



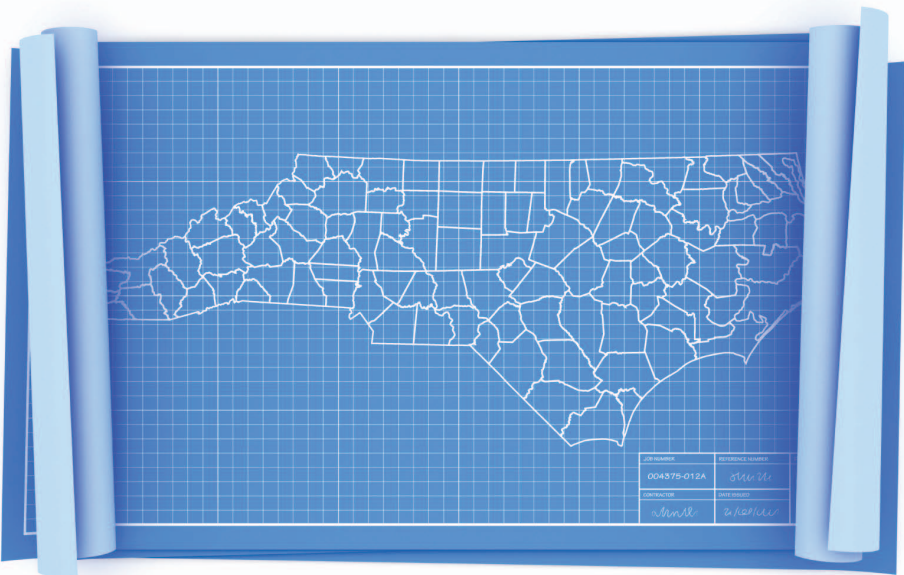
NCCF’s Affiliate Impact Committee: creating a blueprint for success

NCCF’s FUTURES Committee was established by the statewide board in 2012 to examine the Foundation’s direction. One of the most important recommendations resulting from their work was to assess our affiliate network to ensure that it remains positioned for continued success and maximum effectiveness now and in the years ahead.

NCCF’s affiliate network is one of the largest in the country and a key distinguishing factor in our work, noted NCCF CEO Jennifer Tolle Whiteside. “Maintaining a network of effective affiliates is a major responsibility and key to our mission to ensure that philanthropy is accessible to all,” she said.

The Affiliate Impact Committee has been working on this charge since 2013. Membership includes affiliate leaders hailing from all NCCF regions across the state and representatives from our staff and statewide board.

An article in NCCF’s Winter 2014 e-newsletter described the committee’s work as a process. “And the journey continues,” according to Sally Migliore, director of Community Leadership. What began with an Affiliate Listening Tour in the summer of 2013 segued into board discussions on their approaches



to raising money, making grants, providing local leadership and working with NCCF’s regional associates.

Migliore was extremely pleased with the participation level of our affiliate boards and valuable information yielded from these discussions. “The feedback not only allows us to go to the next level of our research, but provides the underlying basis for the eventual blueprint,” she said.

The next round of discussions will allow board members to dig deeper into their work by asking themselves key questions about their success. Questions will examine how affiliate boards can:

- Develop strong local board leadership
 - Inspire and promote local philanthropy
 - Grow affiliate assets and their “family of funds”
 - Leverage local grantmaking to achieve maximum impact
 - Position affiliate leadership as catalysts for identifying local needs
- “Essentially the committee wants to build on the rich discussions the affiliates have had this year to ensure their continued buy-in for what their future can be,” said Jeff McNeill, a member

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Power of collective giving fuels women’s programs at NCCF

Ask half a dozen women why they are involved in one of NCCF’s nine women’s giving networks, and chances are you will get half a dozen answers. If you listen closely, however, you’ll hear a similar refrain, with words like “change” and “collaboration” and “camaraderie” peppering their responses.

North Carolina’s female philanthropists are not different from the national norm. A study conducted by the Women’s Philanthropy Institute at Indiana University reduced the many reasons that women provided for joining a giving circle to “the six C’s.” They said they joined to:

- Create
- Commit
- Collaborate
- Change
- Connect
- Celebrate

The giving circle movement

It’s not news that women have always been givers, contributing time, talent and treasure to their communities. The IU study noted that the movement increased at the end of the 20th century when “women had capacity as never before,” largely due to advanced education that increased incomes, which also benefited from inheritance and marriage. “Perhaps most significant: women gained control of their finances – of their wealth and consequently their philanthropy,” according to the report.

