

SUMMER 2021 | FOUNDATION FOR THE CAROLINAS

# PHILANTHROPY FOCUS

## Arts & Culture in the Spotlight:

New Fund Raises  
\$23 Million for  
Sustainability

Read more on page 2

Dancer Eric Stith is interviewed for Charlotte Ballet in front of the *Terpsichore* mural by PichiAvo. Photo courtesy of Charlotte Ballet.

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Children explore an exhibit at Discovery Place Science, located on North Tryon Street in Uptown Charlotte. Discovery Place received an operating grant from the Infusion Fund.



Photo Credit: Chau Nguyen



(Top): A performance by Infusion Fund grantee Brand New Sheriff Productions. (Bottom): Children's Theatre of Charlotte, also a grantee, hosts dozens of summer camps for local children every year.



(Top): Dancers rehearse at Charlotte Ballet in Uptown Charlotte. (Bottom): The Oval Pool at the Wing Haven garden and bird sanctuary. Both nonprofits are Infusion Fund grantees.

## New Public-Private Partnership Sustains Arts and Culture Nonprofits

When the pandemic hit, museums, performance venues, theatre companies, and other arts and culture groups were forced to close, cancel their seasons, refund tickets and re-envision fundraising activities. Coupled with a national, decades-long decline in workplace giving programs that support the arts, a sustainable solution was needed to ensure a vibrant arts and culture community.

The Infusion Fund – a new public-private partnership in support of arts and culture – aims to provide this sustainability to our diverse cultural community.

With local institutions facing losses of more than \$50 million, and the cultural sector accounting for thousands of workers and an annual economic impact of \$360 million, the City of Charlotte asked FFTC to help raise \$18 million in support of arts and culture – and offered to match that \$18 million.

The response from the private sector exceeded expectations. In just two months, the campaign surpassed its goal with \$23 million in donations from companies, foundations and individuals. Combined with the City's match of the original \$18 million goal, \$41 million was raised to support local cultural organizations. The fund will provide grants to local arts and culture nonprofits over the next three years, and a long-term cultural plan will be developed simultaneously.

"The Foundation's vision for the generosity of our private sector during the arts fundraising campaign was exceeded by the vision the sector had for itself," said FFTC President and CEO Michael Marsicano.

David Taylor appreciates the donors who gave to the Infusion

Fund because of what it means for his organization's impact.

"With this investment, it will ensure our work in artist activism and our initiative for equity and innovation will continue to grow and help build a more equitable Charlotte," said Taylor, president and CEO of the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture, which received a grant from the Infusion Fund.

In its first round of grants, the fund awarded more than \$6 million to 38 local arts and culture organizations to support their operating budgets (see sidebar, top right).

"On a practical level, a vibrant and diverse art scene brings jobs ... and attracts businesses seeking relocation," said Sally Gambrell Bridgford, president of The Gambrell Foundation, which granted \$450,000 to the Infusion Fund. "But on a human level, artists have the potential to shape the world, and our future. This grant ... will ensure the expression of important unheard voices."

**For more information:** [fftc.org/Arts](https://fftc.org/Arts)

### Infusion Fund Grants

Recent awards from the Infusion Fund supported operations for 38 local nonprofit arts and culture organizations. For a complete list of grants: [fftc.org/Arts](https://fftc.org/Arts).



The Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture is an Infusion Fund grantee.

Photo Credit: Tyrus Ortega Gaines



A \$1 million gift from Lowe's Home Improvement helped push the Infusion Fund campaign over its initial fundraising goal of \$18 million. The private-sector campaign ultimately reached \$23 million, and the City of Charlotte is matching the original goal, bringing the fund total to \$41 million.

Contributors to the fund include:

#### Multimillion Dollar Commitment

City of Charlotte

**\$1.5 million and above**

Bank of America

C.D. Spangler Foundation / National Gypsum Company

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Trane Technologies

#### \$600,000 - \$1 million

Albemarle Foundation

Atrium Health

Barings

Duke Energy

Honeywell

JELD-WEN, Inc.

LendingTree Foundation

Lowe's Companies, Inc.

Novant Health

Red Ventures

Truist

#### \$300,000-\$600,000

Ally Financial

The Centene Charitable Foundation

Childress Klein Properties

Coca-Cola Consolidated

Deloitte

EY

The Gambrell Foundation

Moore & Van Allen

PwC

Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A.

