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Form **990-PF**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Return of Private Foundation

or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

▶ Do not enter Social Security numbers on this form as it may be made public. By law, the IRS cannot redact the information on the form.

▶ Information about Form 990-PF and its instructions is at *www.irs.gov/form990pf*.

OMB No 1545-0052

2013

Open to Public Inspection

For calendar year 2013, or tax year beginning 01-01-2013 , and ending 12-31-2013

Name of foundation
THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

A Employer identification number
23-7029788

Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address) 743 EVENTIDE DRIVE | Room/suite

B Telephone number (see instructions)
(901) 766-4412

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
MEMPHIS, TN 38120

C If exemption application is pending, check here ▶ ☐

G Check all that apply ☐ Initial return ☐ Initial return of a former public charity ☐ Final return ☐ Amended return ☑ Address change ☐ Name change

D 1. Foreign organizations, check here ▶ ☐
2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation ▶ ☐

H Check type of organization ☑ Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
☐ Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust ☐ Other taxable private foundation

E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here ▶ ☐

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year *(from Part II, col. (c), line 16)*▶$ 4,033,527

J Accounting method ☑ Cash ☐ Accrual ☐ Other (specify) *(Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis.)*

F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here ▶ ☐

Part I **Analysis of Revenue and Expenses** *(The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see instructions))*

		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue 1	Contributions, gifts, grants, etc , received (attach schedule)				
2	Check ▶ ☑ if the foundation is **not** required to attach Sch B				
3	Interest on savings and temporary cash investments	3,037	3,037		
4	Dividends and interest from securities	100,227	100,227		
5a	Gross rents				
b	Net rental income or (loss)				
6a	Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10	530,916			
b	Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a 5,653,840				
7	Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)		530,916		
8	Net short-term capital gain				
9	Income modifications				
10a	Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b	Less Cost of goods sold				
c	Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)				
11	Other income (attach schedule)	54	54	0	
12	**Total.** Add lines 1 through 11	634,234	634,234	0	
Operating and Administrative Expenses 13	Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc	0	0	0	0
14	Other employee salaries and wages				
15	Pension plans, employee benefits				
16a	Legal fees (attach schedule)				
b	Accounting fees (attach schedule)	3,750	0	0	0
c	Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
17	Interest				
18	Taxes (attach schedule) (see instructions)	2,014	2,014	0	0
19	Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
20	Occupancy				
21	Travel, conferences, and meetings				
22	Printing and publications				
23	Other expenses (attach schedule)	54,596	54,596	0	0
24	**Total operating and administrative expenses.** Add lines 13 through 23	60,360	56,610	0	0
25	Contributions, gifts, grants paid	9,154,754			9,154,754
26	**Total expenses and disbursements.** Add lines 24 and 25	9,215,114	56,610	0	9,154,754
27	Subtract line 26 from line 12				
a	**Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements**	-8,580,880			
b	**Net investment income** (if negative, enter -0-)		577,624		
c	**Adjusted net income** (if negative, enter -0-)			0	

Part II **Balance Sheets** Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)		Beginning of year (a) Book Value	End of year (b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets				
1	Cash—non-interest-bearing			
2	Savings and temporary cash investments	8,548,929	1,746,615	1,746,615
3	Accounts receivable ▶ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
4	Pledges receivable ▶ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
5	Grants receivable			
6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see instructions)			
7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule) ▶ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶			
8	Inventories for sale or use			
9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			
10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)			
b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)	3,497,131	1,984,855	1,984,855
c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)			
11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶ Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶			
12	Investments—mortgage loans			
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)	0	30,022	30,022
14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶ Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶			
15	Other assets (describe ▶)	395,761	272,035	272,035
16	**Total assets** (to be completed by all filers—see the instructions Also, see page 1, item I)	12,441,821	4,033,527	4,033,527
Liabilities				
17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			
18	Grants payable			
19	Deferred revenue			
20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons			
21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)			
22	Other liabilities (describe ▶)			
23	**Total liabilities** (add lines 17 through 22)	0	0	
Net Assets or Fund Balances				
	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☐ **and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.**			
24	Unrestricted			
25	Temporarily restricted			
26	Permanently restricted			
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☑ **and complete lines 27 through 31.**			
27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds	6,269,939	6,269,939	
28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg , and equipment fund	0	0	
29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds	6,171,882	-2,236,412	
30	**Total net assets or fund balances** (see page 17 of the instructions)	12,441,821	4,033,527	
31	**Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances** (see page 17 of the instructions)	12,441,821	4,033,527	