The study also attributed the growth in women’s giving groups to a “heritage” of philanthropy. “Three generations ago our grandmothers gave their time to their family (sic). Then our mothers gave their time to their families and communities. This made it possible for us – the third generation – to give our time and to give our money as well.”

Women’s giving at NCCF

Women’s giving began at NCCF in 1991 with the **Statewide Women’s Fund**, an endowment created to encourage philanthropy among women through permanent assets to support issues related to women and girls in North Carolina. Grants totaling up to \$10,000 a year have gone to numerous causes within NCCF’s 67-county service area, with the current focus on women’s health and leadership issues. The selection committee is comprised of representatives of most of NCCF’s local women’s giving programs and other philanthropic leaders interested in women’s issues.

NCCF’s Women’s Fund spawned several local women’s giving circles. The **Women’s Giving Network of Wake County** was the first to be created in 2006 and is currently the largest. The membership roster hovers around 100 women who have given a laudable \$781,000 through the Network to local nonprofits in just seven years. Grants typically range around \$25,000, with the Network awarding three to four annually.



Wake County Women’s Giving Network President Pam Dowdy (left) with last year’s grantees: Pat Nathan, formerly of Dress for Success Triangle; Jan Frantz, Read and Feed; and Stacy Bluth, The Hope Center - Pullen. Wake’s Network is the oldest and largest NCCF women’s program in the state.

Pam Dowdy is the current president of Wake’s Network, and said she joined the group because of its reputation for making gifts of impact to programs benefiting women and/or children. “These areas are my passion,” she said.

As executive director of Wake County SmartStart, Dowdy has firsthand knowledge of local needs. “Like most people, I want to give to those causes I care deeply about.” She added that “connection” is also important to her – both with the membership as well as with the local community. “That’s what makes giving joyful to me.”

Dowdy observed that other members’ reasons for joining the Wake Network mirrored her own. “Usually someone they know has asked them to join,” she said. “But they stay because they get caught up in the mission.”

The **Women’s Impact Network of New Hanover County** is one of NCCF’s newer giving groups. This giving circle is currently in the midst of its third grants cycle and also focuses on making “impact gifts,” according to President Terry Richman. This giving strategy is what attracted her to the Wilmington-area giving circle. “We all write checks, but we don’t often have the opportunity to

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Community foundations celebrate 100 years of service in USA



It was 100 years ago that the community foundation concept was born in America's midwest, giving rise to a new way of giving, a new way of participating in community and a new vision for the future. Today there are more than 700 community foundations across the US that encourage people with a vision and a passion for their communities to create something together.

The community foundation movement is still relatively new, but one that has experienced incredible growth and promise.

We at the North Carolina Community Foundation are proud of our 26 year-old history and proud of our "State of Generosity." You have partnered with us to provide grants of over \$74 million, and we have seen the entire community foundation sector here in our state grow to essentially provide access to philanthropic expertise in all 100 North Carolina counties.

You know that working with us is easy. Our team works hard to ensure that you have the information you need to create a fund or make a gift that can make an impact in your community. Our model ensures that money and decision-making can stay local.

NCCF rankings

I am pleased to share that we have earned spots on two prestigious Community Foundation Top 100 Lists that were released recently.

Of the 700 community foundations in the United States that I just referenced, NCCF is 81 on the list in terms of assets and 37 for transactions. These rankings illustrate the generous support we have – and the significant number of grants and gifts that we process efficiently.

The lists were released by *CF Insights*, which compiles and distributes data and information on finances, operations and best practices for community foundations nationwide.

Chair Stuart Dorsett and our statewide board of directors are providing exemplary leadership in the development of both financial and programmatic benchmarks. Our Affiliate Impact Committee is leading a collaborative process with our affiliate network that will result in enhanced community leadership and expanded reach. The entire NCCF team works to ensure that our finance, development, philanthropic services, marketing and IT functions reflect the best practices in our field.

We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to hearing from you!

Jennifer Tolle Whiteside
President and CEO
NCCF

Bond from Watauga wins 2014 Holding Award

Dr. Bettie Bond has received the Lewis R. Holding Philanthropic Leadership Award for 2014, according to Stuart Dorsett, chairman of NCCF's board of directors.

