# Community



**SUMMER 2022** 

# **Truliant Foundation** Making a Difference



In a show of commitment to the community and social **JEIANT** responsbility to give back to the neighbors it serves, Truliant

Federal Credit Union launched the Truliant Foundation in 2021 as a way to further support organizations who align with Truliant's mission and philanthropic focus areas, while also addressing community needs.

Since its inception, the Foundation is having an big impact and continues to empower Truliant's community partners working to enhance the quality of life for our members and employees.

To date, the Foundation has:

- Supported more than 68 community organizations and schools;
- Awarded 18 scholarships for high school students entering college this fall, and
- Distributed more than \$33,000 from Foundation's Employee Relief Fund, which was also launched as the first new program of the Foundation.

"When my husband was diagnosed with cancer, it was detrimental to the whole family and brought numerous medical bills we did not expect," said one Truliant employee who recently received support from the Fund. "The Foundation's support brought us such a relief, and enabled us to move forward. My family and I are very grateful and the assistance truly made a difference."



The Foundation has also continued investing in grassroots nonprofit organizations working to improve communities where members live and work. Recently, the Truliant Foundation made a significant contribution to The Males Place, a Charlotte nonprofit that provides prevention-based educational programming, mentoring and life skills training for young African American men ages 12-18. The gift supports The Males Place's mentorship program, which includes engaging the young men in developing and managing a community garden at Fred Alexander Park in Charlotte.

"The Males Place mentorship program works to grow more than plants – We're growing men. We want to ensure that participants in our program grow up to be producers and not just consumers," said Reggie Singleton, the founder and executive director of The Males Place.

For more information about The Males Place, visit www.themalesplace.org. To learn more about the Employee Relief Fund and to contribute, visit www.truliant.org/employeerelief.

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- Truliant employee

# **Community Development**

Supporting organizations that cultivate relationships, social responsibility, civic engagement and collaboration in the community.

#### **Truliant Celebrates Juneteenth and Pride Month**

Truliant acknowledges and honors the resilience of our LGBTQ+ employees and community members who are empowered to live authentically and freely. In celebration of their resolve, Truliant sponsored and hosted several events to promote our belief that LGBTQ+ rights are human rights and we are committed to creating a safe and inclusive work environment for all.



Truliant employees celebrated the Black Pride Unity March and Festival with community members and the Upstate Pride SC nonprofit in Greenville, SC.



Truliant employees also celebrated Pride Day (June 28) by wearing colored business attire in recognition of the rainbow flag, introduced in 1978 as a symbol of the LBGTQ+ community.

As an organization, Truliant acknowledges the significance of Juneteenth and the lived experiences of many of our employees and community members who lie at the center of conversations about freedom, its meaning and manifestation in the United States. Truliant officially added Juneteenth as a corporate holiday in 2021 and is proud to sponsor several events again this year to support Juneteenth National Independence Day.



In recognition of Juneteenth, Truliant was proud to sponsor Triad Cultural Arts' Juneteenth Festival in Winston-Salem.



Truliant sponsored the **Juneteenth** Festival of the Carolinas in Charlotte, and event marking it's 25th anniversary in honoring and cultivating the true spirit of freedom.



Employees were invited to wear traditional attire from their native African countries to honor the significance of Heritage Day, an opportunity to honor the history and significance of Juneteenth.

# **Economic Mobility**

Strengthing organizations that build fianancial stability and social prosperity for individuals and their families.



Located in northern Greenville County, SC, Foothills Family Resources (FFR) is the sole provider of resources to under-

served "special emphasis neighborhoods" where generational poverty and high employment are the norm. The Truliant Foundation's investment in the FFR's Center for Working Families will help the organization work with local manufacturers to identify and address professional skill development and vocational training for 25 adults.



Near Radford, Literacy Volunteers of New River Valley work with adults in rural Virginia on

literacy and digital literacy skills for employment. Funds from the Truliant Foundation support the Skill Up NRV! program, which helps adults achieve basic skills so they can overcome barriers to employment in the region.



**Open Door Ministries** in High Point is partnering with the Guilford Technical Community College Quick Careers program, so its homeless men in High Point can learn new skills to assist them in obtaining employment. GTCC is also working with Open Door Ministries to

offer job placement for the residents enrolled in this unique program, supported by the Truliant Foundation.

In Winston-Salem's Boston-Thurmond neighborhood, **My FACE** is a nonprofit working to increase economic mobility for low-income, single mothers. Participants are partnered with mentors who have shared similar experiences and the matches work together on respect, trust, problem solving and other crucial skills. The Truliant Foundation's gift this Spring allows My FACE to expand the number of mentors in its program.



