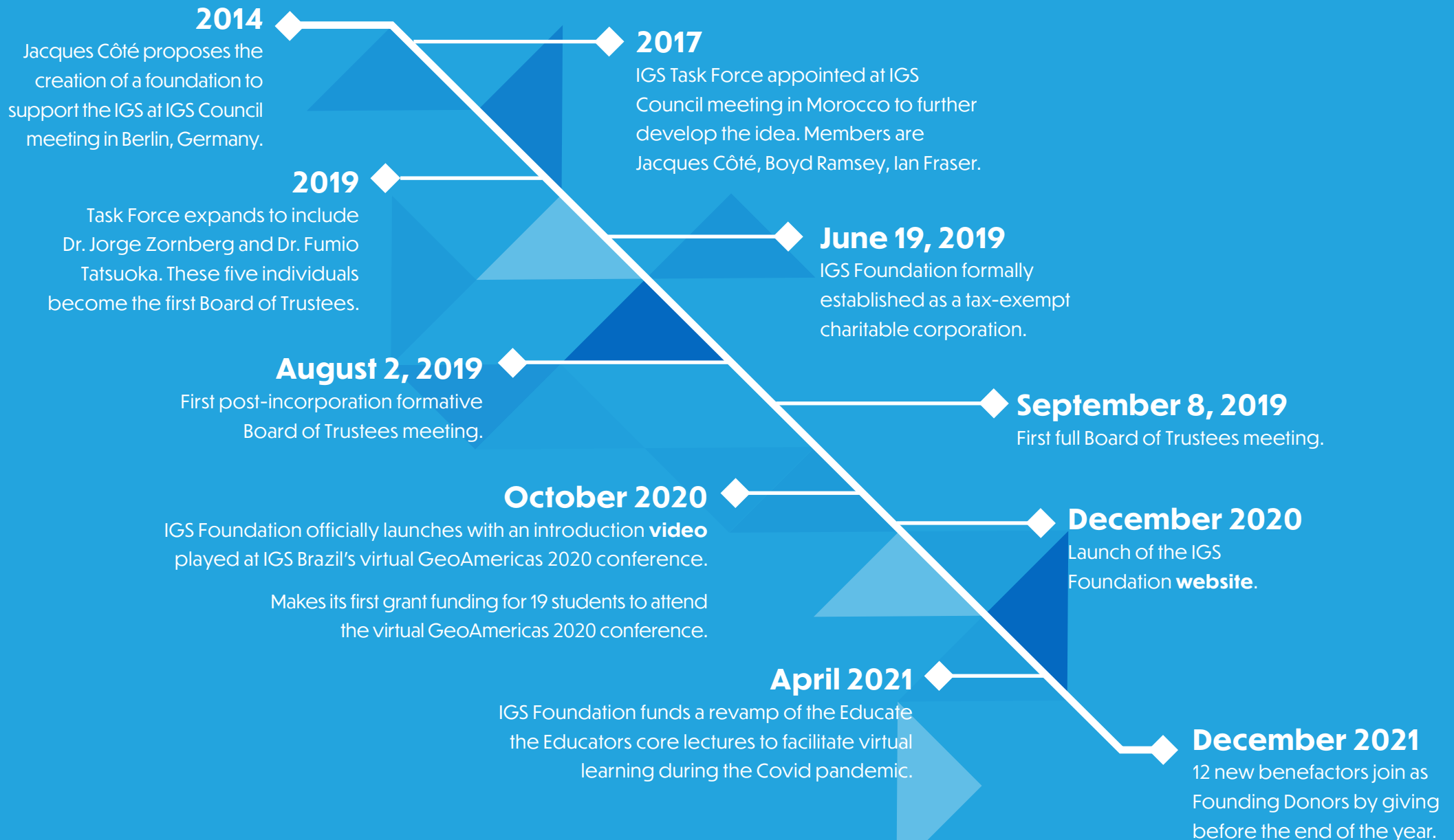
## Sources

1. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/global-geosynthetics-market-report-2020-2026-analysis-of-the-15-billion-industry-with-company-profiles-of-50-companies--industry-guide-containing-360-contact-details-301153134.html>