Bond was honored at NCCF's statewide board meeting earlier in June in Raleigh for her instrumental leadership as a member of the board of advisors of the Watauga County Community Foundation (WCCF), an affiliate of NCCF.

Frank Holding Jr., chairman and CEO of First Citizens BancShares, attended the meeting to speak about the award that was established to honor his late uncle, Lewis R. Holding, who founded NCCF in 1988 and also served as Chairman and CEO of First Citizens BancShares. The leadership award is presented by the NCCF statewide board to an affiliate foundation president or board member who has demonstrated exceptional leadership resulting in outstanding growth for the affiliate.

Bond is a retired Appalachian State University history professor who joined the WCCF soon after it was created in 1993. She has served on the board almost continually over the last 21 years and also many terms as president, a position she currently holds. Bond has been instrumental in bringing multiple new endowments to the affiliate and increasing gifts, said John Francis, NCCF's regional associate for the northwest, who nominated her for the award. She also has worked "tirelessly" to raise the profile of the affiliate in the community, he said. "She is the face of the Watauga Community Foundation as far as the local community is concerned," he said.

The WCCF last year awarded nearly \$20,000 from its local grantmaking fund and administered another \$80,000 to the community from all funds and scholarships.

"Watauga County and the entire



L-R: NCCF Board Chair Stuart Dorsett, Dr. Bettie Bond, Holding Award winner for 2014; Frank B. Holding, First Citizens CEO; and John Francis, regional associate.

region certainly have benefited from Dr. Bond's leadership," said Jennifer Tolle Whiteside, NCCF CEO and president. "Her leadership of the Watauga affiliate over the years has encouraged collaboration among funders and nonprofits, which is a model we strive for in all of the communities we serve."

Brian Crutchfield, who serves on NCCF's statewide board as well as the Watauga affiliate board, described Bond as an asset to Boone and the WCCF. "Bettie is truly an amazing person," he said. "She has made the Watauga County Community Foundation what it is today, which is one of the strongest and most diverse rural foundations in the state," he said.

Bond said she was honored and humbled to receive the award. "I give credit for this honor to all the mentoring that I've received from my fellow board members over the years and also the staff at NCCF," she said. She noted that she has served and led many volunteer boards over the years, but that the WCCF board was one of the best. "They believe in what we're doing," she said.

NCCF announces new online grants system

The Foundation has moved to a new online vendor for our community grantmaking system, according to D'Wayne Wilkins, NCCF's manager of IT. Grants cycles that commence June 27 or later will utilize the new system, offered by Foundant Technologies.

Wilkins said he and NCCF's staff are excited about the new system. "Foundant is used by more than 600 grantmaking organizations across the country, and many of these are community foundations," he said. "This program receives consistently high marks for ease of use and dependability among all key users, and for NCCF that includes grant applicants, grant reviewers and of course staff."

NCCF has utilized an online grants system for all community and women's grantmaking programs since February 2011, so the concept will not be new to most applicants or reviewers. The move to an online grants system three plus years ago was made with the intent to reduce time, paperwork and expense for nonprofit applicants, boards and

NCCF alike. In addition to the goal to save resources and time, the move online was also made with environmental stewardship in mind. NCCF typically processes about 1,000 grant applications through the affiliate and women's giving grants programs every year.

NCCF constantly monitors our use of technology to ensure that we continue to meet our goals and our constituents' needs, Wilkins said. The grantmaking process is no exception, according to Leslie Ann Jackson, director of grants and scholarships. "We have learned a lot in the years since launching an online grants system, and we look forward to applying those lessons as we implement a new system," she said. "We are pleased to move forward with a company that has a solid reputation for customer service, which is always a priority for NCCF," she added.

NCCF will provide updated training materials for grant applicants and reviewers. Materials and the online portal will continue to be available on NCCF's website, and many of NCCF's regions will



D'Wayne Wilkins, IT manager, and Leslie Ann Jackson, director of grants and scholarships, discuss the new Foundant online grants system.

conduct online training during grantseeker workshops. Staff also will be available to help answer any questions about the new system.