Rodgers Builders

Wells Fargo

#### Up to \$300,000

Fifth Third Bank

Foundation For The Carolinas

Deidre and Clay Grubb

Leslie and Michael Marsicano

Jane and Hugh McColl

Nucor Corporation

PNC Bank

Premier, Inc.

Jane and Nelson Schwab

## COVID-19 Fund Closes With Final Round of Nonprofit Grants

While life returns to normal for some, many continue to struggle from the pandemic's lasting societal impact. Recent grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund include \$10,000 to Shelter Health Services for rapid testing kits and \$15,000 to Supportive Housing Communities for PPE and tents for unsheltered homeless residents – a reminder that local nonprofits continue to assist those most affected by the pandemic.

Those grants were two of dozens recently awarded in the final round of grantmaking from the COVID-19 Response Fund, launched in 2020 by FFTC and United Way of Central Carolinas to help those most affected by the pandemic. In this round, \$1.6 million was awarded to dozens of local nonprofits that provide safety net services such as shelter and groceries, as well as providing laptops, books and other resources for students.

In total – through seven rounds of grants from the COVID-19 Response Fund – more than \$23.5 million was granted to 240 local nonprofits.

"With these final grant awards, we extend our deepest thanks to the funders and volunteers whose support has made the COVID-19 Fund possible," said FFTC Executive Vice President Brian Collier. "We also recognize the extraordinary and ongoing work by the grantees and wide range of nonprofits who continue to address the pandemic-related needs of our community."

**Learn more about the nonprofits and projects supported by this fund:** [fftc.org/COVID19grants](https://fftc.org/COVID19grants)

### E4E Relief Update

After an unprecedented year in 2020 due to the pandemic, FFTC's subsidiary E4E Relief is continuing to provide rapid relief to employees across the globe who are experiencing unexpected financial hardships.

E4E Relief manages employee disaster and hardship relief programs for companies throughout the country, serving more than five million employees across the globe. As of August 1, E4E Relief has already awarded more than \$36 million in grants to employees affected by the pandemic, personal hardships and natural disasters, including the devastating flooding in Western Europe this summer.

To put this number in perspective, E4E Relief's previous highest grantmaking year, prior to 2020, was \$23.8 million distributed during all of 2018.

"As we continue to recover from the pandemic, it's important to remember there are still people who need assistance," said Holly Welch Stubbing, who was recently named president and CEO of E4E Relief and also serves as executive vice president at FFTC. "We are thankful to work with generous companies that are proactive in supporting their employees and providing the assistance they need."

**Learn more:** [E4ERelief.org](https://E4ERelief.org)



## Harnessing the Power of Black Philanthropy

The African American Community Foundation is now Foundation For Black Philanthropy – which is also the newest affiliate of Foundation For The Carolinas. Both announcements were made in August, coinciding with the celebration of Black Philanthropy Month. Donors now have multiple pathways to engage with FFBP.

### Affiliate Your Charitable Fund with FFBP

Highlight the impact of Black philanthropy with each grant by affiliating your new or existing FFTC charitable fund. Grants issued to nonprofits from your fund will display the FFBP logo, and you'll join a network of Black philanthropists who are investing in our region.

### Recommend Grants to Public Charities of Your Choice

When you affiliate your charitable fund with FFBP, you can continue supporting the causes you care about most – whether your favorite arts groups, your place of worship or nonprofits that invest in the Black community.

### Give to Community Grantmaking

Since 1993, the formerly named AACF, now Foundation For Black Philanthropy, has awarded more than \$500,000 from its endowment funds to nonprofits addressing needs and opportunities in the Black community – investing in youth, providing critical services and fostering leaders.

You can amplify this impact by giving to FFBP's two grantmaking funds – the Lethia Henderson Fund for a Healthy Black Community and the Elizabeth S. Randolph Fund for Education and Prosperity – allowing the volunteer Board of Advisors to distribute more transformative grants in the future.

### Join a Community

Whether you affiliate your FFTC charitable fund or give to FFBP's community grantmaking endowments, you'll have access to educational events and networking opportunities with others with a common vision for empowering Black communities.