Truliant sponsored the **2022 NC-SC Historically Black College and University (HBCU) All Star Game** at the Greensboro Coliseum this spring. As part of the partnership, Truliant's Friendly Center Manager, Petra Monson, worked with Kids Poetry Basketball's executive director Clement Mallory to distribute 100 free tickets to low-income students in Guilford County to attend the match up.

**Kids Poetry Basketball** is a unique program that strengthens creative and critical thinking skills through basketball. In recent years, Truliant has also sponsored the organization's Youth Poetry Festival every August. "Since 2019...Truliant has been supporting the program so we can present the program for free to a lot of at-risk youth in Greensboro," said Clement Mallory, executive director of Kids Poetry Basketball. This year's festival will include music, poetry, dance and basketball activities. Kids Poetry Basketball will also distribute free school supplies at the festival.

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- Clement Mallory

#### **Youth & Education**

Supporting organizations that provide transformational education and programming for middle and high school students and teachers.



In the Spring, the Truliant Foundation partnered with **Communities in Schools** in High Point to support their mission to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve life. For every new member who joined Truliant at its North Main Street High Point location, the Truliant Foundation made a donation to support Communities in Schools. The partnership was celebrated at a ribbon cutting this May which included employees from Truliant, Communities in Schools and the Business High Point Chamber of Commerce.



Winston-Salem Town Councilwoman Annette Scippio recently visited Truliant's headquarters in Winston-Salem to learn about Truliant's diversity efforts, expansion and renovation plans and to celebrate a partnership with the Truliant Foundation. As part of Teacher Appreciation Week in May, the Truliant Foundation joined other businesses in providing funds to assist Scippio and her team in feeding teachers and staff at all 10 schools in the East Ward, as a thank you for their leadership in the classroom.

Fred J. Sarda scholarship recipients are listed below. The asterisk (\*) indicates the 2022 Clyde Padgett scholarship recipient.



Lindsay Bean UNC Chapel Hill

Jasmine Bell NC A&T State University

Delaney Brandt Clemson University

Ivey Broadnax\* NC A&T State University

Sara Ashley Green UNC Chapel Hill Aubrey Hoppe University of South Carolina Hannah Jenkins

Appalachian State University Shane LaRue NC State University Shania LeGrand Forsyth Technical Comm. College Katherine Li

Northwestern University

Delbee Martin Boston University Samantha May UNC Greensboro Marissa Maynard NC State University Olivia McKnight Liberty University **Tyler Quinn** Louisburg College

Isaac Schramm Western Carolina University

Adriana Thompson University of Mary Washington

Dorian Varney UNC Chapel Hill

To learn more about the different types of scholarships, visit truliant.org/foundation.

## **Financial Wellness**

Assisting organizations that promote and improve financial inclusion and financial literacy.

To celebrate Financial Education Month in April, Truliant partnered with **WYTV7 Community Broadcaster Network** in Charlotte for their "Financially Fit and Lit" Expo at South Mecklenburg High School. Gustavo Del Pozo (in yellow at right) and his teammates from Truliant's Park Road Charlotte location talked with teens about their overall financial health, how to begin saving and how to use credit.

In June, Truliant Community Engagement Lead, Toya Bailey, introduced teens to the basics of credit in a workshop with **Peace4Poverty**. Peace4Poverty's Next Great 50 program brings in local financial leaders to encourage teens to examine entrepreneurship, business and empowerment.





In the Upstate, staff at the **Greenville Financial Empowerment Centers** provide one-on-one financial counseling to more than 600 individuals annually. 89 percent of the participants served at the centers earn less than 80 percent of the area median income. This spring, the Truliant Foundation approved a charitable gift to support additional training for staff so the centers can reach more individuals.

## Recognition



Rik Kielbasa has joined the board of **Financial Pathways of the Piedmont**, an organization dedicated to providing services and resource to help indivi-

duals achieve financial wellbeing. Kielbasa serves as Truliant's Chief Compliance Officer and has volunteered his time with the nonprofit in prior years.



Brittany Linville recently graduated from Leadership High Point, a program offered by Business High Point to transform activity engaged citizens

into community champions and Chamber ambassadors. Linville is the manager of Truliant's North Main Street location in High Point.

#### #trucommunity

The mission of Truliant Federal Credit Union is to improve lives by putting our members first, providing great service and straightforward financial solutions. To learn more about Truliant Federal Credit Union's community engagement program, or to apply for a grant, sponsorship, charitable contribution, or to make a contribution to the Truliant Foundation please visit www.truliant.org/community or send an email to community@truliantfcu.org.