State of Generosity™

A sample of Foundation news about people and events across North Carolina

Disaster Relief Fund reactivated

NCCF's grants committee moved to reactivate its statewide Disaster Relief Fund to support relief efforts related to the April tornadoes in eastern North Carolina. The fund will support nonprofits helping tornado victims in Beaufort, Chowan, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties, all served by NCCF affiliates, which as of press time were in the process of identifying local nonprofit agencies best suited to help victims in their respective areas. Sally Migliore, director of community leadership, said that NCCF's disaster relief program was primarily designed to meet mid- to long-term needs that have not been addressed in an area after a weather calamity hits. "Our grants generally don't support agencies considered first-responders if they have access to other funding sources," she said. "Our affiliate board members help gather critical information about how to best fund unmet needs in their local communities." No portion of the NCCF's Disaster Relief Fund is used for the Foundation's administrative or operational expenses, which we also encourage among local recipient agencies.



Some of the destruction in Beaufort County, one of four counties in the northeastern corner of our state severely damaged by damaged by tornadoes.

NCCF again tapped to administer Duke Energy grants

Duke Energy has extended its commitment to the Community College Grant Program that funds workforce training initiatives designed to support the state's industrial recruitment and retention efforts. NCCF is honored to continue its role as the grants administrator, which awards grants up to \$250,000 to North Carolina community and technical colleges in Duke Energy's service area.

Duke Energy announced last year that it would invest \$6.7 million in grants to support the state's community colleges for programs that provide training for manufacturing and related industries served by Duke Energy or for sectors aligned with its economic development focus areas. NCCF has helped to administer a portion of that grant funding over the past year.

"We are honored to help administer these important grants for Duke Energy," said NCCF CEO Jennifer Tolle Whiteside. "The workforce training programs that these impact grants fund are key to our state's economic development efforts and also support our stellar community college system."

Grants are selected by a committee representing the NC Department of Commerce, NC Community College System and Duke Energy. For details on eligibility and deadlines visit nccommunityfoundation.org.

NCCF also helped to distribute \$5.2 million in Duke Energy grants to municipalities to provide energy assistance to low-income residents this past winter.

CEO receives statewide award from NC's GFWC



Jennifer Tolle Whiteside (center) received one of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of NC's statewide Women of Achievement Awards, created to honor outstanding contributions in their field and in community service. Jennifer was one of 14 women honored at a special banquet in April. On the left is Juanita Bryant, award creator, and to the right is Wendy Carriker, the GFWC's immediate past president in NC.

The West

Regional Associate Sue LeLievre reports that her entire region is focusing on recruiting new board members, which is exciting and challenging as affiliates look to diversify rosters with new leaders. Many of the boards in this region are also conducting strategic planning. The harsh winter meant that several events were cancelled in the west, which could have left a hole in fundraising were it not for affiliate boards' plans to focus development energies on this fall's Chairman's Challenge (see story on page 5). New women's giving programs are being explored in both **Macon** and **Jackson counties**. And the annual Swain United Gift Fund reaped an impressive \$43,000 for local nonprofits. The **Swain County Community Foundation** is exploring ways that the annual fund drive can also contribute to its unrestricted fund, a permanent asset established to support nonprofits through community grantmaking.



Members of the board of the Madison County Community Foundation gathered to plan grant presentations. L-R are: Gerald Cody, Larry Peek, Donna Kull, Jane Renfroe and Larry Burda.

The Northwest

Regional Associate John Francis and new Regional Development Officer Megan Lynch Ellis are busy meeting with all affiliate board chairs to discuss donor prospects and existing endowments. A fund held with the **Ashe County Community Foundation**, the Beaver Creek High School Memorial Scholarship, just celebrated two milestones: graduating its very first scholar and receiving a sizable anonymous donation. (Visit our website to meet Holly Stephens, UNC Class of '14!) Another milestone was marked by the **Watauga County Community Foundation**, which celebrated its 20th anniversary last fall. Strong leadership is the hallmark of this successful affiliate; read more on page 2 about its award-winning President Bettie Bond. The **Catawba Valley Community Foundation** enjoyed positive press about its impact on the community

over the years. Since 1997, this affiliate has distributed more than \$6 million in grants and scholarships. The Unifour Fund extends the grant impact in this region greatly, awarding about \$220,000 annually and recently reached the \$3 million milestone in grantmaking. The **Yadkin County Community Foundation**, one of last year's Chairman's Challenge top producers, has challenged itself to significantly grow its community grantmaking fund and surpass the \$100,000 threshold by year-end. **Wilkes County Community Foundation** is working on raising awareness through personal grant presentations. This affiliate sponsors a very strong **Youth in Philanthropy** initiative. Local grantmaking through the **Alleghany Community Foundation** is benefitting from a partnership with High Meadows Country Club, which donates proceeds from its annual pro-am golf tournament to the affiliate's unrestricted fund.