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	12,441,821
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	-8,580,880
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	3	186,059
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	4,047,000
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	5	13,473
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	4,033,527

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

	(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e g , real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)	(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo , day, yr)	(d) Date sold (mo , day, yr)
1a	See Additional Data Table			
b				
c				
d				
e				

	(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a	See Additional Data Table			
b				
c				
d				
e				

	Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) **or** Losses (from col (h))
	(i) F M V as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	
a	See Additional Data Table			
b				
c				
d				
e				

2	Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)	If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7	2	530,916
3	Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6) If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see instructions) If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8		3	

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? ☐ Yes ☑ No
If "Yes," the foundation does not qualify under section 4940(e) Do not complete this part

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year, see page 18 of the instructions before making any entries

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2012	538,745	12,419,192	0 043380
2011	358,700	12,768,218	0 028093
2010	383,750	12,390,620	0 030971
2009	909,200	11,861,171	0 076653
2008	755,375	15,107,223	0 050001

2	**Total** of line 1, column (d).	2	0 229098
3	Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years . . .	3	0 045820
4	Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2013 from Part X, line 5.	4	11,998,552
5	Multiply line 4 by line 3.	5	549,774
6	Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b).	6	5,776
7	Add lines 5 and 6.	7	555,550
8	Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4.	8	9,154,754

If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate See the Part VI instructions

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here ▶ ☐ and enter "N/A" on line 1				
	Date of ruling or determination letter ________ **(attach copy of letter if necessary–see instructions)**				
b	Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here ▶ ☑ and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b			1	5,776
c	All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b)				
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only Others enter -0-)			2	0
3	Add lines 1 and 2			3	5,776
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only Others enter -0-)			4	0
5	**Tax based on investment income.** Subtract line 4 from line 3 If zero or less, enter -0-			5	5,776
6	Credits/Payments				
a	2013 estimated tax payments and 2012 overpayment credited to 2013	6a	6,006		
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b			
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c	1,000		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d	1		
7	Total credits and payments Add lines 6a through 6d			7	7,007
8	Enter any **penalty** for underpayment of estimated tax Check here ☐ if Form 2220 is attached			8	
9	**Tax due.** If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter **amount owed** ▶			9	
10	**Overpayment.** If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the **amount overpaid** ▶			10	1,231
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be **Credited to 2014 estimated tax** ▶ 1,231 **Refunded** ▶			11	0

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

			Yes	No
1a	During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?	1a		No
b	Did it spend more than $100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes (see page 19 of the instructions for definition)?	1b		No
	*If the answer is "Yes" to **1a** or **1b**, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities.*			
c	Did the foundation file **Form 1120-POL** for this year?	1c		No
d	Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year **(1)** On the foundation ▶ $ 0 **(2)** On foundation managers ▶ $ 0			
e	Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers ▶ $ 0			
2	Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? *If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities.*	2		No
3	Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? *If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes*	3		No
4a	Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of $1,000 or more during the year?	4a		No
b	If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on **Form 990-T** for this year?	4b		
5	Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? *If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T.*	5		No
6	Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	6	Yes	
7	Did the foundation have at least $5,000 in assets at any time during the year? *If "Yes," complete Part II, col. (c), and Part XV.*	7	Yes	
8a	Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered (see instructions) ▶ TN			
b	If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? *If "No," attach explanation*	8b	Yes	
9	Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2013 or the taxable year beginning in 2013 (see instructions for Part XIV)? *If "Yes," complete Part XIV*	9		No
10	Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? *If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses.*	10		No

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities *(continued)*

		Line	Yes	No
11	At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule (see instructions).	11		No
12	Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement (see instructions)	12		No
13	Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application?	13	Yes	

Website address ▶N/A

14 The books are in care of ▶ROBERT SPARKS Telephone no ▶(901) 766-4412

Located at ▶743 EVENTIDE DR MEMPHIS TN ZIP+4 ▶38120

15 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of **Form 1041** —Check here . . . ▶ ☐
and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year . . . ▶ | 15 |

		Line	Yes	No
16	At any time during calendar year 2013, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country?	16		No
	See instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22 1 If "Yes", enter the name of the foreign country ▶			

