



THE SPOTLIGHT

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Coastal Credit Union Foundation

IMPACT

A SEASON OF RECOGNITION

Coastal Credit Union and the Foundation are celebrating a remarkable season of recognition. At the Carolinas Credit Union Foundation Awards Gala held in early February, we received four prestigious awards that reflect the organization's ongoing commitment to strengthening communities across North Carolina.



Award Highlights



Alphonse Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award

Coastal Credit Union received top honors for its Reality Series, an interactive program helping students build real-world financial skills.

1st Place



Dora Maxwell Social Responsibility Community Service Award

The Foundation was recognized for its partnership with Ripe For Revival, delivering fresh food and resources to communities in need.

1st Place



Louise Herring Philosophy in Action Award

Coastal Appreciation Days were honored for connecting communities with essential services and support.

Honorable Mention



Partner in Philanthropy Recognition

The Foundation was recognized for its role in launching the Credit Union Philanthropy Summit to support nonprofit leaders.



Leadership Recognition

Creighton Blackwell Inducted into AACUC Hall of Fame

Board Chair Creighton Blackwell was inducted into the African American Credit Union Coalition (AACUC) Hall of Fame for his leadership and impact on the credit union movement.

Expanding Our **IMPACT** Through Community Grants



The Coastal Credit Union Foundation is continuing its commitment to strengthening communities across North Carolina, awarding \$310,500 in first-quarter grants to 20 nonprofit organizations.

Each year, the Foundation invests in programs that improve the lives of individuals and families, and the need continues to grow. In the first grant cycle of 2026 alone, nonprofit organizations submitted more than

\$800,000 in funding requests highlighting the significant challenges facing communities across the region.

This quarter's grant recipients reflect a broad range of impact areas, including food security, financial education, workforce development, housing and community services, and youth and family support, all core priorities of the Foundation's mission.

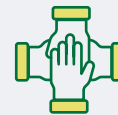
The Foundation's grant program supports organizations addressing issues such as:



Food Security



Financial Education



Workforce Development



Housing and Community Services



Youth and Family Support Programs

2026 First Quarter **GRANT RECIPIENTS**

- Haven House Services
- Triangle South Literacy Works
- Habitat for Humanity of Harnett County
- Beacon Rescue Mission
- Dunn United Ministerial Association
- Habitat for Humanity of the Sanford Area, NC
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Durham and Orange Counties
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace
- Connecting Community
- Learning Together
- The No Woman, No Girl Initiative
- Community Empowerment Fund
- Cristo Rey Research Triangle High School
- Nate McMillan Foundation
- 100 Who Give, Inc.
- The Caring Place
- Raleigh City Farm, Inc.
- Ripe For Revival
- The Raleigh Music Collective
- Wake Education Partnership (WakeEd Partnership)

These grants represent the Foundation's ongoing commitment to empowering nonprofit partners who are working every day to build stronger communities.

NOW ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS THROUGH AUGUST 2026

Nonprofits doing transformational work, this is your moment. The Coastal Credit Union Foundation is now accepting grant applications through August 2026.

Eligible organizations must be 501(c)(3) nonprofits with an active board of directors and an annual operating budget. The Foundation reviews applications three times per year, evaluating each against its funding priorities before submitting them for board approval. Each organization may submit one application per year, and applicants typically receive an update within 90 days.

Apply today and join us in creating stronger, more resilient communities across North Carolina.



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Credit Union PHILANTHROPY SUMMIT on May 19

The Credit Union Philanthropy Summit returns this year with expanded programming designed to support nonprofit leaders and strengthen community partnerships. Developed collaboratively by the Coastal, Civic, SECU, and Carolinas Credit Union Foundations, the Summit offers:



Guest Speakers and Expert Panels

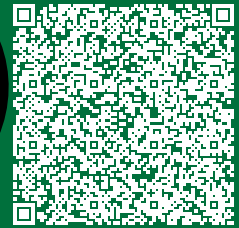
Leadership Development Sessions

Networking with Nonprofit Peers

Practical Strategies to Expand Community Impact



SCAN OR CLICK HERE



The event brings together nonprofit professionals, credit union leaders, and community advocates who share a commitment to strengthening the communities they serve. Hope to see you there!

Credit Union Volunteers **SUPPORT FUTURE CAREERS**

Coastal Credit Union employees recently partnered with the City of Raleigh Youth Programs to support a career readiness event designed to help young people prepare for the workforce.

Volunteers spent the day working with students on:

Mock interviews

*Professional presentation and
“dress for success” guidance*

Career coaching and mentorship

The program provided students with practical experience and confidence as they begin exploring future career paths. Events like this highlight how Coastal employees give back not only through financial support, but also by sharing their time, expertise, and encouragement with the next generation.



GET INVOLVED

Community Day Recap: DURHAM SOUTH SQUARE

The first Community Day event of 2026 kicked off at Coastal's Durham South Square branch on March 26, bringing together Coastal members and local nonprofit partners for an afternoon of connection and community engagement. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about local services, connect with nonprofit organizations, and discover resources available throughout the region.



Save the Date

THURSDAY
JUN 25
Community Day
Dabney Drive, Henderson

THURSDAY
AUG 20
Community Day
East Main, Carrboro

THURSDAY
SEP 17
Community Day
Creedmoor Road, Raleigh

THURSDAY
OCT 29
Community Day
North Winstead Ave., Rocky Mount



SUMMER'S BLOCKBUSTER SEQUEL THE \$2,500 TEACHER GRANT IS BACK

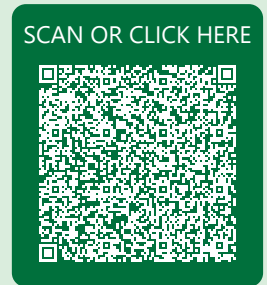
The Coastal Credit Union Foundation is offering a \$2,500 grant for NC public or private school teachers with creative ideas to teach K-12 students money skills like saving, budgeting, and credit.



To apply, submit your financial education project ideas by 5 PM on August 31.

CHAMPION FOR CHANGE

Scan the QR code and become a Champion for Change today! You don't need to be a member of Coastal Credit Union to join. Join now and you'll be eligible to vote in our 2026 Champion Choice Awards in the fall!



COASTAL24.com/Foundation