Members of the Wilkes Community Foundation board present a grant to the Yadkin River Greenway. Left, Terrie Stackhouse, affiliate president, presents the check to RG Absher, Greenway executive director. Also photographed L-R: Dennis Huggins, Bill Harris, Dan Pardue, Jessica George, Jerry Smithey, NCCF Regional Associate John Francis and Graham Wyche.

The Northern Piedmont

Regional Associate Katie Crumpler reports that the board of the **Cary Community Foundation** will be launching a Small Gifts Campaign designed to generate awareness through requests for accessible contributions to their local Grantmaking Endowment. The program will consist of neighborhood canvassing, direct mail and email-based fundraising. Professional advisor events have been sponsored by several affiliates in this region over the past year, including a gathering held at the home of former NCCF Board Chair James Narron by the **Johnston County Community Foundation** and a **Wake County Community Foundation** breakfast that featured current NCCF Board Chair Stuart Dorsett as a speaker. The **Franklin County Community Foundation** elected to sponsor an innovative mini-grants program for local schools that encouraged creativity in effective teaching. All public school teachers and support personnel in grades pre-K through 12 were eligible to apply for grants for classroom projects or enrichment programs.



Stuart Dorsett, NCCF board chair, left, was the featured guest at a professional advisors breakfast hosted by the Wake County Community Foundation.

State of Generosity™

A sample of Foundation news about people and events across North Carolina

The Sandhills

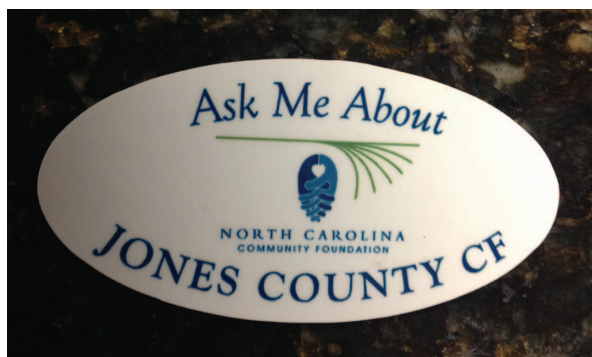
Many recent activities in this region have been focused on donor engagement, with fundholders invited to social and grant presentation events that usually include professional advisors as well. Regional Associate Mary Anne Howard said a good example of that was the recent **Harnett County Community Foundation's** donor appreciation reception, where Jim Black of the NCCF board spoke to guests. Community leadership has been another hallmark of the region, with the **Hoke County Community Foundation's** multi-year focus on raising awareness about the area's alarming incidence of diabetes now transitioning to the medical community for solutions. **Lee County Community Foundation's** Man and Woman of the Year is one of the region's signature events, with this year's celebration drawing a record turnout and raising important resources for the local community grantmaking fund. The **Rockingham County Community Foundation** created a new mini-grants program to honor student volunteerism among the area's high schools. (Visit our website's home page to learn more about this program).



The Lee County Community Foundation presented this year's Man and Woman of the Year award for outstanding community service to Ted Lanier (left) and Helen Hincks. Also photographed is Howard Bokhoven, board president.

The Coastal Plain South

Site visits have been the hallmark of the **Craven County Community Foundation's** board of advisors, who have personally visited 26 nonprofits that receive the affiliate's funding. Regional Associate Kim Ball said that this engaged board also adopted a Day of Service in New Bern and volunteered to make phone calls during Public Radio East's membership drive. **Carteret Community Foundation** sponsored its 28th annual golf tournament to raise money for its local grantmaking fund, with record participants and sponsors enjoying this longstanding event. Carteret and the **Greene County Community Foundation** have added new leadership to their boards. The **Jones County Community Foundation** board is aggressively seeking new endowments and has adopted a novel way to raise awareness, creating buttons that say: "Ask Me About the Jones County Community Foundation" for board members to wear.



Be sure to ask Jones County Community Foundation board members about their work!



Members of the board of the Craven County Community Foundation volunteered for a day of service, helping out with a membership drive for Public Radio East.