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

	File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.		Line	Yes	No
1a	During the year did the foundation (either directly or indirectly)				
	(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (**Exception.** Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days).	☐ Yes ☑ No			
b	If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)-(6), did **any** of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53 4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see page 20 of the instructions)?		1b		No
	Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here.	▶ ☐			
c	Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2013?		1c		No
2	Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5))				
a	At the end of tax year 2013, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2013?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
	If "Yes," list the years ▶ 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____				
b	Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is **not** applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to **all** years listed, answer "No" and attach statement—see instructions)		2b		
c	If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to **any** of the years listed in 2a, list the years here ▶ 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____				
3a	Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year?	☐ Yes ☑ No			
b	If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2013 as a result of **(1)** any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969, **(2)** the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest, or **(3)** the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? *(Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2013.)*		3b		
4a	Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?		4a		No
b	Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2013?		4b		No

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required *(continued)*

5a	During the year did the foundation pay or incur any amount to			
	(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955), or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc , organization described in section 509(a)(1), (2), or (3), or section 4940(d)(2)? (see instructions) ☐ Yes ☑ No			
	(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
b	If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)–(5), did **any** of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53 4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)?	**5b**		
	Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here ▶ ☐			
c	If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? ☐ Yes ☐ No			
	If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945–5(d).			
6a	Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
b	Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	**6b**		No
	If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870.			
7a	At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? ☐ Yes ☑ No			
b	If yes, did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction?	**7b**		

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors

1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see instructions).

(a) Name and address	**(b)** Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	**(c)** Compensation **(If not paid, enter -0-)**	**(d)** Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	**(e)** Expense account, other allowances
ROBERT D SPARKS 743 EVENTIDE DRIVE MEMPHIS,TN 38120	TRUSTEE 2 00	0	0	0

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than $50,000	**(b)** Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	**(c)** Compensation	**(d)** Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	**(e)** Expense account, other allowances
NONE				

Total number of other employees paid over $50,000 ▶ 0

Part VIII **Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors** ***(continued)***

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services (see instructions). If none, enter "NONE".

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than $50,000	**(b)** Type of service	**(c)** Compensation
NONE		
Total number of others receiving over $50,000 for professional services . . . . ▶		0

Part IX-A **Summary of Direct Charitable Activities**

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc	Expenses
1	
2	
3	
4	

Part IX-B **Summary of Program-Related Investments** (see instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2	Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments See page 24 of the instructions	
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . ▶	0

Part X **Minimum Investment Return** (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc, purposes		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	4,716,676
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	7,464,595
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see instructions)	1c	0
d	**Total** (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	12,181,271
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation) — 1e: 0		
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	12,181,271
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	182,719
5	**Net value of noncharitable-use assets.** Subtract line 4 from line 3 Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	11,998,552
6	**Minimum investment return.** Enter 5% of line 5	6	599,928

Part XI **Distributable Amount** (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here ▶ ☐ and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6			1	599,928
2a	Tax on investment income for 2013 from Part VI, line 5	2a	5,776		
b	Income tax for 2013 (This does not include the tax from Part VI)	2b			
c	Add lines 2a and 2b			2c	5,776
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1			3	594,152
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions			4	0
5	Add lines 3 and 4			5	594,152
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)			6	0
7	**Distributable amount** as adjusted Subtract line 6 from line 5 Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1			7	594,152

Part XII **Qualifying Distributions** (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc , purposes		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc —total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	9,154,754
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b	0
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc , purposes	2	
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	
4	**Qualifying distributions.** Add lines 1a through 3b Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	9,154,754
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see instructions)	5	5,776
6	**Adjusted qualifying distributions.** Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	9,148,978

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2012	(c) 2012	(d) 2013
1 Distributable amount for 2013 from Part XI, line 7				594,152
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2013				
a Enter amount for 2012 only.			10,288	
b Total for prior years 20___, 20___, 20___		0		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2013				
a From 2008.				
b From 2009.				
c From 2010.				
d From 2011.				
e From 2012.				
f **Total** of lines 3a through e.	0			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2013 from Part XII, line 4 ▶ $ 9,154,754				
a Applied to 2012, but not more than line 2a			10,288	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see instructions).		0		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see instructions).	0			
d Applied to 2013 distributable amount.				594,152
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	8,550,314			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2013 *(If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)*	0			0
6 **Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:**				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5	8,550,314			
b Prior years' undistributed income Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed.		0		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b Taxable amount —see instructions		0		
e Undistributed income for 2012 Subtract line 4a from line 2a Taxable amount—see instructions			0	
f Undistributed income for 2013 Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1 This amount must be distributed in 2014				0
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (see instructions)	0			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2008 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see instructions) . . .	0			
9 **Excess distributions carryover to 2014.** Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	8,550,314			
10 Analysis of line 9				
a Excess from 2009. . . .				
b Excess from 2010. . . .				
c Excess from 2011. . . .				
d Excess from 2012. . . .				
e Excess from 2013. . . . 8,550,314				