**Learn more or give: [fftc.org/FFBP](https://fftc.org/FFBP)**

## Meet the FFBP Board Chair

As the chair of the Foundation For Black Philanthropy Board of Advisors, Terik Tidwell is passionate about making a difference.

"I'm eager to work with FFBP's partners, board members and donors to enhance our ability to better support communities and nonprofits by increasing assets, engagement and giving," said Terik.

Currently the executive director of the Smith Tech-Innovation Center at Johnson C. Smith University, Terik has more than 15 years of experience in the nonprofit, education and private sectors.



Terik Tidwell

## Around Our Region

Foundation For The Carolinas has 13 regional affiliates across the Carolinas, whose advisory boards thoughtfully award grants to local nonprofits. A number of county affiliates recently announced grants that will address local needs.

### Stanly Supports Summer Camps

Summer camp is a rite of passage for many children, but this quintessential youth experience can be cost-prohibitive. A grant from the Stanly County Community Foundation brought the summer camp experience to local children whose families might not otherwise have been able to afford it.

The \$5,000 grant to the Stanly County Family YMCA grant supported its Open Doors Scholarships program for YMCA summer camps.

"Through (Stanly County Community Foundation's) support of youth development and education, they have enabled hundreds of children to experience the Y camps that never would have been able," said George Crooker, CEO of Stanly County Family YMCA.

The Stanly County Community Foundation recently awarded 20 grants totaling more than \$50,000 to local nonprofits.



A grant to the Stanly County Family YMCA provided summer camp scholarships to local children.

### Iredell Awards Nearly \$140,000 in Grants

The Iredell County Community Foundation recently awarded \$138,700 in grants to 16 local nonprofits. Grants will support projects and programs that address community recovery efforts from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as literacy for children ages 5-18, veterans' affairs and workforce development.

Among recent grants: \$16,000 to Boys & Girls Club of the Piedmont to support afterschool and summer programs for local youth, and \$12,000 to I-CARE, Inc., to provide workforce development opportunities for local adults.

### Cherokee Funds Housing and Food Programs

The Cherokee County Community Foundation recently announced \$30,000 in grants to 10 local nonprofits. These grants support projects and programs that address education, health, housing, human services and social capital.

Grants include \$5,000 to Cherokee County Meals on Wheels to provide meals for those in need, and \$5,000 to The Jerusalem Project to help local homeowners make necessary house repairs.

**For more information: [fftc.org/RegionalAffiliates](https://fftc.org/RegionalAffiliates)**



Plus Collective grantee Time Out Youth has been a safe haven for LGBTQ+ youth for years. Find out more: [PhilanthropyFocus.org/TOY](https://PhilanthropyFocus.org/TOY).

## The Plus Collective Grants \$134,000 to Support Local LGBTQ+ Community

The former Charlotte Lesbian and Gay Fund recently announced a name change to The Plus Collective, as well as \$134,000 in grant awards to eight local nonprofits.



Former Board Chair Devlin McNeil said the name change better suits the local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community – for now and in the future. "There are many letters in the LGBTQ+ alphabet, and while the intent is to be inclusive, the letters can be limiting," said McNeil. "With this in mind, the board and a committee of stakeholders sought a name that could evolve and remain inclusive in coming years."

The Plus Collective is a collective giving program and endowment at FFTC. Since it was founded in 2004, The Plus Collective has raised and granted more than \$1.6 million to local nonprofits. The most recent round of operating support grants included:



PFLAG Charlotte received a grant to support LGBTQ+ residents and their families and allies.

- ▶ \$13,500 to the Charlotte Pride Band
- ▶ \$5,000 to the Charlotte Royals Rugby Football Club
- ▶ \$12,500 to the Gay Men's Chorus of Charlotte
- ▶ \$18,000 to One Voice Chorus
- ▶ \$25,000 to PFLAG Charlotte
- ▶ \$25,000 to Time Out Youth
- ▶ \$25,000 to Transcend Charlotte
- ▶ \$10,000 to Twirl to the World Foundation

**For more information: [ThePlusCollective.org](https://ThePlusCollective.org)**

## Scholarships Empower Local Students

To say the past school year was unlike any other is, perhaps, an understatement. Some students learned remotely, while others returned to the classroom with face coverings and new protocols. Despite these challenges, local students remained focused on their academic future, thanks in part to scholarships managed by Foundation For The Carolinas.

