

BWF Bulletin

Burke Women's Fund (BWF)

November 2020



CFBC COVID Relief

In April, a COVID-19 Community Emergency Response Fund was created by the Community Foundation of Burke County in partnership with:

- Burke County United Way
- Camp Lake James Stewardship Fund
- Grace Episcopal Church Foundation
- Huffman-Cornwell Foundation
- Rostan Family Foundation

Through an expedited grant review process, qualified nonprofits receive funding to assist with food, shelter, medical/ mental health services, financial assistance, operating costs, personal protective equipment, and technology resources.

By the Numbers

October 31, 2020

- 51 Grants
- 26 Organizations
- \$197,043

Burke Women's Fund 2020 Grant Cycle

Thanks to our members for voting during the 2020 Grant Cycle. After awarding \$22,600 to grant applicants, \$10,870 was used for COVID-19 needs (see COVID Relief article to the right). The photo above is from the TOSS event.

Grant Recipients

- **Compassionate Hearts Clinic** ~ Women and Families – The Best Prescriptions Start at Home - \$1,800
- **Habitat for Humanity of Burke County** ~ Habitat Restore Truck - \$10,000
- **Options, Inc.** ~ Expressions of Healing - \$7,350
- **The Meeting Place One, Inc.** ~ Security Features at Emergency Shelter and Family Transitional Home - \$1,450
- **TOSS** ~ The Art of Science - \$2,000



2020 BWF Steering Committee Members

Danielle Baird, Ashley Brown, Janice Gravely, Margaret Hampson, Beth Heile, Kelle Huffman, Kerri McFalls, Lisa Miller, Anna Moose, Allison Pryor, Rosa Read, Leslie Rostan, Mary Charlotte Safford, Chair

From our BWF Chair

On behalf of the Steering Committee, I want to thank each of you for your continuing support of the Burke Women's Fund. For over eleven years, dedicated BWF members have addressed the needs of Burke County's women and families. Your financial support has provided funding for innovative and essential grants. Your feedback on grants and/or comments on the BWF Spring 2020 annual membership survey have also been helpful.

Suggestions focused on BWF grantmaking have resulted in the implementation of improvements in our processes. You provided us with contact information for potential new members and those contacts have been made. Your constructive comments have been taken into account during the strategic planning process. Finally, the 2020 membership survey showed that the largest number of new members came when a personal contact was made by a BWF member - keep up the good work!

~Mary Charlotte



You Told Us!

We mailed out a member survey this year and boy, did you respond.

Do our members support collective giving? Do our members believe they can make a greater impact as a group vs. as an individual? You bet! 75% of BWF members, who responded to the survey, have been members for at least three years. This is a strong testimony for BWF making a positive impact for Burke County women and their families.

We also found that 57% of responding members learned about BWF from a close acquaintance. 98% would recommend BWF to a friend. Therefore, sharing the great achievements of BWF with our friends is the best strategy to grow our membership and increase grant funding.

Your ideas on how to increase membership are appreciated. A new BWF overview letter and brochure was created and can be mailed to prospective members. If there is someone you know who would benefit from learning more about BWF, call the CFBC office at 828-437-7105 to request the materials be sent to them. BWF members are also available to visit organizations as guest speakers. Call the CFBC office to arrange speaking engagements.

In addition, the survey showed that the membership wants more grant updates. A majority also preferred postal mailed information. This new newsletter format begins to address that request.

Thanks again for letting us know what you want from your membership.

We are Women Making a Difference Together!!



Spread the Word

We need help spreading the word about Burke Women's Fund. Visibility Chair Beth Heile visited the Rotary Club of Valdese and the East Burke Kiwanis Club to share how BWF originated, how collective giving works,



how the BWF grant process works, and how membership occurs. The plan was to continue visiting organizations this year, but COVID-19 happened.

As groups start meeting, or continue online sessions, please consider including a BWF guest speaker for the program.



Benefits of Collective Giving:

- It allows you to leverage your individual gift for a greater impact.
- It involves you in the grantmaking process and makes you more attuned to community needs.
- It makes your charitable giving more enjoyable.
- It creates this result...

**100 Members x \$300 from each
= \$30,000 to Grant**

TOSS Carries On

TOSS, a nonprofit organization, was a grant recipient this year. Its mission is to provide arts education at an affordable rate to vulnerable populations. TOSS seeks "to alter the landscape of opportunities for those living in the rural South, by harnessing the power of creativity." They envision "a growing network of artists and students connected to the resources they need to reach their full potential physically, spiritually, and mentally, through the arts."

Kathryn Ervin, Co-Director of TOSS, Shares

"We are so incredibly grateful to the Burke Women's Fund for their grant, which enabled us to carry out student programming this summer despite the incredible barriers which arose along with COVID-19. With funds to scholarship 20 students to attend our virtual camp themed around STEAM, we had the capacity to carry out our mission to serve families in Burke County through the arts. Students picked up a kit with 6 projects, attended a virtual check-in, and attended a self-guided scavenger hunt on the greenway. None of this would have been possible without the assistance of the Women's Fund. Thank you so much!! "

Corporate Sponsor

Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge (CHSBR)

We would like to thank CHSBR for being the corporate sponsor for the Burke Women's Fund for the past two years. The organization's contribution goes to the BWF Endowment Fund (currently at \$143K) which allows us to fund grants beyond our collective giving totals, if the need arises.

Partnering with the healthcare system is an ideal match. BWF grants focus on the needs of women and their families. CHSBR focuses on women and children with the following programs:

- Lady Fair
- 5210 Wellness
- Sports Medicine
- Medical Explorers
- Eighth Grade Industry Tours
- Camp Med
- CHS Blue Ridge Scholar and Junior Scholar Program
- Vocal Lens Arts in Medicine Program
- Keys to Life Sponsorship



Burke WOMEN'S FUND

PO Box 1156
Morganton, NC

Visit us online at
www.cfburkecounty.org
Click on >DONATE NOW

\$341,954 through Collective Giving

Since organizing in 2009, grants totaling \$341,954 have been granted to projects that invest in the needs and promise of the women of Burke County and their families.

Membership: Renew or Join

Membership is just \$1 a day.

Of your \$365, \$300 goes directly to grants, \$35 to the endowment fund and \$30 to operations. Monthly payment options are available. (\$150 - for those who are 35 and younger)

BY MAIL: (Note BWF on the check)

Check Payable to:
Community Foundation of Burke County
PO Box 1156
Morganton, NC 28680-1156

ONLINE:

<http://www.cfburkecounty.org>
Click Donate Now



Still Meeting!

The fifteen members of the Burke Women's Fund Steering Committee meet the first Tuesday of each month. Historically, the group has always met in the Black & Associates Conference Room in Morganton. However, like most organizations in the COVID-19 environment, we have converted to conducting our business online!

Invite BWF to be a speaker
at your next meeting -
online or in person!