In all of its grantmaking, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida seeks to adhere to the following grantmaking principles:

- Recognize and build on strengths and assets rather than needs and deficiencies.
- Improve the ability of organizations and individuals to help themselves over the long term.
- Foster cooperative approaches to community issues based on shared visions and mutual responsibility.
- Include people you propose to serve in the process of planning, implementation and evaluation.
- Recognize and strengthen local leadership.
- Anticipate and take a preventive approach to emerging community issues.
- Serve as a catalyst for attracting other funding resources.
- Create innovative approaches to dealing with long-standing issues.
- Build a stronger sense of community.
- Embrace the diversity of our community and value the importance of an inclusive and equitable environment.