FFTC manages more than 150 scholarship funds on behalf of donors. This year, scholarships totaling nearly \$2 million were awarded to 652 students. Established by generous families and organizations, these scholarships provide support for students ranging from kindergarten to graduate school.

One such program is Greater Steps Scholars, which provided 93 new and renewed scholarships to students who live in Charlotte's public housing communities. Since inception in 1983, this program has provided 965 scholarships totaling more than \$4 million.

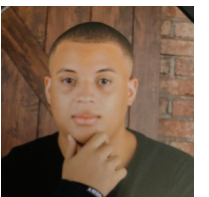
Two of this year's new recipients are:

- ▶ Harding University High School graduate Makyra Hamilton, who is headed to Clark Atlanta University this fall to major in sociology and minor in early education.



Makyra Hamilton

- ▶ Zonte "Malique" Davis, who graduated from David W. Butler High School in June and will attend East Carolina University to pursue his goal of becoming a physical therapist.



Malique Davis

Support a student's educational journey by opening an FFTC Scholarship Fund.

**Learn more: [Qiana Austin at qaustin@fftc.org](mailto:Qiana.Austin@fftc.org)**

## A New Focus on Philanthropy

We invite you to explore FOCUS, FFTC's new storytelling website that highlights local people, nonprofits and partners working to improve our communities. The site also features giving tips and insights for how you can make an even greater impact.



**Visit [PhilanthropyFocus.org](https://PhilanthropyFocus.org)**





The Youth Voice webinar featured a discussion with local youth about the impact of COVID-19, racially-traumatic events, unique school environments, and ways that parents, leaders and organizations can help empower youth.

Robinson Center 2021: Continuing Our Work on Key Community Issues

As our community continues its recovery from the pandemic, the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership is focused on some of the most pressing issues and needs such as mental health, housing and homelessness, racial equity and economic mobility.

Community Conversations

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness month in May, FFTC hosted two virtual panel discussions on the mental health of our youth:

- *Are Our Kids Ok: Checking in on the Mental Health of Youth*, which featured local behavioral health and community program experts.
- *Youth Voice: A Discussion on Mental Health*, provided insights from local youth leaders on the impact of COVID-19 and racially traumatic events.



Watch the Recordings: [fftc.org/RCCL\\_Resources](https://fftc.org/RCCL_Resources)

Building on these conversations, in August RCCL kicked off a monthly virtual community conversation series. In alignment with Black Philanthropy Month, the first, *Challenges and Opportunities for Boys of Color*, featured national and local leaders who shared insights and research on factors that specifically impact boys of color, as well as opportunities to facilitate positive outcomes.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

**Sept. 14:** *The Importance and Impact of Social Capital*

**Oct. 12:** *Food Security: Innovation and Opportunity*

**Nov. 16:** *Impacting Homelessness: Unique Strategies and Solutions*

**Dec. 7:** *Career Pathways and Economic Mobility*

**For more info or to register:** [fftc.org/UpcomingEvents](https://fftc.org/UpcomingEvents)

Addressing Ongoing Civic Needs

Work continues on a number of RCCL initiatives. A few highlights include:

► **Leading on Opportunity:** Now in its fourth year, Leading on Opportunity is tackling economic mobility at a systemic level. Executive Director Sherri Chisholm recently partnered with stakeholders across the region to develop a new three-year strategy to foster college and career readiness, a key determinant for upward mobility as identified in the task force report.

► **A Way Home:** The now-\$26 million housing endowment continues to impact families experiencing homelessness. Since its inception, A Way Home has helped more than 300 families – nearly 1,000 people – achieve housing stability.

► **Read Charlotte:** At the start of the pandemic, this community-wide initiative to improve children’s literacy pivoted to provide the Reading Checkup, a free tool that helps families work with their children at home. From April 2020 through June 2021, nearly 3,600 children completed Reading Checkups (PreK-3rd grade), and 10,602 books were distributed to local children, thanks to community partners working with Read Charlotte and Promising Pages.

► Finally, we recently launched the Infusion Fund, a new fundraising and grantmaking effort in partnership with the City of Charlotte to sustain our vibrant arts and culture community, which was devastated by the shutdowns brought upon by the pandemic. Read more about the effort and its initial grants on page 2.

