



2016/2017 Annual Report

Promoting Literacy through Advocacy and Instruction

The High Cost of Low Literacy

Too often, we turn our heads to issues in our communities that we feel we don't have a connection to. Problems in a remote area of our county may not directly impact us, so we skim over that report or hope that others will take up the cause. Low literacy is an issue in our community that affects each one of us, but is often ignored or overlooked because we often don't realize the impact that it has on everyone.

Most recent statistics show that about 1 in 5 Gaston County residents struggles to be "functionally literate," having some basic skills in literacy and numeracy, but not able to use critical thinking skills or apply the skills they do have to accomplish tasks that are necessary to make informed choices and participate fully in everyday life. Our school system has markedly improved the graduation rate for our county, but it is estimated that even one high school dropout will cost a community \$750,000 over a lifetime as the result of lost wages, foregone tax revenues, and expenditures for social services.

A community that invests in skills needed for its citizens to be fully engaged and informed is a community that recognizes the value of an investment. It is so often believed to be "less costly" just to maintain and keep afloat, rather than be forward thinking about what the longer term payout will be. For every citizen of our community who struggles to fully participate due to low literacy skills, it costs EVERY citizen in lost wages, lost tax revenues, and increased social services expenses.

GLC makes differences in lives...not just the lives of our students and their families, but in the lives of each and every one of us in our community. Your support enabled us to provide instruction and support to 258 adults during the 2016-2017 fiscal year and the benefits to these individuals, their families, and our community is immeasurable.

Just the Facts, Ma'am! Some national statistics...

- The lifetime cost to society of a single high school dropout...\$750,000.
- More than half a million high school students drop out annually. That's 2,800 high school students every school day – the equivalent of 737 high schools being closed annually.
- 3 in 10 prison inmates did not graduate from high school.
- The average annual cost to house a federal prison inmate is \$31,978 versus \$11,011 to educate a child.
- 3 in 10 Latino Americans do not graduate from high school.
- Across a lifetime, a dropout earns 60% of what a graduate earns.
- 19 million adult Americans over the age of 19 are without a high school diploma.
- 1 in 8 African Americans does not graduate from high school.
- 7 in 10 dropouts have a mother or father who was a dropout.
- 1/3 of dropouts have stopped looking for work or are underemployed.



So Long, Farewell, and Welcome

After almost 19 years of steering the ship, Gaston Literacy Council said "so long, farewell" to its longtime Executive Director, Kaye Gribble in 2017. Kaye was instrumental in the success of the organization and both she and GLC are well known and respected across the state and beyond due to her hard work and professionalism. Although she claims she wants to "slow down" a little and enjoy her family and those grandchildren in particular, most who know her are not sure this is in her nature!



GLC welcomed Linda McConnell as new Executive Director in May, 2017. Linda is a familiar face to many in Gaston County and most recently was Director of Pre-k Services with Gaston County Schools. She is fortunate to join a dedicated staff who has made it easy to keep on moving forward, even as the change of leadership occurred. Linda is working hard to make sure things at GLC do not slow down and what possible new adventures may await the agency!



Keeping in Touch!

Many of you are "on the go" quite a bit and we want to be able to keep in touch...so please consider sharing an email address with us. We are always considering ways to keep you informed and our expenses in check, so as much funding as possible goes directly to our student instruction and support. You may provide an email address to execdir@gastonliteracy.org. Thanks!!

DEFINITION: Literacy is the ability to clearly read, write, and speak English on a level necessary to develop one's knowledge and potential, compute and solve problems, achieve individual goals, and function in our English-speaking society.

MISSION STATEMENT: The Gaston Literacy Council, Inc., a private non-profit organization, exists to help people become functionally literate through advocacy initiatives and instructional services.

VISION: The Gaston Literacy Council, Inc. serves to promote a thriving, productive community that recognizes individuals in need of literacy services, encourages them to come forward, and supports their efforts to gain essential knowledge.

VALUE STATEMENT: The Gaston Literacy Council, Inc. believes that literacy enriches the quality of life for individuals and our community. To this end, we are committed to:

Partnership, Responsibility, Accountability, Inclusiveness, Accessibility, Learner-Centered Instruction, Volunteerism.