2. <https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2021/01/18/2160197/0/en/Geosynthetics-Market-To-Be-Worth-USD-22-11-Billion-By-2027-High-Demand-from-Europe-and-North-America-will-Drive-the-Industry-Growth-says-Reports-and-Data.html>

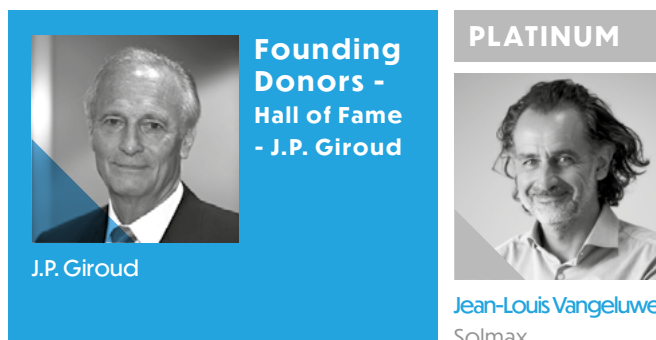
**If you share our aims, please consider giving back to the industry in the most impactful way you can, by donating to the IGS Foundation.**

# Our Journey So Far



# Meet Our Founding Donors

Our 30 Founding Donors have helped us establish a strong foundation to continue our vital work. We welcome any donation but also offer exclusive benefits based on level of contribution.



## PLATINUM



Jean-Louis Vangeluwe  
Solmax

**"Solmax supports the Foundation's efforts to push geosynthetics usage globally."**

Repeat Platinum donor  
Jean-Louis Vangeluwe  
Solmax

**"Organizations such as the IGSF play a vital role in helping to bring greater visibility of the technical, environmental and cost-benefits for a variety of applications that will help the industry realize the potential market."**

Gold donor Mike Ayers  
Watershed Geo

**"We hope our contribution will help the IGSF to continue its excellent efforts to expand the awareness and understanding of geosynthetics and get more confidence in sustaining its activities long term."**

Silver donor Anant Kanoi  
TechFab India

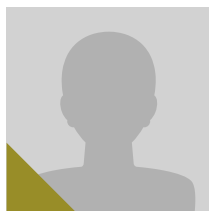
**"The IGSF mission is essential and we're proud to support the IGSF financially and with the efforts from our company for a more sustainable world."**

Bronze donor Kent von Maubeuge  
Naue

## GOLD



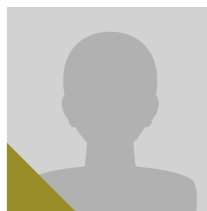
Sam Allen  
TRI Environmental



Ampacet



Perry Vyas  
SKAPS



Anonymous donor



François Thivierge  
FC Géosynthétiques



Yvon Faucher  
FR Liners



Dominic Berube  
Solmax Chile



Mr Tamura  
Integrated  
Geotechnology  
Institute



Mr Kimura  
Association of RRR  
Construction System



Mike Ayers  
Watershed Geo



Dave McLaury  
Demtech Services



Michael Flynn  
FLI Global



# Meet Our Founding Donors

## SILVER



**Clifford Gundle**  
Clifford Gundle  
Philanthropic Trust



**Simon Hwang**  
Formosa Plastics USA



**Mark Topp**  
COMANCO



**Tom Rose**  
Layfield Group



**Anant Kanoi**  
TechFab India



**Toru Shimomura**  
Mitsuboshi Belting

## BRONZE



**John Lefas**  
Ingenia Polymers



**Mikio Kubo**  
Eternal Preserve



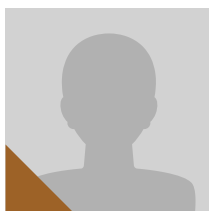
**Hidefumi Araki**  
Taiyo Kogyo Corp



**Katsutoshi Ogawa**  
Okasan Livic Co



**Ryuichi Ishigaki**  
Tokyo Printing  
Inc. Mfg. Co. Ltd



**Kuraray Japan**



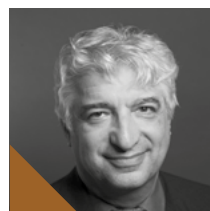
**Boyd Ramsey**  
Boyd Ramsey  
Consulting LLC



**Kent von Maubeuge**  
Naue



**Oliver Defert**  
Huesker



**Jorge Zornberg**



# Case Study: Educate the Educators Virtual Classroom

In 2021 we supported the creation of a digital version of the IGS Educate the Educators' 'Introduction to Geosynthetics' lecture.