As always, this work is made possible by generous donors to the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership, as well as the continued support of FFTC fundholders and partners. Thank you for making possible this transformative work in our community.

For more information: [fftc.org/Our\\_Initiatives](https://fftc.org/Our_Initiatives)



The A Way Home housing endowment has impacted hundreds of families. Watch the video: [PhilanthropyFocus.org/A-Way-Home](https://PhilanthropyFocus.org/A-Way-Home)



Read Charlotte is a community-wide children’s reading initiative to improve literacy from birth through third grade. For more information: [ReadCharlotte.org](https://ReadCharlotte.org)

Affordable Housing Made Possible Thanks to Community Coalition

“Prior to moving here, I was living in a hotel,” said Charlotte-resident Aisha J. of the journey that led her to Lake Mist Apartments in south Charlotte. “The feeling I had when I first moved into Lake Mist, it was amazing. It was a feeling I hadn’t felt in a long time – being able to have my own place again.”

She is one of thousands being helped by local affordable housing efforts led by Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a national nonprofit that works with communities to make civic investments. Lake Mist is a recent success story.

Acquired last December by Ascent Real Estate Capital, all units at Lake Mist are priced at affordable rates for households earning no more than 80% of the area median income, with a third income-restricted for those at 30% AMI or below.

The purchase was made possible thanks to funding provided by the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund, the product of FFTC’s 2018 affordable housing fundraising campaign.

After the City of Charlotte agreed to a bond referendum to more than triple its Housing Trust Fund to \$50 million – and with Charlotte facing an affordable-housing deficit ranging from 22,000-34,000 units – Foundation For The Carolinas launched a private-sector fundraising campaign three years ago. When it concluded, the campaign had raised \$53 million in support of affordable housing.



Lake Mist Apartments, a local affordable housing success story, was helped by funding from the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund, an initiative of FFTC.

LEARN MORE

Three years ago, the Foundation launched its affordable housing fundraising campaign. Watch a video to learn more about why it launched and how it’s helping at [PhilanthropyFocus.org](https://PhilanthropyFocus.org).



Ralphine Caldwell, executive director of LISC Charlotte, poses at Evoke Living at Westerly Hills, a project possible thanks to local affordable housing initiatives.

The commitments were used to create the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund – which works in tandem with the City of Charlotte’s Housing Trust Fund. The effort is an initiative of the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership.

LISC, which manages such investments in communities across the nation, was brought to Charlotte to manage the fund and work with other affordable housing initiatives to create a comprehensive solution. With the assets from the initial round of funding now fully allocated, LISC recently announced the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund’s impact so far. Among them:

- 10 development projects totaling 1,214 affordable units.
- A \$20 million partnership with the Housing Impact Fund (another local housing initiative), which works with developer Ascent Real Estate Capital to acquire and preserve "naturally occurring affordable housing" apartment complexes, such as Lake Mist apartments.
- Increased its original goal of 1,500 affordable housing apartments to more than 2,000.

“When we started working with the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund, we knew that we had a big task ahead of us,” said Ralphine Caldwell, executive director, LISC Charlotte.

“While there is still much more to be done, I am thankful for all the donors who contributed to the Charlotte Housing Opportunity Investment Fund – and to this community for coming together as partners to provide more affordable housing in Charlotte.”

For more information: [fftc.org/CHOIF](https://fftc.org/CHOIF)



Professional Advisor Spotlight  
Q&A with Lauren Millovitsch

Lauren Millovitsch, Managing Member of Creamer Millovitsch in Davidson, is a valuable FFTC partner. As an estate planning and tax attorney, she helps individuals and businesses incorporate charitable giving in their current and long-term planning.



Q: Describe your relationship with Foundation For The Carolinas.

Over the years, I've helped many of my clients create donor advised funds at FFTC, and I currently serve on the Cabinet of Professional Advisors. Previously, I served as a board member for the Iredell County Community Foundation (a regional affiliate of FFTC), and am also a member of the board of advisors for Davidson Community Foundation, which is a field of interest fund at FFTC.

Q: What value does your partnership with FFTC bring to your clients?

