



**Waccamaw**  
Community Foundation

Building sustainable  
philanthropy to strengthen  
our communities.

**2019**  
ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As 2020 proves to be challenging and uncertain as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and continue to confront structural and institutional racism, we look back on 2019 with much appreciation for the experiences that enable Waccamaw Community Foundation to be a source of support during difficult times.

Last year, in response to Hurricane Florence, Waccamaw Community Foundation worked quickly to deploy more than \$400,000 from donor advised and field of interest funds to organizations supporting victims in the aftermath of that disaster. Now, with our COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Fund, we've awarded \$218,485 to 18 organizations supporting those most impacted by the pandemic in Horry and Georgetown counties (as of June 2020).

The past year was also a milestone year for the Foundation: we celebrated our 20th anniversary serving our communities; hosted the first-ever Waccamaw Nonprofit Summit — which brought together more than 100 local nonprofit leaders for a day of learning and networking — and we rewrote our mission statement to better tell the Foundation's purpose and plan.

As WCF begins its next 20 years, I am honored to be your new board chair. I am extremely appreciative of you, our partners, as we work each day to build sustainable philanthropy to strengthen our communities.

With appreciation,

Brent D. Groome  
Board Chair



## Looking back on Waccamaw Community Foundation's 20<sup>th</sup> year serving Horry and Georgetown counties

After Hurricane Florence made landfall along our coast in September 2018, our community pulled together over the next year to support those among us impacted by flooding and other storm damages. Through your generosity and commitment, Waccamaw Community Foundation was able to play a major role in local recovery efforts, awarding a total of \$334,357 from the WCF Relief & Recovery Fund in 2019 to local organizations assisting victims of the storm.

While financial assistance is critical, WCF also realizes the importance of equipping nonprofits with the tools they need to scale up their capacity. Over the summer, WCF staff members worked with representatives from The Chapin Foundation, the Frances P. Bunnelle Foundation and the United Way of Horry County to host the first-ever Waccamaw Nonprofit Summit. This upbeat and well-attended event was specifically designed to help nonprofit organizations build their own capacity through improved grantsmanship, better financial tools, more thorough understanding of Board governance, clearer fundraising planning, and increased collaboration with other nonprofit organizations.

In November, the Knight Foundation Donor Advised Fund of WCF began a \$100,000 partnership with the City of Conway, The Nature Conservancy, and American Rivers to complete several improvement projects around the Waccamaw River over an 18-month period. This collaborative effort includes installing new piers, improved lighting, and attractive signage to increase traffic to the Riverwalk and downtown Conway, purchasing the Floyd tract to improve accessibility of the Waccamaw River for recreation and conserve floodplains to help mitigate future catastrophic flooding, and creating a new marketing plan to promote the Waccamaw River, its benefits and recreational activities.

Without our donors and community partners, none of this would be possible. Thank you for choosing Waccamaw Community Foundation.



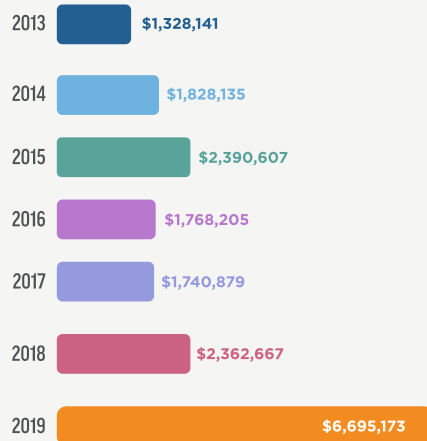
*Lowcountry Food Bank was among the first grantees of the WCF Relief & Recovery Fund in the wake of Hurricane Florence and of the COVID-19 Relief & Recovery Fund.*

## Quick Facts

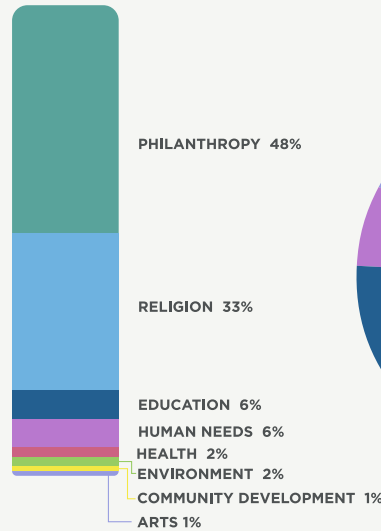


## Philanthropy

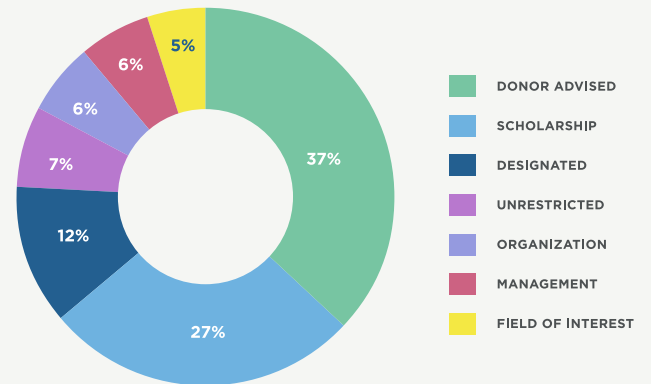
### Annual Grantmaking as of FYE\*



### By Interest Area as of FYE\*



### Assets by Fund as of FYE



## Financials

### Gifts & Grants



### Asset Growth



### Scholarship Spotlight:

In the spring of 2016, Mara Hartsell submitted an application to Sue's Hope Scholarship Fund with plans to go to Clemson and major in Engineering. She was chosen as a recipient and now, four years later, has crossed the finish line with a B.S. in Bioengineering. This past April, she sent a handwritten note of appreciation to Sue Forrest, the donor who helped make it all possible. The note shares her plans to "join the workforce as an engineer in the medical device industry to improve the quality of life for patients." Mara, we are thankful for you and your desire to improve the lives of others!

"As a leukemia survivor I wanted to give back; many friends from NMB helped me fund raise and to make this a reality. I am thankful to my Lord Jesus Christ for a second chance at life and this amazing perpetual gift that gives HOPE to deserving students like Mara," said Sue Forrest, fund establisher for Sue's Hope Scholarship Fund.

### Did you know?

In its 20-year history, WCF has granted out more than \$27 million!

### Welcome to our New Funds:

WCF welcomed five new fundholders in 2019. Thank you to our new giving partners.

Durant Family Fund  
Oma Vaughn Fund  
Clark Foundation Endowment Fund  
JCGB Foundation Fund  
Spann Family Foundation