Your Support is Everything

Sandra P, was referred to us by the Employment Office in late October, 2016. She had been working on an “online” high school equivalency, but after learning that the online diploma was not accredited, she enrolled in our program. After relocating from Connecticut to NC, she could not get a job without a high school diploma. She began working in our computer lab using our GED software on 10/27/2016. Within two weeks, she passed her first GED exam in Language Arts. Two weeks later—just before Thanksgiving—she passed the Social Studies exam.

In early December, she underwent surgery for lung cancer. Concerned about her compromised immune system during the cold and flu season, we gave her access to our GED software for independent study at home. She completed over 90 distance learning hours and periodically came in for one-on-one instruction and for required post-testing. In early February, she failed the math exam by a mere 3 points. At the same time, she interviewed with Genpak for a data analysis position that was similar to her previous jobs. She was offered the position at a starting salary of \$65,000! Although the company had not requested a high school diploma, Sandra was sure they would prior to her March 6th start date. She was determined to have it. Diligent about her studies, she frequently called and made visits to the literacy council to get additional math tutoring. After passing the math exam, Sandra took her final exam in Science on Feb 23rd and earned her GED.

From start to finish, it took Sandra only 4 months to complete! She is extremely grateful to Gaston Literacy Council for making distance learning available and for encouraging her during such a difficult time. We could not have helped Sandra without your generous support!

Volunteer Extraordinaire, Mary Lytton Hayes

GLC is fortunate to have volunteers from time to time, who come into the agency and help offer instruction. *Mary Lytton Hayes* is one of these special folks and we asked Mary to share and reflect on some of her experiences here at GLC.

“I am a native of Gaston County and taught most of my 30 year career in this county. I had no children of my own, but taught over a thousand. I focused on the elementary grades, teaching in the classroom and travelling as an itinerate teacher of the academically gifted.

I retired a few years ago and felt that I could use my abilities in a volunteer capacity to teach adults from foreign countries the English language. I was fortunate to find a Methodist church in Pineville that had a very robust program and was willing to help me learn how to teach to foreign adults. Switching from children who were native speakers to adults who had limited knowledge was daunting; but they are a most forgiving and appreciative group.

When I moved back into Gaston County, I searched out a way to teach English as a Second Language in a volunteer capacity and called Gaston Literacy Council. I was familiar with the organization since I had been a Laubach reading volunteer tutor many, many years ago. Kelly Link, Education Coordinator, graciously invited me to come in and discuss where I might be able to help. She made me feel very comfortable with how much time I could volunteer, what days and times would work and when I could start. Kasi, Donna, and Melissa (other Education Coordinators) have been so supportive and welcoming. They help me if I have questions about the smartboard and keep me informed about the various offerings for the students.

I look forward to the mornings that I teach at the Literacy Council because I receive more than I give. I am able to use my teaching gifting with gracious students who want to learn, appreciate the time devoted to them, and demonstrate love and concern for each other. We work together, laugh together, learn English together, learn about our various cultures, and support each other regardless of our differences. They know that the staff and volunteers are here to help them succeed in their goals of communicating better, possibly becoming a citizen, and using their talents here as they did in their native countries.

Gaston Literacy Council may seem to be a school, but it is truly a lifeline, not only for the students, but also for this retired teacher who still has a little bit more love and knowledge to share. My hope is that more retired teachers will find this treasure and the blessings that it contains.

Thank you Linda, Kelly, Kasi, Donna and Melissa, and all my Level 3 students that are such a blessing to me.”

Meet the Author



The eleventh annual “Meet the Author” event was held on May 3, 2017 at the Gaston Country Club. Featured novelist, **Charles Martin**, is a New York Times bestselling author of more than 12 novels, including his most recent book, **THE MOUNTAIN BETWEEN US**. His work is available in 17 languages. He lives in Jacksonville, Florida, with his wife and their three sons.

Developed into a screenplay, *The Mountain Between Us* is the story of two strangers, stranded after a tragic plane crash, and their quest to forge a connection to survive the extreme elements of a remote snow covered mountain. When they realize help is not coming, they embark on a perilous journey across the wilderness. *The Mountain Between us* was released in US theaters on October 6, 2017. Cast includes Idris Elba, Kate Winslet, and Dermot Mulroney.