Having worked with FFTC in numerous capacities, I have relationships with many of the staff members. This allows me to select the right person to introduce my clients to, based on that particular client's situation. I trust that the FFTC staff will take good care of my clients and will bring valuable ideas and insights to the discussion.

Q: How do you encourage clients to consider giving as part of their estate plans?

There are many reasons for charitable giving. For some clients, there may be a strong tax incentive to make charitable gifts. For others, they want to encourage their children to continue their charitable giving legacy. And many times, clients simply have causes they hold dear and want to continue to see those funded after their deaths.

Q: How do you help your clients engage the next generation?

I encourage my clients to speak to their children about philanthropy and their desire for their children to continue the family legacy of giving. Sometimes, this means their children would take over the management of their donor advised funds, or it may mean setting up separate funds for each child. It is equally important to recognize that if a child does not have an interest in continuing the family's legacy of giving, alternate planning may be necessary.

Learn more about how FFTC partners with local advisors: [fftc.org/Advisor\\_Resources](https://fftc.org/Advisor_Resources)

Local Impact Investment Helps Address Inequality in Greater Charlotte Area

Did you know that donor advised funds can create measurable – and meaningful – returns through program-related investments (PRIs) and other impact investments?

Impact investments have the goal of generating measurable social or environmental impacts alongside a positive financial return. These investments typically take the form of either loans with below-market interest rates or equity investments with more favorable terms than might otherwise be found in the market.

Over the past two years, FFTC has administered several local PRIs that benefit the greater Charlotte area. A recent example includes a low-interest loan to Bright Hope Capital LLC, a local investment firm co-founded by Ernst & Young's Charlotte managing partner Malcomb Coley, former Bank of America CEO Hugh McColl and former Duke Energy executive vice-president Lloyd Yates. Bank of America's partnership helped support this investment.

This new firm is focused on creating more wealth and opportunities for Black- and Hispanic-owned businesses, while ensuring that companies pay a "living wage" of at least \$15 per hour and offer health insurance and retirement benefits.

Bright Hope Capital made its first acquisition when it purchased R.J. Leeper Construction, one of Charlotte's few minority-owned construction companies. Two months later, the firm announced its second acquisition – Gastonia-based and minority-owned Big Prime Hauling. Thanks to the investment, the dump truck hauling and transportation provider is expanding its fleet, adding state-of-the-art technology and hiring more than 30 employees.



Impact investments are complex and generally are only available for investments of at least \$1 million.

Learn more about impact investing: [Doug Benson at dbenson@fftc.org](mailto:dbenson@fftc.org)



A recent program-related investment supported Bright Hope Capital LLC, an investment fund supporting minority-owned businesses in Charlotte.



NC State University's College of Veterinary Medicine is just one of the nonprofits supported by Ross and Michele Annable. The Turtle Rescue Team is a student-run organization that provides medical care to wild turtles in hopes of later releasing them back into nature.

Investing Well, Doing Good

Having grown up in modest surroundings and serving in the Navy, Ross Annable says philanthropy was the last thing on his mind as a junior officer trying to make ends meet. But having no children, Ross and his wife, Michele, knew philanthropy would play an important role in their estate planning. They began seriously considering their charitable goals and legacy after being introduced to FFTC by his estate planning attorney.

Ross, a longtime capital markets executive, invested more than two decades ago in a local tech startup called AvidXchange. He also served on the advisory board of the company, which has grown into a leader in accounts payable and invoice management systems and is valued at more than \$2 billion.

Ross later contributed two gifts of private stock in AvidXchange to FFTC, with proceeds directed to his and Michele's FFTC Donor Advised Fund. By gifting these assets prior to sale, they maximized the charitable impact while reducing taxes.

Using their donor advised fund, the Annables established a scholarship at NC State University's College of Veterinary Medicine, supported the Carolina Raptor Center's capital campaign and provided a major gift to Kahn Academy.

Ross and Michele will continue investing in the causes they value after their lifetimes. As part of their estate plan, the couple will leave gifts to create a scholarship program at FFTC, and to support a FFTC Community Impact Fund, which address evolving and unexpected local needs.

Learn more: [fftc.org/BusinessInterests](https://fftc.org/BusinessInterests)



Carolina Raptor Center Education Manager Kate Shaner shows visitors the fastest living creature on earth, the Peregrine Falcon. The Raptor Center has benefited from the Annables' generosity through a gift to its capital campaign.

