



## Letter from the President & CEO

### Dear Members of the New Hanover County Community,

As we reflect on this past snowy quarter, I'm excited to share insights into our most impactful initiative so far this year: our support and funding of the North Carolina Aquarium Society, providing essential funding for the expansion of the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. This investment represents not only a commitment to environmental stewardship but a powerful engine for local economic growth.



Aquariums serve as vital educational institutions, inspiring curiosity and conservation among visitors of all ages. But beyond their cultural and ecological value, they also drive measurable economic benefits. The North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher attracts more than 500,000 visitors annually, generating more than \$500 million in direct spending in New Hanover County since 2015 through job creation, tourism, and business activity.

The Aquarium has become a hub for marine research and STEM education, partnering with New Hanover County schools to share the learning and joy of marine science with more than 5,000 K 12 students. These collaborations not only enrich our community but also position us as leaders in sustainable innovation.

Supporting the Aquarium aligns with our broader vision of responsible investment that magnifies our grant investment to yield a more valuable asset for county residents. This grant also serves as an example of the Endowment's preference for late-stage funding to ensure that envisioned projects become reality. As we move forward, we remain committed to projects that advance our four pillars of education, community development, health and social equity, and community safety.



Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

In service,

**Dan Winslow**President and CEO



spaces to maximize service to New Hanover County teachers and students as part of the expansion and renovation of the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. The project includes new classrooms, space for live animal encounters, an outdoor classroom, a new deck walkway to the marsh for experiential learning, and an entry pavilion to provide a secure entrance for student groups.







### 2023-2024 Grants Paid in Q1 2025

#### Jo Ann Carter Harrelson Center Inc



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: COMMUNITY SAFETY** 2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$526,276.67

The grant supports the creation of a Community Justice Center (CJC), which will be housed at the Harrelson Center, that will end the generational cycle of violence through early intervention, education, and prevention. The CJC's multidisciplinary team of approximately two dozen professionals will include prosecutors, law enforcement, and direct service providers who will work to solve, prove, and prevent crime; support victims in achieving safety, stability, and self-sufficiency; provide mental health services and rehabilitation to reduce recidivism and improve community safety. The CJC will be open 24 hours a day.

#### **DREAMS** Center for Arts Education



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: COMMUNITY SAFETY** 2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$397,887.00

This grant supports efforts to continue providing high-quality programming and expand outreach, serving an even greater number of the community's most high-needs youth. The grant will expand DREAMS visual arts apprenticeship program.

#### Communities in Schools of Cape Fear



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: COMMUNITY SAFETY** 2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$932,213.00

Funding will support the expansion of the Freedom School program to serve 100 additional students. This 6-week, literacy-based summer program increases reading skills and promotes social justice through culturally relevant, engaging activities and age-appropriate books.

#### YWCA Lower Cape Fear



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: EDUCATION** 

2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$934,937.00

Schools in Pools Funding will support the YMCA's expansion of Schools in Pools, a program providing life-saving swim lessons to New Hanover County second graders. In partnership with others, the initiative aims to overcome financial, social, and environmental barriers, equipping over 2,000 second graders with essential water safety and swim skills by 2026.

#### **SmartStart of New Hanover County**



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: EDUCATION** 

2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$219,532.20

This grant supports two family strengthening programs. Circle of Parents (a peer support group) and Kaleidoscope Play & Learn groups. Both are designed to help parents and other child caregivers to become better equipped to support their children's early learning and development.

#### **GLOW Academy**



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: EDUCATION** 

2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$1,101,666.67

This grant supports compensation for skilled staff, office expenses to manage administrative tasks, occupancy costs to maintain a safe and conducive learning environment, capital expenditures for building repairs, equipment maintenance, and capital reserves. Additionally, a significant portion of the budget is allocated to subsidize financial aid for families in need and to invest in professional development to enhance the quality of education provided.

#### Cape Fear Clinic, Inc



**GRANT CYCLE: 2023 PILLAR: SOCIAL AND HEALTH EQUITY** 2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$400,000.00

This grant supports Cape Fear Clinic (CFC) providing healthcare

services to clients of The Healing Place, Good Shepherd Center, LINC, and A Safe Place. Treatment will occur at the partner agencies' locations as well as enroll all eligible individuals as medical home patients at CFC, enabling them to receive care at our campus and get all required medications through its full-service pharmacy.

#### **Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas**



**GRANT CYCLE: 2024** 

**PILLAR: SOCIAL AND HEALTH EQUITY** 2025 Q1 DRAWDOWN: \$60,000.00

Childhood Cancer Safety Net Funding will support CCP's financial assistance and family support services, helping children from rural or low-income families in New Hanover County access timely pediatric cancer care.

2025 Q1: DRAWDOWNS

## Capacity Grants

Application Period: March 3 - April 4, 2025

Supporting initiatives like tech and software licenses, conference fees, professional development, memberships, strategic planning, internships, externships, and grant writing.

The Capacity Grants Program helps organizations invest in their long-term success. Organizations can strengthen their internal structures through strategic planning, professional and leadership development, board development, financial stability initiatives, research and program evaluation, and data organization.





## Community Grants

Application Period: March 3 - April 4, 2025

Supporting initiatives like summer programs, after-school activities, school supplies, arts programs, and community beautification efforts to bring impactful ideas to life.

The Community Grants Program supports programs, services, and initiatives to create positive outcomes for individuals and families in New Hanover County.

- Technical Assistance office hours were provided during the application period via text, Zoom, and phone calls.
- Grant award announcements will be made on our around May 28, 2025.