SAVE THE DATE for Meet the Author #12. We are excited to host Ron Rash, an American poet, short story writer and novelist, at the Gaston Country Club on May 2, 2018. You may recognize his novel, *Serena*, which was adapted into a film by the same name (2014) starring Bradley Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence. More information and chances to be a part of this event will be coming soon!

Reading Soul Mates and “Read to Achieve”

Research suggests that too many students who make achievement gains during the school year often experience summer learning loss known as “The Summer Slide”. In fact, children from low-income families lose nearly three months of reading skills during summer break. By the end of fifth grade, these students will be close to three grade levels behind their classmates.



When the Excellent Public Schools Act was passed by the North Carolina General Assembly in July of 2012, the goal was to ensure that every child would be reading at or above grade level by the end of their third year. One component of this law required school districts to offer summer reading camps for first through third grade students that would provide reading remediation before it was too late to help these students achieve literacy skills necessary to be promoted to fourth grade. “Read to Achieve” summer reading camp was created as an opportunity for students to receive reading support, gain reading proficiency, and prevent loss of reading skills over the summer break.

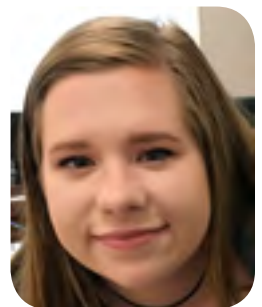
Because of its continued success, Gaston Literacy Council was invited to expand its Reading Soul Mates school year reading program to include a summer reading program in 2016. Reading Soul Mates again partnered with Gaston County Schools and its “Read to Achieve” summer reading camp by providing one-on-one volunteer tutors to help first through third grade students performing below grade level to retain and even build learning skills in a summer camp setting.

For the summer program, Reading Soul Mates decided to go in a new direction in the recruitment of volunteer tutors. Several internship positions were made available to area high school students interested in exploring the opportunity to give back to their community, to serve as leaders, or to consider whether they might want to pursue a career working with children. Applicants were required to complete an application, write an essay, provide two recommendations, and interview for an internship position. A total of thirteen interns were carefully chosen to fill volunteer tutoring positions at Sadler, Tryon, Springfield, Lingerfeldt, Gardner Park, North Belmont, and Brookside Elementary. During the four-week summer camp, the Reading Soul Mates interns provided 284 hours of one-on-one instruction to over 200 students.

Having the interns participate in the summer reading camp was a win-win situation for everyone involved. Overall, approximately 1,380 students participated in the summer camp. Of those 1,380 students, 84% of the first grade students maintained or increased their reading scores, 92% of the second grade students maintained or increased their reading scores, and 91% of the third grade students maintained or increased their reading scores. Of the 91% of third graders tested, 145 students met the state mandated requirements for entering fourth grade. As for the interns, they received community service hours, college, scholarship and job recommendations, and valuable insight into possible career paths. In the words of Alanie O’Dell, one of our 2016 interns, it was “*the experience of a lifetime.*”

The Experience of a Lifetime (by Alanie O’Dell, Reading Soul Mates Intern)

During the summer of 2016, I was able to tutor with the Reading Soul Mates program. I heard about the opportunity from my guidance counselor and was instantly intrigued. I remember finding my own personal love for reading in elementary school and thought that doing the same for a young student would definitely be worth it. I filled out the application, went through some basic training, and before I knew it, summer was upon me.



At the beginning, I was very nervous. As a high school student, I had minimal experience with elementary school children. However, as I walked into the library of Tryon Elementary, something shifted. I saw the students and their little faces filled with excitement and anticipation – and somehow it was contagious. Looking around in the library, I was eager to begin the experience of a lifetime.

Throughout the summer, I worked with the same few children. Since I was able to work with them repeatedly, I saw firsthand the improvements in their reading abilities. I remember a specific moment about halfway through the program. I was working with a student who always seemed to have a hard time with a particular word. We worked through many books. He and I would take turns reading a page and I would work with him on unfamiliar words. One day, he stumbled upon the word that always seemed to give him a hard time. He paused, and I waited patiently until out of nowhere, he read the word perfectly and looked to me for affirmation. I told him that he was correct and he instantly smiled from ear to ear. In that moment, my own face lit up as well. He looked so happy and proud of himself. It was then that I realized the impact I truly had on the students. It was not that I was teaching them to read over night. Learning takes time. However, I was teaching them something more valuable in the long term. I taught them how to be confident in themselves and their academic abilities. After realizing this, I was so honored to see that I could teach these young students such a priceless lesson.