Amplify Your Impact by Gifting Before Sale

By gifting closely held business interests or real property before sale, you can maximize the philanthropic impact while reaping tax savings. FFTC makes this process easy – and has accepted more than \$250 million in similar gifts over the last five years.

How it works:

- 1 Gifts of complex assets are held by FFTC in a subsidiary designed specifically for such transactions. The donor can deduct the fair market value of the asset.
- 2 FFTC works with you and your advisors on flexible liquidation options and timelines.
- 3 After liquidation, proceeds are transferred to a new or established FFTC giving fund.
- 4 Support your favorite causes using your FFTC fund.

You can give:

- Pre-IPO shares
- LLC and partnership interests
- Commercial real estate
- Other real estate
- Restricted shares
- Carried interest
- Hedge funds
- Other privately held assets



# Hope Vibes Co-Founder Wins Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award

When Adrienne Threatt learned she won the 2021 Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award for her work leading Hope Vibes in assisting people without housing, her first reaction was, “Are you sure? I’m just a regular person.”

“That response reinforced that we made the right decision,” said Brian Collier, FFTC Executive Vice President and member of the award committee. “It is her humility that makes her such an important and compassionate voice for a population that, too often, does not have a voice of its own.”

The Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award – facilitated by FFTC, which also holds the fund that supports the award – is presented annually to an individual or group whose achievements “elevate quality of life and enhance the survival, dignity and well-being of humankind in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.” The award was created by former UNCC professor Dr. Nish Jamgotch Jr., who passed away in August.

During the pandemic – when shelters reached capacity and the need for services to assist the homeless population spiked – Hope Vibes distributed essential supplies such as hygiene packs, tents and tarps. The nonprofit also launched the Hope Tank, a box truck converted into a mobile shower center and laundromat serving the homeless community.

“We are living proof that ordinary people can produce extraordinary results,” said Adrienne about Hope Vibes, which she co-founded alongside her husband, Emmanuel.

Previous Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian winners include Ric Elias, CEO of Red Ventures; Riley Howell and Reed Parlier, two UNC Charlotte students who died when a gunman opened fire in their classroom in 2019; and Sil Ganzó, founder and executive director of ourBRIDGE for KIDS, among others.

Read more: [PhilanthropyFocus.org/Hope-Vibes](https://philanthropyfocus.org/Hope-Vibes)



2021 Nish Jamgotch Jr. Humanitarian Award winner Adrienne Threatt (left) and her husband Emmanuel Threatt.



The Hope Tank, an initiative of Hope Vibes, provides mobile shower and laundromat services to Charlotte's homeless community.

# Foundation Team News

**Elizabeth Trotman** joined FFTC as senior vice president, Civic Leadership Programs and Initiatives. As part of her role, Elizabeth will help oversee the work of the Robinson Center for Civic Leadership, FFTC’s flagship program.

**Blair Stanford** joined FFTC as executive director of the Charlotte Executive Leadership Council. CELC coordinates the Charlotte business sector’s efforts to address major community needs.

**Holly Welch Stubbing** was named president and CEO of E4E Relief in January 2021 after leading in an interim role. A subsidiary of FFTC, E4E Relief provides employee disaster and hardship relief programs for companies nationwide. Holly also continues to serve as executive vice president at FFTC.



Elizabeth Trotman



Blair Stanford



Holly Welch Stubbing

# CCAP Members Commit to Sustainability

Corporate philanthropy is vital to our region, with many generous companies investing in critical issues and opportunities facing our communities. Thanks to Charlotte Community Affairs Professionals, an affinity group managed by FFTC, the professionals who lead these corporate giving programs have a forum to share information, network and learn about local issues.

Recently, CCAP members Bank of America, Lowe’s, TIAA, Trane Technologies, Wells Fargo and Duke Energy participated in EarthShare NC’s Corporate Earth Day Event, working with environmental-focused nonprofits on virtual and in-person projects. In recognition of their impact, Duke Energy received the Virtual Virtuoso award.