The Coastal Plain North

Important community leadership work is underway in Rocky Mount, where the **Futrell-Mauldin Community Foundation** and Regional Associate Kelly Lee were asked to convene a group to help address the growing problem of gang violence. The Gang Prevention Focus Group is just getting started, with representation from the judicial system, local schools, faith-based organizations, youth-focused nonprofits and other foundations coming together to identify resources and seek solutions. NCCF and **Futrell-Mauldin** joined the United Way and other sponsors to convene participants from 45 local nonprofits in Nash and Edgecombe counties for a first annual capacity-building summit. Speakers of national renown addressed topics chosen by 100 plus participants to help them strengthen their work. (Visit our website, Futrell-Mauldin page, for a complete list of sponsors and speakers.) The **Wilson County Community Foundation** is exploring partnerships with farmers and other organizations to address the food challenge of getting fresh produce to all facets of the community, particularly shelters.



The Futrell-Mauldin Community Foundation was honored to serve as a sponsor of the first capacity-building forum for nonprofits in Nash and Edgecombe counties.

The Northeast

April tornadoes wreaked havoc on four counties in this region, and affiliate boards are in the process of allocating grants to programs that will help victims with unmet needs, according to Regional Associate Natalie Jenkins Peel. (See NCCF Disaster Relief story on page 3 for details.) The **Northern Albemarle Community Foundation** has been busy creating a financial literacy program aimed at elementary through high school students and is collaborating on this initiative with other nonprofits in the area, including Americorps Youth Build and Girls Inc. One of the region's signature events is the Duck & Wine Festival, sponsored by the **Currituck-Dare Community Foundation**. This

event sells out every year and earns valuable money for local grantmaking. This year's sixth annual event in Duck brought in about \$20,000 for local nonprofits. The board of the **Bertie-Hertford Community Foundation** was asked to provide input to the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, which is preparing an economic development plan for Bertie County.



We are honored to administer 130 active scholarships across the state, including many in the northeastern region. One held by the Northern Albemarle Community Foundation for students in this area is the Elizabeth City Jaycees Scholarship, which was awarded to Valedictorian T'Keyah Johnson of Northeastern High School in Elizabeth City. T'Keyah, (right) will attend High Point University this fall. She is pictured here with Natalie Jenkins Peel, NCCF regional associate.

The Southeast

Patricia Lawler, regional associate, sees an increasing number of affiliate advisory boards in her region devoting community grantmaking dollars to building capacity among local nonprofits. This has long been a signature of local grantmaking through the **Onslow Caring Communities Foundation**, which has supported nonprofit workshops through the City of Jacksonville. **New Hanover County Community Foundation** also sees the value of leveraging capacity among local nonprofits, and the **Robeson County Community Foundation** advisory board is discussing how they can use grants to strategically build the sector. Robeson is famous for its annual "no show" Phantom Ball that earns dollars for its community grantmaking efforts. Duplin County's annual Sheriff's Ball encourages attendance at an event that is building the **Duplin Foundation for Youth Advancement**. This critical endowment typically awards about \$30,000 annually to programs that benefit the area's children and youth. Advisory boards in the southeast region are focusing on nonprofit site visits and building awareness by personally delivering grant checks, an activity that provides education about programs funded and garners valuable publicity for their efforts.



Students from Rose Hill-Magnolia Elementary enjoyed an overnight outing to the Don Lee Center at Minnosott Beach funded through a grant from the Duplin Foundation for Youth Advancement.

Local grantmaking fund: an important tool for your community

Will get boost via second Chairman’s Challenge

Last summer’s Chairman’s Challenge that raised resources for affiliate grantmaking was such a success that NCCF has decided to launch another campaign in November.

The 2013 fund-raising campaign garnered contributions from across the state and featured a special match from an anonymous donor. The result was nearly \$170,000 proportionately divided among participating affiliates, which brought a healthy boost to their local grantmaking endowments.

Results not only enhanced existing grantmaking activities among affiliates, but also meant new capabilities for some of our foundation partners. The Chowan Community Funds Foundation, for example, is using its Chairman’s Challenge proceeds from 2013 to transform a gift fund to the affiliate’s community grantmaking endowment. The Martin County Community Foundation was able to make its very first local grant this year from its affiliate’s unrestricted endowment, a direct result of the contribution received from last year’s campaign.

