



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **In Wake of Hurricane Helene, Cleveland County Community Foundation Grants \$21,996 to Address Food Insecurity and Human Services**

**CLEVELAND COUNTY, N.C.**— With the region still reeling from Hurricane Helene, the Cleveland County Community Foundation recently awarded \$21,996 in grants to seven local nonprofits. The grants will support projects and programs that address food, agriculture and nutrition; housing and shelter; and human services in the wake of Hurricane Helene.

“The Cleveland County Community Foundation is grateful for the chance to support organizations dedicated to improving the lives of individuals in our community,” said Cleveland County Board Chair Jason Winn. “We genuinely appreciate the numerous applications we received this year and are grateful for the ongoing interest from nonprofits wishing to partner with us. While the process of selecting this year’s grant recipients was challenging, we are proud to prioritize those organizations that are dedicated to caring for our community members in the wake of a natural disaster.”

Grants from this cycle include \$5,000 to Washinton Outreach Ministry to provide meals to food-insecure populations in Cleveland County and the surrounding areas, \$2,400 to Bethlehem Baptist Church Kings Mountain Food Pantry to support food assistance to residents in the Kings Mountain and Grover areas, and \$4,000 to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina to support its Backpacks Program.

“Bethlehem Baptist Church of Kings Mountain is so grateful to be chosen for this grant from Cleveland County Community Foundation to help fund our small church's Food Pantry,” said Ruth Lancaster of Bethlehem Baptist Church. “Our Food Pantry is funded solely on the donations of our members and friends. With the rising cost of food, our church Food Pantry volunteers were concerned that community needs would increase above our donation abilities. This grant helps us to continue providing families in the Kings Mountain and Grover areas with food assistance at our current level. Thank you!”

“Thank you for your generous contribution to our nonprofit. With the generous grant, our organization will be able to repair some of The Life Center,” said Director Jennie Poston. “The TEFAP of Green Bethel Baptist Church extends our gratitude for your continued support. Together we are making a difference.”

The Cleveland County Community Foundation is a regional affiliate of Charlotte-based Foundation For The Carolinas. The grants were awarded by the CCCF’s local board of advisors as part of its annual grantmaking program. The CCCF has invested more than \$396,000 in projects and programs that support Cleveland County residents since 1985.

The Cleveland County Community Foundation’s 2024 grant awards include:

- **\$2,400 to Bethlehem Baptist Church Kings Mountain Food Pantry** to provide food assistance to residents in the Kings Mountain and Grover areas of Cleveland County.
- **\$4,000 to Children’s Homes of Cleveland County** to support youth who are transitioning from the foster care system.
- **\$1,596 to Green Bethel Baptist Church** –to support its emergency food assistance program.
- **\$2,000 to Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry** to provide individuals with utilities and rental assistance.

- **\$4,000 to Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina** to purchase food for its Backpack Program, which supplies children with nutritious, ready-to-eat staple food over the weekend.
- **\$3,000 to Walls Memorial Baptist Church, Food Pantry** to provide emergency food for those in need.
- **\$5,000 to Washington Outreach Ministry** to help the food insecure population of Cleveland County and the surrounding areas.

### **About the Cleveland County Community Foundation**

Established in 1985 as a permanent endowment, the Cleveland County Community Foundation benefits a wide range of charitable purposes in Cleveland County. As an affiliate of Charlotte-based Foundation For The Carolinas, the Cleveland County Community Foundation inspires philanthropy, increases charitable giving and strengthens the community. For more information, visit [www.clevelandcounty-cf.org](http://www.clevelandcounty-cf.org).

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