Traditionally delivered in-person, the lectures were reimagined as bite-size virtual lessons allowing access anytime, anywhere, and enabling learning to continue despite the restrictions of the pandemic.

Former IGS President Professor Jorge Zornberg and Vice-President of IGS Brazil Professor Maria das Graças Gardoni crafted and delivered the videos, which included guidance for educators on how to make the most of the learning experience.



**"Delivering these videos was an awesome experience and my reaction to seeing the finished product was mission accomplished. A very important aspect was the breadth of the population we wanted to reach with these videos; to speak to every single undergraduate civil engineering student on the planet regardless of their current level of understanding. That's why emphasis was placed on clarity and crafting a pedagogic approach to delivering the content."**

***I hope the videos will inspire chapters to conduct full blown EtE programs, that educators will request such programs and ultimately that all undergraduate students will graduate having heard (at least once) the term 'geosynthetics'.***

***Education is a long-term goal hard to quantify and value within the rewards system of typical corporations and industry partners. That's why it is so important that the IGSF has stepped up to fill the gap on a need that may have not been emphasized enough by our industry because the results will not be immediately quantified on the balance sheet."***

**Professor Jorge Zornberg**  
University of Texas at Austin



**"Delivering these videos was the realization of a dream, knowing these students after graduating and working, would take this knowledge to design and consulting firms, government agencies, environmental agencies, mining companies and more."**

***Interactivity was key and the students certainly valued this aspect as one of the best parts of the online course. Delivering the videos gave me an indescribable happiness and seeing the students discussing the materials and concepts with great enthusiasm was thrilling.***

***I would like to thank the IGSF for supporting this pioneering project and helping to elevate EtE to its rightful level, given its importance for the introduction of geosynthetic engineering into undergraduate university courses. I hope that the companies that invested so wisely in geosynthetics education at the beginning of the IGSF's work will continue because education requires time to produce its fruits."***

**Professor Maria das Graças Gardoni**  
Vice-President of IGS Brazil



# Our People

## Board of Trustees 2022-2023



Jacques Côté  
Chairman



Boyd Ramsey  
Secretary/Treasurer



Dr. Jorge Zornberg



Dr. Fumio Tatsuoka



Kent von Maubeuge



**"The board welcomes new member Kent von Maubeuge following the departure of Ian Fraser. The new board will be in place until the end of 2022."**



# Our Vision For 2022 And Beyond

We will continue to build on the gains in 2021 with goals for 2022 to include:

Securing at least  
**\$500,000**  
in donations

Developing  
education **initiatives**  
and **opportunities**

Supporting the IGS  
Job Shadowing  
Program

Creating **new**  
educational  
materials

Supporting the IGS  
as the Sustainability  
Committee begins a  
**publicity campaign**  
on the vast benefits  
of geosynthetics in  
**building sustainable  
infrastructure**

Providing **student  
support** for conference  
participation

Our ambitious program continues. Be part of our journey to greater geosynthetics knowledge and adoption.

# Join Us!

**Giving is easy. Simply contact  
IGS Foundation Secretary  
Boyd Ramsey at**

**Boyd@TheIGSFoundation.com.**

**Boyd will also be happy to help  
facilitate your donation and  
answer any additional questions.**

**Keep updated with our news  
and announcements by visiting  
the IGS Foundation website:**

**[www.TheIGSFoundation.com](http://www.TheIGSFoundation.com)**

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**We look forward to  
hearing from you!**

The IGS Foundation is a 501(c) 3 tax exempt charitable corporation, incorporated within the State of Florida on June 19, 2019, with document number N19000006229. The Foundation's Federal Tax/Employer Identification Number is 84-2175340. The mailing address is 9225 Bee Caves Rd, Building B, Suite 206, Austin, Texas, USA, 78733.

