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NEWS RELEASE

Cabarrus County Community Foundation Celebrates Record Grantmaking to Local Nonprofits *From 2017 to 2018, grant awards grew 108 percent thanks to anonymous challenge grants*

The Cabarrus County Community Foundation's annual grant awards increased more than 100 percent from 2017 to 2018, representing some of the largest annual grants ever awarded in the organization's 30-year history. In total, nearly \$115,000 was awarded to 19 nonprofits serving the community. This dramatic growth is thanks to the community meeting a generous match opportunity.

In 2018, two anonymous Cabarrus County donors challenged the board and community to raise \$50,000. With more than 50 gifts received, the community met the challenge in full and the donors stepped up to contribute an additional \$50,000 to 2018 grantmaking funds and \$100,000 to the foundation's endowed principal. "The growth of the endowment is key," said board member David Gordon, "because it ensures that nonprofits for generations to come will have the support of the Cabarrus County Community Foundation."

"Our board is so grateful to the anonymous donors for this investment in our community, and we are also grateful for each and every gift that helped us to achieve our goal," said Peggy Wagstaff, Cabarrus County Community Foundation board chair. "It was extraordinary to award nearly \$115,000 in grants this year, as grantmaking really is the heart and soul of our board's work."

Nineteen local organizations received grants from the Cabarrus County Community Foundation, including Cabarrus Cooperative Christian Ministry. The grant will support the long-term needs of homeless families with children, granting them housing, basic needs and critical education for 3-5 years.

"CCCM's housing continuum represents a path to housing stability for families experiencing homelessness in Cabarrus and southern Rowan counties," said Ed Hosack, executive director of Cabarrus Cooperative Christian Ministry. "These three programs and their collaborative services model provide families with the tools to access resources and achieve long-term sustainability. This kind of investment is necessary to change outcomes for the next generation."

Amazing Grace Advocacy was another of the beneficiaries of CCCF's grant funding this year. The grant will support the family wellness program and provide comprehensive case management to families raising children with mental illness.

"The Cabarrus County Community Foundation grant has brought financial support to our individualized family service," said Gwen Bartley, executive director of Amazing Grace Advocacy. "The grant will lift barriers for children and families that are struggling to access services and provide support for children with complex brain disorders."

To learn more about the Cabarrus County Community Foundation, please contact Katie Russell at krussell@fftc.org.

For a full listing of the grants and projects awarded by the Cabarrus County Community Foundation, visit www.cabarruscounty-cf.org.

About the Cabarrus County Community Foundation

Established in 1989, the Cabarrus County Community Foundation benefits a wide range of charitable purposes in Cabarrus County. As an affiliate of Charlotte-based Foundation For The Carolinas, the Cabarrus County Community Foundation inspires philanthropy, increases charitable giving and strengthens the community. For more information please visit www.cabarruscounty-cf.org.

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