As the summer came to an end, I was entirely grateful to the Reading Soul Mates program and Gaston Literacy Council. They granted me the opportunity to participate in something quite special. Literacy is so important, and I was incredibly happy to foster a love of reading in students so young. More importantly, however, I taught them how to be confident in themselves and their abilities, and for that I will always be eternally appreciative.

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND OUR RESULTS

GLC offers small-group, leveled classes, complemented by individual tutoring. Daily, 100% of our students receive instruction utilizing technology, and GLC provides its students with workbooks and textbooks to keep so that they can study and practice on their own. Owning books is a significant aspect of GLC's programs because it allows students to study independently, which creates an atmosphere of learning in their homes that can positively impact their children and other family members.

Here is some information about the programs available at Gaston Literacy Council.

Customer Service Training for the Medical Industry

GLC began to offer a new career pathway program in the 16-17 program year.

In partnership with HealthNet Gaston, classes for customer service training in the medical industry were offered to bilingual students for clerical jobs within the medical industry. GLC developed a curriculum designed to prepare students for entry level employment opportunities. Students gained proficiency in medical terminology, customer service, office operations, medical law and ethics, cultural awareness and sensitivity, and basic computer skills.

Transitions

Students who desired to enter employment or post-secondary education opted for this class. Instruction was delivered that focused on improving communication skills relevant to the workplace and job readiness. In addition to enhancing employability skills, GLC assisted participants with resumes, interview skills, job searches, and college preparation.

High School Equivalency

Students prepared for their high school equivalency exams by utilizing a computer software program designed to determine individual student needs. This program allowed students to practice various computer skills that are needed to pass the exams while simulating the test layout and item types a student will counter. Students were able to practice at the basic level through advanced skills to prepare them for the language arts, social studies, science, and math components of their high school equivalency exam.

Citizenship

Citizenship classes allowed students to receive help preparing for their naturalization interview and examination. Students first learned about eligibility requirements, and the naturalization process. The class focused on American history, government, and geography. Students also practiced conversational English as it related to their applications and were offered mock interviews. Dictation practice also allowed students to prepare for the writing portion of their examination.

The 2016/2017 outcomes for major programs are detailed below. (Note: Adult client improvement outcomes are based on formal pre-/post-testing utilizing federally-recognized adult assessment systems. Eligibility for post-testing is based on the test developers' prescribed number of instructional hours.)

258 unduplicated adult students were served in the following Adult Basic Education Programs:

- Adult Basic Skills 29
- High School Equivalency Prep 14
- English Language Learners 215

In addition to the required core curriculum classes, students elected to attend the following complementary classes:

- Customer Service Skills for the Medical Industry 44
- Citizenship 52
- Transitions 10

National Reporting System literacy level advancement as measured by CASAS and/or TABE:

	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Listening</u>
Post-Tested	107	4	102
Demonstrated Improvement or advanced a National Literacy Level	81%	100%	78%

Personal Goals Achieved

Earned GED	1	Earned CRC	5
Got/retained a Job	3	Earned Citizenship	18

Financial Statement Summary **

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>\$131,687</u>
Receipts	404,023
<u>Subtotal</u>	<u>535,710</u>
Disbursements	-405,189
<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>\$130,521</u>
Liabilities	0

Endowment

<u>Beginning Balance – Fair Market Value</u>	<u>\$773,788</u>
Deposit – Contributions	0
Withdrawals	-31,254
<u>Net Earnings</u>	<u>74,667</u>
<u>Ending Balance – Fair Market Value</u>	<u>\$817,201</u>
Designated Scholarship Fund (included above)	\$10,008

NC Solicitation License No. SL002480

**Audited statement prepared by Butler & Stowe



Gaston Literacy Council has participated in the Community Foundation's Run for the Money each year since its inception. This year's proceeds totaled \$14,598. We wish to express a special thanks to those of you, included in the contributors list, who helped us receive the maximum allowable matching gift of \$3,400 from the Community Foundation.