Additionally, CCAP member Barings, LLC, was recently nominated for Sustain Charlotte’s 10th annual Sustainability Awards, honoring smart growth and sustainability leadership. Barings is a United Nations Global Compact partner that supports sustainability through company-wide initiatives and LEED certified properties, including the global headquarters in Charlotte.

## Expand Your Impact by Joining CCAP

CCAP membership is available to companies with funding priorities and commitments in the Charlotte region.

For information and to apply: [fftc.org/CCAP](https://fftc.org/CCAP)



The \$35,000 grant that Charlotte Bilingual Preschool received from Foundation For The Carolinas' Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation will provide programming that will advance equity for Latinx children and families. It was one of 25 grants recently awarded to local nonprofits from CMCF.

# CMCF Awards More Than \$500,000 for Projects Serving Children

As the community continues to feel the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation believes a top priority should be investing in children and the family members who care for them. That’s why CMCF – a regional affiliate and grantmaking arm of FFTC – recently granted \$518,500 to 25 local nonprofits for projects that focus on children, youth and young adults.

“From fostering social capital to providing educational opportunities to preparing youth for future employment – these grants cover a lot of ground,” said Brian Collier, FFTC’s executive vice president. “But what they have in common is expanding opportunities to young people who need them the most.”

Expanding opportunity is why local nonprofit Carolina Youth Coalition applied for a grant. The \$25,000 the organization received from CMCF will be used to provide high school students with mentors and college-preparatory resources.

“Carolina Youth Coalition is thrilled to be receiving this \$25,000 grant from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Community Foundation,” said Carolina Youth Coalition Co-Founder and Executive Director Aaron Randolph. “This award will help us add an additional 50 high school students to our College Success Program, which provides best-in-class college counseling, ACT prep, mentoring, college tours and more to high-achieving, under-resourced youth in our community. CMCF has played a critical role in helping 59% of our students attend college debt-free.”

Additional grants from this cycle run the gamut, investing in programs that support families and children from preschool



Photo Credit: Charlotte Bilingual Preschool

to college. Grants include, among others:

- ▶ \$35,000 to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool to provide programming that will advance equity for Latinx children and families.
- ▶ \$25,000 to Foundation for Girls to provide weekly career training and financial coaching for 300 single homeless mothers.
- ▶ \$25,000 to Project Scientist to provide a virtual after-school STEM Club for local girls experiencing homelessness.
- ▶ \$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.

"CMCF has provided essential support to Charlotte Bilingual Preschool over the past decade, ensuring that economically-marginalized children and their families have access to high-quality, dual language, culturally competent programming that leads them to success in school and life," Charlotte Bilingual Preschool Executive Director Banu Valladeres said in response to receiving the \$35,000 grant.

"This year, the generous gift will allow us to extend the school day for 50 three-year-olds, increasing accessibility for working families and deepening impact for children."

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 – more than \$20 million beyond the original gift. Because the fund was established as an unrestricted endowment, it provides a permanent source of grantmaking – while preserving the corpus – to address community needs as they evolve over time.



Lucille Puette Giles

For more information and to see a complete list of grants: [www.charmeck-cf.org](https://www.charmeck-cf.org)





## An Event to Remember

220 North Tryon at Foundation For The Carolinas hosts weddings, receptions, rehearsal dinners and other celebrations.

With an art gallery, sculpture garden and solarium overlooking expansive city views, 220 North Tryon offers a one-of-a-kind event experience.

Contact us at [events@fftc.org](mailto:events@fftc.org) to reserve your space.

*Revenue generated from our event spaces allows us to offer complimentary meeting space to local nonprofits and to share our gallery with the community.*



at Foundation For The Carolinas

Visit [www.fftc.org/Events](http://www.fftc.org/Events) for more information

## Carolina Theatre Update

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, construction on our Carolina Theatre project has continued with minimal impacts, with a 2022 re-opening for the classic movie palace on the horizon. In fact, the renovation met another major milestone in late February with the completion of the steel framing and concrete floor slabs on all theatre levels. Visit [CarolinaTheatreCLT.org](http://CarolinaTheatreCLT.org) for more information or @carolinatheatreclt on Instagram and Facebook.



Our newsletter, *Philanthropy Focus*, is designed to inform and interest donors, clients and friends of the Foundation. We welcome your suggestions at [focus@fftc.org](mailto:focus@fftc.org).

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