Details for 2014’s version of the Chairman’s Challenge will be announced soon, according to Beth Boney Jenkins, NCCF vice president for development. “We anticipate that the framework of the campaign will be very similar to last year,” she said.



Participating affiliate boards mounted letter-writing campaigns in 2013 to encourage gifts. NCCF provided several suggested letter templates for the boards to use. NCCF also developed and widely distributed an e-blast encouraging gifts to the campaign and utilized website and social media to promote the fund-raising effort. In addition, donations to the campaign were made by members of NCCF’s statewide board and other friends of the Foundation.

A snapshot of last year:

- Total number of gifts: 413
- Every NCCF region had participating affiliates
- The Western and Sandhills regions had the most affiliates involved
- The Sandhills region had every affiliate participate

Top five performing affiliates:

1. Onslow
2. Wake
3. Montgomery
4. Yadkin
5. Moore

NCCF Board Chair Stuart Dorsett said the Foundation is excited about providing the framework and support for another statewide fundraising campaign this year. “The Chairman’s Challenge is all about building permanent assets for our local communities throughout North Carolina,” he said. “This is the very essence of our value.”

If you’re interested in making a donation to the Chairman’s Challenge match, please make a gift online at nccommunityfoundation.org, where there also is information about making a credit card contribution. Or you may mail a check to NCCF at 4601 Six Forks Road, Suite 524, Raleigh, NC 27609, noting Chairman’s Challenge Match in the memo line.

Community foundations provide an edge for creating a donor advised fund

As we celebrate 100 years of community foundations in the United States (*see Jennifer Tolle Whiteside’s column on page 2*), it’s appropriate to highlight one of the sector’s most long-standing giving vehicles: the donor advised fund or DAF.

Did you know that DAFs were invented by community foundations? The earliest donor advised funds were established in 1931 by the New York Community Trust, with North Carolina’s own Winston-Salem Foundation not far behind in 1935.

More than eight decades of fine-tuning the DAF have allowed community foundations to develop a second-to-none expertise that other institutions offering similarly structured vehicles can never hope to achieve.

A key distinguishing factor that differentiates community foundations from other options is the high degree of personalized services provided to donors. These services, combined with the hallmarks of a community foundation (grantmaking skills and local expertise stemming from deep community knowledge) ensure that donors will receive the maximum benefit and impact with their philanthropic dollars.

What are the unique capabilities that community foundations bring to the table? We can customize a tailored giving plan to help donors achieve their philanthropic objectives in many ways that include:

- Assisting donors in identifying priority needs in their areas of interest. Our deep knowledge of the communities we serve and connections to local organizations are unmatched.
- Researching grant opportunities for donors while preserving their anonymity.
- Providing connections to other donors who may share the same giving interests, enabling each donor to achieve a broader impact by leveraging resources.
- Coordinating reports on grant impact and arranging site visits to ensure philanthropic dollars are well-used.

The family and future advantages

By endowing a DAF, the donor receives an immediate tax deduction and has the satisfaction of supporting favorite charitable causes in perpetuity. Many donors choose to involve their families in the decision-making process for grants, which encourages a tradition of family philanthropy across generations. The staff of NCCF is well-versed in supporting family philanthropy and in customizing a multi-generational giving vehicle for this purpose.

Ability to work with gifts of all shapes and sizes

An important service of community foundations is our ability to accept gifts of various sizes and types. Nearly every type of gift, including gifts of real property, closely held stock, plus many planned giving vehicles can be accommodated through NCCF.

The community foundation difference

In the past few years, the number of institutions offering donor advised funds has proliferated considerably. Many of these – especially those offered through commercial institutions – offer nothing more than a transaction-based process for distributing charitable checks.

True philanthropy, on the other hand, is a more substantive, deeply engaging and inherently personal undertaking. NCCF or the community foundation you choose will work with you to understand your needs and unique aspirations for your fund so we may help you achieve these.

All other things being the same, why wouldn’t you choose the community foundation?

By Beth Boney Jenkins, NCCF vice president, Development. To set up a donor advised fund or learn more about a DAF, email Beth at bjenkins@nccommunityfoundation.org or call her at 919-828-4387.

Collective giving

Continued from page 1

write a big enough check to make an impact,” she said. “Our collective giving lets us do that.” She also said she liked the “hands-on” nature of a local giving circle. “We know where our grants are going,” she said. “And we keep a good eye on the recipients and applicants.”

