



THE
AMERICAN
CHESTNUT
FOUNDATION

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The American Chestnut Foundation receives \$1 million gift from The Stanback Family

Asheville, NC – The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF), kicking off its 25th anniversary this year, has even more to celebrate with the recent \$1 million lead gift from the Stanback family of North Carolina. This gift serves as a challenge grant as TACF crosses the halfway point in a \$2.5 million capital campaign.

“This is an historical moment not only for our Foundation, but also for our state chapter network and our volunteers, especially when we know the American chestnut tree will be the beneficiary,” said Marshal Case, President and CEO of TACF.







The Stanbacks have taken a special interest in restoring that grandest of trees, the American chestnut, which was destroyed by blight in the first half of the 20th century. The Stanbacks have long been supporters of efforts to preserve and enhance ecosystems on a national level, as well as in and around their native North Carolina.

The gift far surpasses any other contributions the foundation has received to date. Typically, the largest donation falls around \$300,000.

“The American Chestnut Foundation has worked on a limited budget for 25 years towards the goal of developing a blight-resistant American chestnut. Now that we are on the cusp of success, we need this new investment to push us clearly and decisively to the point where we can declare that success. The next stage of our mission, to restore the American chestnut to the ecosystem,

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will be more of a self-sustaining and self-funding program,” said Brad Stanback.







“We are just incredibly fortunate to have a family who cares so deeply about our environment and about the American chestnut tree, do something like this. The Stanbacks have believed in TACF from the beginning, and we’re overwhelmed by the generosity of this gift,” said Richard Will, TACF Board Chairman.

With this gift, TACF says it will be able expand its national science program and put more trees in the ground while at the same time, secure its future as an organization. TACF’s hope is that by restoring the American chestnut, others will be inspired to help rectify the many problems that are reducing the productivity and diversity of forests in the United States.

The American Chestnut Foundation is a nonprofit 501-c-3 organization with more than 6,000 members nationally and internationally and chapters in 17 states. It is headquartered in Bennington, VT, and has research facilities in Meadowview, VA as well as regional offices in Asheville, NC, Penn State University and Yale University. To learn more about TACF, please visit www.acf.org.

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