Part XIV **Private Operating Foundations** (see instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

1a If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2013, enter the date of the ruling. . . . . . . ▶

b Check box to indicate whether the organization is a private operating foundation described in section ☐ 4942(j)(3) or ☐ 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year	Prior 3 years			
	(a) 2013	**(b)** 2012	**(c)** 2011	**(d)** 2010	**(e) Total**
2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon					
a "Assets" alternative test—enter **(1)** Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test— enter 2/3 of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test—enter **(1)** Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

Part XV **Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the organization had $5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see instructions.)**

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than $5,000) (See section 507(d)(2))

b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here ▶☐ if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc (see instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d

a The name, address, and telephone number or e-mail address of the person to whom applications should be addressed

ROBERT D SPARKS
743 EVENTIDE DRIVE
MEMPHIS,TN 38120
(901) 766-4412

b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION, CONTACT, DIRECTORS, TAX STATUS, PROJECT INFORMATION, AMOUNT REQUESTED, TAX-EXEMPT CERTIFICATION, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PROJECT BUDGET, LIST OF DONORS

c Any submission deadlines

MARCH 31 AND OCTOBER 31

d Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors

AREAS OF INTEREST INCLUDE EDUCATION, ARTS, HANDICAPPED, AND RELIGION, GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS INCLUDE TENNESSEE, MISSISSIPPI, TEXAS, ARIZONA, MONTANA, OKLAHOMA, AND THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS, TAX-EXEMPT, CURRENT ON ALL REPORTS FOR PRIOR GRANTS, WILL NOT CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR FEDERATED CAMPAIGNS, SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS, OR ORGANIZATIONS WHO DISCRIMINATE BASED ON RACE, ETHNIC ORIGIN, SEX, CREED, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a *Paid during the year* See Additional Data Table				
Total . . . . ▶ **3a**				9,154,754
b *Approved for future payment*				
Total . . . . ▶ **3b**				0

Part XVI-A Analysis of Income-Producing Activities

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated	Unrelated business income		Excluded by section 512, 513, or 514		(e) Related or exempt function income (See instructions)
	(a) Business code	(b) Amount	(c) Exclusion code	(d) Amount	
1 Program service revenue					
a					
b					
c					
d					
e					
f					
g Fees and contracts from government agencies					
2 Membership dues and assessments. . . .					
3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments			14	3,037	
4 Dividends and interest from securities. . . .			14	100,227	
5 Net rental income or (loss) from real estate					
a Debt-financed property.					
b Not debt-financed property.					
6 Net rental income or (loss) from personal property					
7 Other investment income.			14	54	
8 Gain or (loss) from sales of assets other than inventory			18	530,916	
9 Net income or (loss) from special events					
10 Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory. .					
11 Other revenue a					
b					
c					
d					
e					
12 Subtotal Add columns (b), (d), and (e). .		0		634,234	0

13 Total. Add line 12, columns (b), (d), and (e). **13** 634,234

(See worksheet in line 13 instructions to verify calculations)

Part XVI-B Relationship of Activities to the Accomplishment of Exempt Purposes

Line No. ▼	Explain below how each activity for which income is reported in column (e) of Part XVI-A contributed importantly to the accomplishment of the foundation's exempt purposes (other than by providing funds for such purposes) (See instructions)

Part XVII **Information Regarding Transfers To and Transactions and Relationships With Noncharitable Exempt Organizations**

		Yes	No
1 Did the organization directly or indirectly engage in any of the following with any other organization described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3) organizations) or in section 527, relating to political organizations?			
a Transfers from the reporting foundation to a noncharitable exempt organization of			
(1) Cash	**1a(1)**		No
(2) Other assets	**1a(2)**		No
b Other transactions			
(1) Sales of assets to a noncharitable exempt organization	**1b(1)**		No
(2) Purchases of assets from a noncharitable exempt organization	**1b(2)**		No
(3) Rental of facilities, equipment, or other assets	**1b(3)**		No
(4) Reimbursement arrangements	**1b(4)**		No
(5) Loans or loan guarantees	**1b(5)**		No
(6) Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations	**1b(6)**		No
c Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, other assets, or paid employees	**1c**		No

d If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," complete the following schedule Column **(b)** should always show the fair market value of the goods, other assets, or services given by the reporting foundation If the foundation received less than fair market value in any transaction or sharing arrangement, show in column **(d)** the value of the goods, other assets, or services received

