CFBC ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDENT/CEO

The Community Foundation of Burke County is honored to announce JJ Musgrove as our new President/CEO. JJ will replace Nancy Taylor, who is resigning in November from our organization after a decade of outstanding service.

Mr. Musgrove is originally from Butler, Missouri; but, he and his wife, Kate, have spent most of the past two decades in Columbus, Georgia. His work experience includes serving as the Executive Director of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. At the Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley, he was the first Director of Donor Services and then Vice President of Donor Services for that Foundation. JJ was also the Director of the Office of Cultural Affairs and later Deputy City Manager for the city of Columbia, Missouri.

JJ’s educational and professional background has centered on nonprofit administration with special emphasis in the performing arts. He holds a B.A. in Theatre from Graceland University, an M.A. in Theatre from the University of Central Missouri, and an M.S. in Business stressing organizational governance through a servant leadership lens from Columbus State University. He is a certified organizational coach, a diversity and inclusion trainer, a graduate of Leadership Columbia (MO), and a former member of the Georgia and Missouri State Arts Councils.

The CFBC Board is impressed with JJ Musgrove’s practical experience in the community foundation and public service arenas, his educational credentials, and enthusiasm for community advocacy and servant leadership.

We look forward to welcoming JJ and Kate to our community and introducing them to each of you!

J. J. David Fletcher | Chairman of the Board
Community Foundation of Burke County

Mission Statement | To encourage, develop and participate in philanthropy by providing flexible giving opportunities, professional support and responsible stewardship for the benefit of donors and qualified recipients.
Community Honors Local Musician and Educator

Local residents, students, colleagues and choristers across Burke County have chosen to establish the J. Jerome Williams Music Scholarship. Their goal is to honor his many years of teaching and commitment to music in our community.

After graduating from Mars Hill College and Appalachian State University, Mr. Williams served as a church musician for several communities, including Asheville and Raleigh. Upon returning to Burke County, he worked as band and choral director at Hildebran High School.

Mr. Williams later accepted the position as the Cultural Arts Coordinator for the Burke County Public Schools. After school consolidation, he taught choral music at East Burke High School until his retirement in 1994. He was chosen as North Carolina Teacher of the Year for 1982.

He is also known for his role as Director of the Combined Choirs in Burke County. J. Jerome Williams was also the Music Director at First United Methodist Church in Hickory for several years.

Contributions to this fund may be sent to: CFBC, Post Office Box 1156, Morganton, NC 28680 and earmarked for the J. Jerome Williams Scholarship.

BYOP Welcomes New Members

Sara Black Moses, Board member of the Community Foundation of Burke County (CFBC) and Director of the Burke Youth Organized Philanthropists (BYOP), welcomed 14 members to the 2023-2024 BYOP Class. The mission of BYOP is to support the needs of Burke’s children, ages 0-18.

The 14 students in this cohort represent four of our high schools (Freedom High School, Jimmy C. Draughn High School, Robert L. Patton High School and the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.) BYOP’s elected officers for 2023-2024 are: Samuel Ramirez, Sr. Co-Chair; Christopher Pedro, Jr. Co-Chair; Phifer Settlemyer, Treasurer; Katie Riebel, Secretary; and Maggie Franklin, Publicity Officer.

The work of BYOP is supported by the Foundation and private individuals who believe in young people learning about the role philanthropy can play in their community.

BYOP MEMBERS

Back Row: left to right - Lilah Johnson, Brady Chamberlain, Noah Hawkins, Samuel Ramirez, Henry Beall, Phifer Settlemyer
Middle Row: left to right - Jaycee Mull, Maggie Franklin
First Row: left to right - Ashlyn Robinson, Avery Clontz, Jenny Gaspar, Christopher Pedro

“I HAVE FOUND THAT AMONG ITS OTHER BENEFITS, GIVING LIBERATES THE SOUL OF THE GIVER.” - MAYA ANGELOU
The Steve and Nancy Gregory Scholarship Fund was established in May of 2023. The purpose of this fund is to provide scholarships to students in Burke County. If you traveled through Burke County and were in need of the highest quality jewelry, chances are you have met Steve and Nancy Gregory. Since 1948, Gregory Jewelers has been a landmark for many in search of the perfect gift. In 2017, the Gregory’s relinquished the ownership to Darwin and Debra Wilder. Also, they made the commitment to find ways to give back to the community that had supported them for so many years.

This scholarship will be made available to seniors in Burke County and/or students who graduated from a Burke County school and are currently enrolled in college. Applicants must be enrolled full-time in a two or four year college and be majoring in business. Preference will be given to a student who has demonstrated financial need, work experience and community involvement.

The Carolina Land & Lakes Limited Endowed Agency Fund was established in August of 2023. The purpose of this fund is to promote the development, wise use and conservation of the North Carolina regions’ natural resources. Carolina Land & Lakes assists local businesses and agricultural enterprises in identifying the most cost effective and environmentally sound energy resources. It also plays an important role linking key stakeholders in North Carolina around land and water conservation issues. The organization ensures that we have clean water of a high quality that provides a safe environment for all.

The Good Samaritan Limited Endowed Agency Fund was established in August of 2023. The purpose of this fund is to provide resources to an interdenominational Christian organization. The Good Samaritan Clinic gives medication, pastoral support and counseling to Burke County residents with medical needs and severe financial needs.

The Good Samaritan Clinic was founded on the belief that health care is an essential right for all individuals. Their patients represent the most financially vulnerable residents of Burke County (i.e. have no private nor governmental health insurance and household incomes less than 200% of federal poverty levels.)

You may contribute to any one of these funds by mailing a check to CFBC, PO Box 1156, Morganton, NC 28680 or donating online at www.cfburkecounty.org or scan the QR Code and earmark the donation for the fund of your choice.
The Burke Women’s Fund (BWF) membership awarded $47,958.98 at its annual meeting to five worthy grantees serving the needs of women and their families in Burke County. Since inception in 2010, the BWF has awarded $426,582.47 in grant funds to nonprofits who focus on its mission. The five nonprofits listed below were recipients of the BWF 2023 grant funds:

- **Casting for Hope**: Awarded $7,500 to assist with financial support for women in Burke County facing a gynecological cancer diagnosis. The funds will be used to assist with medical debt, prescriptions, and gas cards.

- **Grace Episcopal Church**: Awarded $5,000 to provide 150 feminine hygiene product bags which will be distributed to two partner schools, Burke United Christian Ministries, Burke Street Medicine Team and women seeking assistance at Grace Episcopal Church.

- **The Enola Group**: Awarded $8,337.98 to provide child sexual abuse prevention training for 8 to 12 – Spanish-speaking adults using the Stewards of Children evidence-informed prevention training. The funds will be used for a Spanish-speaking facilitator.

- **The Meeting Place**: Awarded $20,000 to provide housing assistance for women and children. The Rapid Re-Housing program transitions the homeless and those at risk into permanent housing.

- **The YMCA of the Catawba Valley**: Awarded $20,000 to assist marginalized and low-income Burke women obtain before and after-school care for their children. The families being served by this grant are not eligible for Department of Social Services vouchers or United Way program support.