## New Hires & Promotions



**TYLER NEWMAN** VP, External Affairs Hired: 3/24/25



**KATHLEEN SALDIVAR**Grants Technology
& Operations Manager
Hired: 3/10/25



CHRISTINE TOBIAS
Chief People Officer
Hired: 2/3/25



**EMILY PAGE**VP, Research & Impact
Promoted: 2/3/25



**SOPHIE DAGENAIS**VP, Programs & Grants
Hired: 1/27/25



**AMBER ROGERSON**Communication Director
Hired: 1/13/25



**EILEEN O'MALLEY**Chief Marketing Officer
Promotion: 1/8/25



**CRYSTAL COOPER**Controller
Hired: 1/1/25

# New Strategies for Nonprofit Growth featuring Johnny Quinn

In partnership with the **Wilmington Chamber of Commerce**, we invited New Hanover County nonprofits to a special event designed to create connection, learning, and growth among local nonprofit leaders. Attendees had the opportunity to hear from Johnny Quinn, U.S. Olympian and former NFL player, who shared powerful strategies for overcoming challenges, encouraging innovation, and amplifying mission impact.







## SPONSORED EVENT WITH WILMINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### 158th Annual Meeting

The Endowment was a sponsor for the **Wilmington Chamber of Commerce's** 158th Annual Meeting. Five hundred leaders gathered for the event at the Wilmington Convention Center. The New Hanover Healthcare Career Partnership \$23M grant from The Endowment was highlighted, along with past Lifetime Achievement in Business awards presented to board members Jack Barto and Bill Cameron.







## SPONSORED EVENT WITH WILMINGTON BIZ

#### **Power Breakfast**

The Endowment served as a Corporate Sponsor for the **Wilmington Biz** February Power Breakfast Series, supporting conversations where panelists from three local companies shared how they use AI, from practical applications to groundbreaking innovations, and offered insights on approaching AI for business.











#### TOWN HALL EVENT

## **Hosted by The Arts Council** of Wilmington & NHC

We had an incredible Town Hall event at Thalian Hall Center for Performing Arts, bringing together 50 members of New Hanover County's arts community for a thoughtful discussion on the impact of the arts in the region.



A special thank you to Rhonda Bellamy, President & CEO of the Arts Council of Wilmington & NHC, for organizing, hosting, and leading the conversation, and to Dan Winslow, President & CEO of the Endowment, for an insightful Question & Answer session on arts funding and investment. The discussion also highlighted our latest Community and Capacity Grants, with applications closing on April 4.







2025 Q1: SPONSORED EVENTS

## SPONSORED EVENT WITH NC AZALEA FESTIVAL

### **Azalea Sweep**

On March 30, The Endowment kicked off the weekend with a wonderful volunteer event, joining the Azalea Sweep to help clean up Greenfield Lake in preparation for the upcoming Azalea Festival. It was a beautiful day to come together with representation from our Board, Community Advisory Council, Endowment staff, and community partners. We are grateful to the North Carolina Azalea Festival for organizing the event, Industrial Cleaning Equipment Co. for co-sponsoring with us, and the City of Wilmington for collecting all the bags of trash our group gathered. We are proud to be part of such a beautiful community, full of amazing organizations, incredible people, and, of course, azaleas!











2025 Q1: SPONSORED EVENTS

#### **New Hanover - Pender County Medical Society**

On February 4, 2025, Dan Winslow, President & CEO of The Endowment spoke to members of the New Hanover-Pender Medical **Society** and shared the mission and long-term vision of the Endowment. emphasizing our commitment to improving the health and well-being of New Hanover County residents. Attendees were invited to share ideas and explore opportunities that could lead to meaningful, communitydriven impact.













### **Boy Scouts of America**

In November 2024, Crawford Anderson, a dedicated Boy Scout from New Hanover County, attended a presentation at the Harrelson Center and later joined a public meeting in December 2024, where he connected with our President and CEO, Dan Winslow and invited him to speak with Boy Scout leaders.

On Wednesday, February 5th, 2025, our team was proud to meet with about 30 Boy Scouts of America leaders to explore grant opportunities and discuss the impactful work of The Endowment.

Thank you to **BSA Troop 26**, Scout Master Daniel Mahn, and Committee Chairman Mr. Bill Turner for your support and leadership.

#### CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

#### **Rotary Club**

This quarter, President & CEO Dan Winslow shared the mission of the Endowment with two local Rotary clubs speaking at **The Wilmington Rotary Club** at St. Mary Catholic School on February 11, and meeting with **The Wilmington East Rotary Club** at Bluewater Grill on March 31. We're grateful for the opportunity to engage with community leaders and build connections that support New Hanover County.







#### Live Oak Bank

Thank you to **Live Oak Bank** for hosting the Endowment team for a Lunch and Learn at their headquarters. We were honored to share the mission and work of The Endowment and engage in meaningful conversations with the Live Oak team. The Q&A session sparked great dialogue and highlighted a shared commitment to our community.



#### **ABOUT THE ENDOWMENT**

The New Hanover Community Endowment (The Endowment) emerged from a pivotal moment in New Hanover County's history. Established in 2020 after the transformative sale of New Hanover Regional Medical Center to the non-profit Novant Health, the Endowment is fueled by an initial \$1.3 billion investment from the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners. This visionary act created a perpetual fund to create transformative systemic change, uplifting the local economy, and enhancing the quality of life for all residents.

#### **MISSION**



To improve the health, education, safety, and economic opportunity of every person in our community.

#### **VISION**



To transform our community so all will thrive.

#### **VALUES**



Integrity, Transparency, Inclusivity, Courage, Collaboration, Accountability