(a) Line No	**(b)** Amount involved	**(c)** Name of noncharitable exempt organization	**(d)** Description of transfers, transactions, and sharing arrangements

2a Is the foundation directly or indirectly affiliated with, or related to, one or more tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3)) or in section 527? ☐ Yes ☑ No

b If "Yes," complete the following schedule

(a) Name of organization	**(b)** Type of organization	**(c)** Description of relationship

Sign Here

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer or fiduciary) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

******	2014-08-14	******
Signature of officer or trustee	Date	Title

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown below (see instr)? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Paid Preparer Use Only

Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's Signature	Date	Check if self-employed ▶ ☐	PTIN
MICHAEL K WAGES CPA		2014-08-14		P00672059
Firm's name ▶ CANNON WRIGHT BLOUNT PLLC			Firm's EIN ▶ 62-1657946	
Firm's address ▶ 756 RIDGE LAKE BLVD SUITE 100 MEMPHIS, TN 381209420			Phone no (901) 685-7500	

Form 990PF Part IV - Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income - Columns a - d

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e g , real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)	(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo , day, yr)	(d) Date sold (mo , day, yr)
2800 SHRS PROSHARES ULTRASHORT	P		2013-09-03
RAYMOND JAMES #805	P		2013-12-31
PERSHING LLC #417	P		2013-12-31
PERSHING LLC #417	P		2013-12-31
PERSHING LLC #391	P		2013-12-31
PERSHING LLC #391	P		2013-04-18
PERSHING LLC #391	P		2013-09-23
PERSHING LLC #383	P		2013-09-23
PERSHING LLC #383	P		2013-12-31
PERSHING LLC #383	P		2013-12-31
TD AMERITRADE #784	P	2013-01-10	2013-04-01
HBI EQUITY FUND II LLLP	P		2013-12-31
VP ARROWHEAD LLC	P		2013-12-31
VP ARROWHEAD LLC	P		2013-12-31
FIDUS INVESTMENT CORP FORM 2439	P		2013-12-31
POWERSHARES DB COMMODITY INDEX	P		2013-12-31
POWERSHARES DB COMMODITY INDEX	P		2013-12-31
POWERSHARES DB CUMULATIVE AJE	P		2013-09-23
POWERSHARES DB CUMULATIVE AJE	P		2013-09-23
GATEHOUSE	P		2013-12-31
MORGAN STANLEY #081	P		2013-12-31
MORGAN STANLEY #081	P		2013-12-31
MORGAN STANLEY #081	P		2013-12-31
MORGAN STANLEY #081	P		2013-12-31
HBI EQUITY FUND II LLLP	P		2013-12-31
TRANSOCEAN LTD-REMAINING BASIS FROM MERGER	P	2007-10-09	2013-09-23
CAPITAL GAINS DIVIDENDS	P		

Form 990PF Part IV - Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income - Columns e - h

(e) Gross sales price	**(f)** Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	**(g)** Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	**(h)** Gain or (loss) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
221,842		413,792	-191,950
448,826		413,935	34,891
389,738		380,984	8,754
424,393		331,471	92,922
33,751		30,085	3,666
170		169	1
482,004		508,964	-26,960
637,870		565,029	72,841
721,777		532,986	188,791
753,706		425,026	328,680
14,056		13,345	711
		49,389	-49,389
33,377			33,377
		235	-235
1,649			1,649
		14	-14
		191	-191
1,917			1,917
776			776
		50,000	-50,000
534,951		505,094	29,857
21,510		22,386	-876
110,205		99,285	10,920
818,256		738,072	80,184
		10,546	-10,546
		31,926	-31,926
3,066			3,066

Form 990PF Part IV - Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income - Columns i - l

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) **or** Losses (from col (h))
(i) F M V as of 12/31/69	**(j)** Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	**(k)** Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	
			-191,950
			34,891
			8,754
			92,922
			3,666
			1
			-26,960
			72,841
			188,791
			328,680
			711
			-49,389
			33,377
			-235
			1,649
			-14
			-191
			1,917
			776
			-50,000
			29,857
			-876
			10,920
			80,184
			-10,546
			-31,926
			3,066