Hope you will remember us on April 14, 2018 when we once again, Run for the Money!!

Contributors

Major Funders

David Belk Cannon Foundation

First Gaston Foundation, Inc.

NC Community College System

The Carrie E. & Lena V. Glenn Foundation

United Way of Gaston County



When individuals learn to read, write, or do basic math, they can find and keep jobs, enjoy better health, and educate their own children. Their new skills enable them to dream big, do more, and move forward. And that means society can move forward, too.

Thank You

Contributors

Gaston Literacy Council, Inc. gratefully acknowledges the following supporters who made this report possible:

Read! Read! Read! Club (\$1 - \$49)

Albright, Nancy
Andrews, Harold and Dena
Ballard, Brandi
Barker, Rowena
Barrett, Jimmy and Sybil
Boone, Sharon S.
Brannock, Larry R. and Diane H.
Carpenter, Kathy D.
Carriel, Anne H.
Colone, Susan
Cunningham, Sereptha
Cutchin, John F.
Davis, Kenneth and Laverne
Deely, Michael and Merry
Featherstone, Danny
Frederick, Suzanne
Hoppes, Merle D.
Isenhour, Sabrina M.
Jenkins, Gail V.
LaFar, Dorothy D.
Lockman, Amy C.
Long, Susan H.
Mavretic, Josephus L.
Mills, Christopher P.
Mitchell, Joanne M.
Nix, Lynn
Patton, Elizabeth S.
Payne Heather
Penegar, Lucy
Rankin, R. L. and M. A.
Reid, Joyce
Rhoney, Morgan L.
Roberson, Kathryn
Robinson, Helyn B.
Robinson, May Gray
Sanders, Melanie M.
Simms, Elaine S.
Trosper, Mr. and Mrs. Robert G., Jr.
Tutterow, Dawn
Wilson, Stacey

Skill Builders (\$50 - \$99)

Adams, Mary W.
Adams, Susan C.
Adams, William and Rebecca
Allen, Susan
Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. John M., II
Bean, Lynn M.
Bell, Dr. Mary Robin J.
Belmont Book Club
Bryant, Beverly B.
Carter, Shelly F.
Cinq-Mars, Ellen
Collier, Annamarie
Costanza, Kay S.
Craig, Clarissa H.
Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie G.

Dukes, Patricia F.
Ferreira, Jack E. and Frances S.
Franco, Becky
Gross, William A. and Lynda
Heilig, Charles S. and Christa H.
Hickson, Gloria M.
Howe, Frances S.
Jarratt, Mikell and Elaine
Johnston, Geraldine
Jurs, Sara E.
King, Carol
Lanier, Lillian
Lineberger, Anne J.
Lineberger, Robbie and Laura
Love, Marion Jackson
Massey, Mary W.
Maxwell, Ellen W.
McMahan, Carla
Moose, John and Cindy
Nesheim, Kay L.
Page, Ibbey Patrick
Paton, Candace A.
Poston, David
Renfro, Anna
Rhyne, Debbie
Robertson, L. F. and Peggy
Schroeder, Mr. Brian L. and Betsy Keith
Silkstone, William and Gail
Skillestad, Mark T.
Smith, Eric
Smith, James and Jane
Stacey, Donald K. and Susan B.
Stowe, Christine E.
Stowe, Janice W.
Thrower, Mr. and Mrs. William N., Jr.
Tutterow, John S.
Ward, Ann and Theron
Waters, Angel Chambers
White, Josephine H.
White, Shelley B.

Literacy Advocates (\$100 - \$249)

Abernethy, Sarah A.
Anderson, Lyn
Anonymous
Blair, W. Luther and Susan H.
Bohanan, Carolyn W.
Boyce, Kathleen
Bridgeman, Nan F.
Brittain, Carol B.
Cassels, Merryman C.
Clark, Dr. and Mrs. Alan B.
Clark, Karen McNeil
Cloninger, Alan and Cathy
Coyle, Dorothy H.
Curiositees LLC
de la Vega, Raul S. and Joanne K.
Dul, Kevin and Corene

