

Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation Awards More Than \$500,000 to 25 Local Nonprofits for Projects Serving Children, Youth and Young Adults

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation – a regional affiliate and grantmaking arm of Foundation For The Carolinas – recently granted \$518,500 to 25 local nonprofits for projects that focus on children, youth and young adults.

Grants from this cycle include, among others: \$25,000 to Young Black Leadership Alliance to provide college and career advising for local underserved students; \$11,500 to Circle de Luz for a college-readiness mentoring program for first-generation students; and \$25,000 to Foundation for Girls to provide career training for 300 single homeless mothers.

“As we recover from the many lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, investing in our children and the family members who care for them should be a top priority,” said Brian Collier, Executive Vice President, Foundation For The Carolinas. “From fostering social capital to providing educational opportunities to preparing youth for future employment – these grants run the gamut. But what they have in common is expanding opportunities to young people who need them the most.”

CMCF’s grantmaking program was established following a [\\$35 million bequest from Lucille Puette Giles](#) in 1995. To date, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation has awarded more than \$55 million in grants. Because the fund was established as an unrestricted endowment, it provides a permanent source of grantmaking for community needs as they evolve over time.

The children, youth and young adults grant program aligns with [the recommendations of the Leading on Opportunity report](#), which provides a roadmap for increasing economic mobility in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Grants include:

- \$25,000 to **Ada Jenkins Center** to provide students in elementary school with access to afterschool academic support and enrichment programming.
- \$15,000 to **Augustine Literacy Project-Charlotte** to provide tutoring to 300 low-income first and second graders.
- \$25,000 to **Carolina Youth Coalition** to provide high school students with mentors and college-preparatory resources.
- \$35,000 to **Charlotte Bilingual Preschool** to provide programming that will advance equity for Latinx children and families.
- \$20,000 to **Charlotte Speech and Hearing Center** to provide programming that promotes school readiness for low-income and at-risk children up to age 8.
- \$11,500 to **Circle de Luz** to provide intensive college-readiness mentoring program that supports first-generation college students.
- \$35,000 to **E2D** to provide computers for students lacking home-based computers sufficient to do their work.
- \$25,000 to **Heart Math Tutoring** to provide a math intervention program for students performing below grade level in CMS elementary schools.
- \$25,000 to **Foundation for Girls** to provide weekly career training and financial coaching for 300 single homeless mothers.
- \$15,000 to **Freedom School Partners** to provide a summer program that offers literacy tutoring and community-building skills to local students.

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- \$10,000 to **GardHouse** to provide yearlong academic internships and fellowships to local students.
- \$25,000 to **International House** to provide English students in grade 1-3 with intensive tutoring.
- \$12,000 to **Latin American Women's Association** to host bilingual workshops and tours at colleges for local families.
- \$25,000 to **ourBRIDGE for Kids** to provide out-of-school programs for immigrant and refugee students in K-8.
- \$25,000 to **Project Scientist** to provide a virtual after-school STEM Club for local girls experiencing homelessness.
- \$20,000 to **Reach Out and Read Carolinas** to provide literacy intervention for children in primary care medical homes.
- \$10,000 to **The Learning Collaborative** to provide parents with the tools and knowledge needed to prepare their children for success in kindergarten.
- \$20,000 to **Thompson Child & Family Focus** to provide tutors to at-risk students from kindergarten to high school graduation.
- \$20,000 to **Time Out Youth** to provide programming that will ensure college readiness and career success for LGBTQ students in Charlotte.
- \$20,000 to **The Relatives** to pilot a GED-incentive program aimed at low-income young adults.
- \$20,000 to **UrbanPromise Charlotte** to provide mentors, tutors and role models for children attending out-of-school programs.
- \$15,000 to **Vision To Learn** for mobile clinics that provide Charlotte students with free eye exams.
- \$25,000 to **Young Black Leadership Alliance** to provide college and career advising, awareness and exploration for underserved students and parents in the Charlotte community.
- \$25,000 to **Youth Villages** to provide young adults leaving the foster care, juvenile justice and mental health systems with support and guidance to successfully transition into adulthood.
- \$15,000 to **YWCA Central Carolinas** to provide free out-of-school programming for students from low-income families.

For more information about the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation, visit www.charmeck-cf.org.

About Foundation For The Carolinas

Founded in 1958, Foundation For The Carolinas is the sixth-largest nonprofit community foundation in the country, serving donors and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets of nearly \$3 billion, FFTC's mission is to inspire philanthropy and empower individuals to create a better community. Visit www.fftcc.org.

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