Form 990PF Part XV Line 3 - Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a *Paid during the year*				
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD 515 MISSISSIPPI STREET JACKSON,MS 39201		501(C)(3)	WORLD HUNGER	1,350
AMBUCS PO BOX 5127 HIGH POINT,NC 27262		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS,LISTTOTAL 3500	1,500
BRIARCREST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL 6000 BRIARCREST AVE MEMPHIS,TN 38120		501(C)(3)	AUDITORIUM	800,000
FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES 8701 LEEDS ROAD KANSAS CITY,MO 64129		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	5,000
GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION 5120 WOODWAY DRIVE SUITE 6000 HOUSTON,TX 77056		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	4,046,790
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY 400 S MONROE STILLWATER,OK 74076		501(C)(3)	AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS SCHOLARSHIPS	165,000
THE ORCHARD FELLOWSHIP 140 S MAIN ST COLLIERVILLE,TN 38017		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	75,000
JOE FOSS INSTITUTE 8925 E PIMA CENTER PARKWAY SCOTTSDALE,AZ 85258		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	8,824
MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOG CLUB PO BOX BT MISSISSIPPI STATE,MS 39762		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	4,000
BAPTIST MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION 350 NORTH HUMPHREYS BLVD MEMPHIS,TN 38120		501(C)(3)	PEDIATRIC PROGRAM	25,000
THE CHICKASAW COUNCIL 171 S HOLLYWOOD MEMPHIS,TN 38112		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	25,000
CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S FOUNDATION 110 NORTH CAROLINA BLVD SE WASHINGTON,DC 20003		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	1,000
GARY SINISE FOUNDATION PO BOX 50008 STUDIO CITY,CA 91614		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	16,000
VICTORY CHURCH 3220 11TH AVE S GREAT FALLS,MT 59405		501(C)(3)	BLDG PLEDGE FUND	5,000
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER MEMPHIS 1900 UNION AVE MEMPHIS,TN 38104		501(C)(3)	WILLARD R SPARKS FOUNDATION FUNDLINDA SPARKS FAMILY FUND	3,971,790
Total . . . . ▶ **3a**				9,154,754

Form 990PF Part XV Line 3 - Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a *Paid during the year*				
MONTANA COWBOY HALL OF FAME PO BOX 1569 BIG TIMBER, MT 59011		501(C)(3)	GENERAL FUNDS	3,500
Total . . . . ▶ **3a**				9,154,754

TY 2013 Accounting Fees Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Category	Amount	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
ACCOUNTING FEES	3,750	0	0	0

TY 2013 Investments Corporate Stock Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Name of Stock	End of Year Book Value	End of Year Fair Market Value
CORPORATE STOCK ACCOUNTS	1,984,855	1,984,855
GATE HOUSE	0	0

TY 2013 Investments - Other Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Category/ Item	Listed at Cost or FMV	Book Value	End of Year Fair Market Value
A/R-HBI	FMV	30,022	30,022

TY 2013 Other Assets Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Description	Beginning of Year - Book Value	End of Year - Book Value	End of Year - Fair Market Value
HBI PRIVATE EQUITY FUND II LLLP	26,678	0	0
VP ARROWHEAD LLC	96,939	0	0
EL DORADO ELLIOT 128	272,144	272,035	272,035

TY 2013 Other Decreases Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Description	Amount
NON DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION BENEFIT	2,176
CUMULATIVE ADJUSTMENTS	2,693
FEDERAL TAXES PAID	6,950
ADDITIONAL INCOME	1,654

TY 2013 Other Expenses Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Description	Revenue and Expenses per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
INVESTMENT FEES	51,768	51,768	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	724	724	0	0
PASSTHROUGH-VP ARROWHEAD LLC	696	696	0	0
PASSTHROUGH-POWERSHARES DB INDEX	1,353	1,353	0	0
SUPPLIES	15	15	0	0
BANK FEES	40	40	0	0

TY 2013 Other Income Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Description	Revenue And Expenses Per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income
PERSHING 417	5	5	
PASSTHROUGH-EL DORADO ELLIOT 128	49	49	

TY 2013 Other Increases Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Description	Amount
UNREALIZED GAIN IN INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	87,442
TAX LOSS FROM K1S IN EXCESS OF BOOK	54,571
NON DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	1,574
ADDITIONAL LOSS ON INVESTMENTS	42,472

TY 2013 Taxes Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION

EIN: 23-7029788

Category	Amount	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
FOREIGN TAXES	2,014	2,014	0	0