Edwards, Charles and Ann
Efird, H. Timothy, II
First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia –
Pearl Wilson Fund
Forde, Richard B. and Robyn
Glenn, Pat and Buck
Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Walter H.
Griffith, John D. and Jennifer C.
Hannon, Dr. and Mrs. Stephen J.
Heckel, Dr. Mark C. and Dr. Jennifer E. Kacmar
Hendricks Foundation, Mrs. Shirley H. Cox
HF Labs LLC
The Hive
Junior Assembly of Gastonia
Kirlin, Dr. and Mrs. David R.
Kunkle, Mr. and Mrs. Carl C.
Layne, David A. and Janet S.
Long, William Alec
Mackie, H. Spurgeon and Margaret L.
Mark, Allan and Susanne
Massey, Mr. and Mrs. Henry H., Jr.
McConnell, Linda C.
McLeod, Michael and Dianna
Meakin, Dr. and Mrs. Charles J., III
Miller, Mrs. George R.
Morris, Mr. and Mrs. James E., II
Morrow, J. Ben
Norcross, Mary Lou
Planer, Rose P.
Plowden, Mrs. Ramon G.
Poffie Girls, Inc.
Rinehart, Dr. David A. and Lucille
Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B., III
Robinson, Jacob E. and Sharon P.
Rowland, Dr. Bobbie H.
Siceloff, Elizabeth
Smith, Patricia C.
Spach, Frederick P. and Leigh H.
Spencer, Amy
Stafford, Ring Torrence
Taylor, Martha Gullick
Thompson, Mark A. and Susan T.
Tracy, Steven and Camilla
Treece, Curtis
United Way of Central Carolinas, Inc.
Watts, John and Kenna
Wilson, Sarah A.
Windley, Debra Ramsey

Sustaining Supporters (\$250 - \$499)

Barger, May C.
Comer, Anne N.
Current, Elizabeth O.
Dixon, Jean G.
Dodgen, Loretta P.
Drum, Ann W.
Efird, Caroline

Thank You

Contributors

Elliott, Carol L.
Farris, Jami Jackson
Firestone Fibers
Fogle, Sylvia R.
Gastonia East Rotary
Gray, June
Hammontree, Scott and Lynn
Harrill, Nancy W.
Jenkins, Peggy
Layton, Mary E.
Letts, Dustin P. and Caroline H.
Lockett, John E. and Lindsay M.
Loggins, Cheryl Black
Matthews, J. Houston, III and Sharon Rose
McLean, Denise Bellingier
Memolo, Susanne and Mark
Moser, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B., Jr.
Nigbor, Dr. and Mrs. Douglas A.
Pearson, Mary Lou
Rankin, Richard E., Jr. PhD
Rhyne, Martha Jayne
Rowe, R. Leonard and Virginia Penegar
Simmons, Karen M.
Solomon, T. J., II
Stiles, Janie Y.
Vargas, Vilmania P.
Whitesides, Susanne D. Albright

ROTELL Partners (\$500 - \$999)

Bryant, Clarissa York
Butler, Curtis Lee DBA Butler Studio
Couture, Annemarie
Efird, Mrs. Anne W.
Gastonia Sheet Metal Works, Inc.
Henry, George F., III
Hovis, Kelly W. and Richard L.
Jacobs, Reba
Kelly, Roy William and Annabelle M.
Lodge, Dorothy W.
Lowery, John S. and Malinda B.
Matthews, Alice S.
Nixon, Frank and Ann
Pearson, Robert and Jane
Planer, Geoff and Judy
Price, Kay Archer
Pridnia Investments, Inc.
PSNC Energy
Ratchford, David R. and Patty O.
Robinson, Sally M. and Ralph, Jr.
Seabrook, Elizabeth
Sigmon, Nancy C.
Starnes, Martha
Stowe Foundation, Inc.
Summerville, Lillian P.
Yarbrough, Barbara

Laubach Society (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Carolina Trust Bank
Eccles, Mr. and Mrs. William
H. T. Efird Family Fund
Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Fred A.
Jonas Law Firm, The
Kersh, Gayle and Dan
Myers, Barbara Brownlee
Petty, Larry and Linda
Pharr Yarns
Piedmont Plastic Surgery & Dermatology
Roberts, Scott
Shovelin, Wayne and Julie
Standard Distributors, Inc.
Sumner, Elizabeth and H. Randolph
Sytz, Robert and Beth
Torrence, C. K., Jr.
United Oil of the Carolinas
Warlick, Pamela K.
Wix Filtration Corporation

Sarah Howe Literacy Guild (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Community Foundation of Gaston Co.
Run for the Money Match
The Charles & Irene Nanney Foundation

Olna Daves Leadership Givers (\$5,000+)

David Belk Cannon Foundation
First Gaston Foundation, Inc.
The Carrie E. and Lena V. Glenn Foundation
Parkdale Mills, Inc.
Pearson, Mr. Plato, Jr.