A secondary benefit to joining the group for Richman (and she believes for many members) is the opportunity to meet and get to know “like-minded” women. “This is an utterly fascinating group, and all with very diverse backgrounds,” she said. “We learn from each other.”

In addition to the programs in Wake and New Hanover counties, other local groups supported by NCCF include the **Bertie-Hertford Women’s Fund**; the **Women Givers of Northeast North Carolina**, which serves Camden, Gates, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties; the **Currituck-Dare Woman’s Fund**; the

Women Givers of Nash-Rocky Mount; The **Art of Giving (TAG)**, a collective of Triangle women sponsored in conjunction with the Triangle Community Foundation; and the **Cary Women’s Giving Network**. **Moore Women: A Giving Network** is getting started in the Sandhills area, and additional giving groups are in the planning stages, including a couple in NCCF’s western region.

Total gifts granted to local communities by NCCF’s women’s giving programs and the statewide fund totaled \$180,700 last fiscal year. “This is an amazing amount,” said NCCF CEO Jennifer Tolle Whiteside, who has the opportunity to view both collective giving and women’s philanthropy from many perspectives. She has been personally associated with several of NCCF’s programs, facilitates the grants process for the Statewide Women’s Fund and also meets with and speaks to women’s giving groups across the state. “I am so excited about what women’s philanthropy is contributing to North Carolina,” she said. “These giving programs are generating grants that are, in many cases, transforming communities through the power of local leadership and collective giving.”

Blueprint for success

Continued from page 1

of the Hoke County Community Foundation board who represents the Sandhills region on the Affiliate Impact Committee.

This next level of board conversations will commence later this summer and fall, as NCCF hosts our third annual regional Affiliate Forums in both the west and eastern parts of our state. Migliore says the Affiliate Impact Committee’s goal is to have a “final blueprint” ready for implementation at the start of 2015.

The blueprint essentially will help NCCF and our network board members define our vision for affiliates and the steps necessary to make that vision a reality. “We’ll be a lot closer to being able to define what success looks like for all of our affiliates and develop a tailored, prioritized plan for each one that accounts for where they are in the journey,” Migliore said. She noted that affiliate board members will have an opportunity to review details about the plan before it is rolled out.

Linda Staunch has been impressed with the level of input that the process has incorporated at every step. Her involvement reflects several perspectives as a committee participant representing both the statewide board and also the Coastal Plain South through her board membership on the Craven County Community Foundation. “None of this work has been created in a vacuum,” she said, noting that it began with the Listening Tours, continued at the Affiliate Forum and also fueled board discussions. “What is so gratifying is that this has evolved into a truly collective effort for thinking about how we can work together to maximize the Foundation’s impact across the state.”

Affiliate Impact Committee members:

- Coastal Plains North Region** - Brack Townsend, board, Futrell-Mauldin Community Foundation for Greater Rocky Mount
- Coastal Plains South Region** - Linda Staunch, board, NCCF and Craven County Community Foundation
- Northeastern Region** - Laura Beasley, board, NCCF and president, Bertie-Hertford Community Foundation
- Northern Piedmont** - Natalie Rose, immediate past president, Wake County Community Foundation
- Northwestern Region** - Bonnie Lasky, grants committee chair, Yadkin County Community Foundation
- Sandhills Region** - Jeff McNeill, board, Hoke County Community Foundation
- Southeastern Region** - Steve Wangerin, president, Onslow Caring Communities Foundation
- Western Region** - Gary Lance, president, Haywood County Community Foundation
- Staff** - Sally Migliore, director of Community Leadership Team; Peggy Birkemeier, retired senior regional associate, Northeastern Region; Patricia Lawler, regional associate, Southeastern Region; Sue LeLievre, regional associate, Western Region

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If you would like to make a contribution to the North Carolina Community Foundation or one of our funds, you may make your gift online at nccommunityfoundation.org, or download a form and mail your check or credit card information or submit your credit card information via fax at 919-828-5495.

While on our website, we invite you to review our list of funds if you are looking for the right recipient for your charitable objectives, a meaningful tribute, memorial or anniversary or birthday gift.

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Visit nccommunityfoundation.org and click on **Affiliates** to use an online statewide map to locate affiliate foundations in 67 counties across North Carolina.