Memorials

David, Mallory
LaFar, Dorothy

Howell, Virginia
Tutterow, John

Nixon, C.E.
Nixon, Frank and Ann

Robinson, C.R. and Ann
Robinson, Jacob and Sharon

Honorariums

Daves, Olna
Robinson, Sally and Ralph

Efird, Tim
Efird, Anne

Friends
Simmons, Karen

Stroup, Joyce
Davis, Kenneth and Laverne

Auction Item Donors

Albright, Nancy
Art's Desire Gifts
Blythe Gallery
Bryant, Tom (Boone's Bar-B-Que)
Buckner, Tricia (ETCETRA)
Butler, Curt
Carstarphen, Carol
Cassels, Merryman (The Hive)
Cordle, Gennene
Craft, Jan
Dodgen, Bill & Loretta
Everhardt, Ruth (First Street Home)
Facet Foundry
Grape & Barley
Gray, C. J.
Harmony Medical Spa, Dr. Crosby
Jacobs, Gaylia
Joyner, Susan (Tally Ho Clothiers)
Lily's Italian Bistro
Lowery, John & Malinda
Miller, Richard & Ann
Nancy Taylor Lynch Interior Design
Olio's
Pearson, Charles
Piedmont Plastic Surgery & Dermatology
Presslar, Brittany (Chantilly's Tea Room & Cake-Me-Away)
Roberts, Scott & Shari
Robinson, May and Royce
The Teacher Box/Libby Lou Gifts
Tracy, Cam
Webb Custom Kitchen

In Kind

CC Communications (Web Site)
First United Methodist Church
-Rent Reduction

Contributions support adult students working toward high school equivalency attainment, Career Readiness Certification and Citizenship, and second graders learning to read on grade level.

Your contribution changes lives!



PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 3791
CHARLOTTE, NC

116 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
Gastonia, NC 28052

704-868-4815

fax: 704-867-7796

literacy@gastonliteracy.org

www.gastonliteracy.org

*Accredited Affiliate ProLiteracy America
United Way of Gaston County Partner Agency
NC Literacy Association*

Awards

- NC Center for Nonprofits Sector Stewards Award*
- All-America City Project*
- Gaston Together's Circle of Caring Award*
- Kiwanis Club Tablet of Honor*
- United Way of Gaston County Award of Excellence*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2016/2017 Officers

- Chair, Martha Jayne Rhyne
- Vice Chair, Denise McLean
- Secretary, Ann Drum
- Treasurer, Ginger Rowe
- Immediate Past Chair, Scott Roberts

Directors

- Lisa Albright-Jurs
- Clarissa Bryant
- Frank Craig
- Tim Efird
- Carol Elliott
- Peggy Jenkins
- Gayle Kersh
- Cheryl Black Loggins
- Becky McLean
- Dan Moser
- David Poston
- Mark Skillestad
- Marty Starnes
- Janie Stiles
- Lil Summerville

Ex-officio: Kaye Gribble, Executive Director

2017/2018 Officers

- Chair, Denise McLean
- Vice Chair, Lisa Albright-Jurs
- Secretary, Lil Summerville
- Treasurer, Mark Skillestad
- Immediate Past Chair, Martha Jayne Rhyne

Directors

- Frank Craig
- Marianna Davis
- Tim Efird
- Carol Elliott
- Caroline Hobson
- Cheryl Black Loggins
- Ellen Maxwell
- Becky McLean
- Laurel Morris
- Dan Moser
- Beth Patton
- David Poston
- Roger Rizk
- May Gray Robinson
- Ginger Rowe
- Marty Starnes

Ex-officio: Linda McConnell, Executive Director