Doubling Down: New Grantmaking Strategy Aims for Maximum Impact

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On the Road with Kristen Bitzegaio

Meet Our New Board Members

Millionaire Next Door: How an Uncovered Fortune is Leaving a Lasting Legacy

A woman from humble beginnings who believed in education as the great equalizer left a force for good in our community, forever.
Waccamaw Community Foundation

OUR PURPOSE & VALUES

Waccamaw Community Foundation builds sustainable philanthropy by connecting donors with causes they care about to strengthen our communities.

STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE
We are committed to providing the highest level of service to our donors, grant recipients, and community; and to safeguarding donor intent in perpetuity.

INTEGRITY
We will uphold the community trust placed in us to ensure that we consistently exhibit the highest ethical standards, honor our commitments, and remain truthful in delivering on our promise to the community.

INCLUSION WITH EQUITY
We are committed to fairness and accessibility for all people in our community through delivering on our WCF Purpose. We value the transformative power of convening collaborative community partnerships with the highest level of trust and respect.

COURAGE
We are catalysts for creating and leading positive and transformative change and have the confidence to act in accordance with our values.

ACCOUNTABILITY
To achieve sustainability and maintain effectiveness by building a healthy donor-centric and informed business model.

ALIGNMENT
To achieve organizational balance by leveraging community-focused grantmaking and community leadership with donor-focused stewardship and development.

Waccamaw Community Foundation
A LETTER FROM
THE CHAIRMAN

The work we do at Waccamaw Community Foundation would not be possible without our active donor community. I want to begin my first newsletter message as your Board Chairman by expressing a heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of donors who provide a variety of gifts—both endowed and non-endowed funding of all types, and contributions that help support our continued existence via our Community Partnership Program—so we can focus on connecting donors to the causes they care about.

That well-known tagline will always be at the heart of everything we do. But please take a few moments to look at the page opposite this message. The WCF Board recently spent time in thoughtful retreat and strategic planning meetings, and we surveyed our donors. The culmination of our work is represented in a freshly-minted purpose statement reflecting our aim to better express why we exist. It is also represented in four specific core values that describe who we are and what we stand for. Finally, it is represented in the three strategic goals that will help us align our stewardship and philanthropy with maximum community impact.

It is exciting to be a part of this strategic and values-driven work as we prepare for WCF’s 20th anniversary celebration and the threshold of reaching and surpassing the $20 million mark for lifetime organizational giving. I am bursting with pride. I feel like we’ve updated our already great playbook and now we are moving the ball down the field for a touchdown.

Mark your calendars for September 26, 2019 when we will host a celebration to honor our donors and grantees, celebrate our 20 years of success, and look ahead to many more decades of making a lasting impact in Horry and Georgetown counties. I hope to see many of you at our upcoming fall event and I encourage you to check our new events webpage often and get involved as we increase our activity with donors, grantees, and affiliate organizations.

In this issue, you will get the chance to travel vicariously around the area with Program Officer Kristen Bitzegaio (p. 6) on some of her recent site visits and also read about the expansion of our grantmaking programs (p. 5), learn more about the importance of disaster relief and recovery—something absolutely imperative for our area—even long after the news cameras have stopped rolling (p. 10), meet our three new board members (p. 7), take a glance at our impressive 2017 financials and consider joining the Community Partnership Program (p. 9), take an estate planning quiz (p. 8), and in our feature story (pp. 3 and 4) you will discover the captivating story of the colorful character Lois Carver and how her endowed legacy fund has helped thousands of students achieve more with more across the Grand Strand and Waccamaw region.

Enjoy your reading! As always feel free to contact me or our dedicated staff to learn more about how we support the nonprofits working to improve the quality of life and opportunity for all residents in our region.

Warm regards,

Dennis Wade

Visit www.waccamawcf.org/events/ to stay “in-the-know.”

January 1, 2019 begins our 20th anniversary year and we’ll be sharing lots of fun and informative looks back at our history along with great information about our current work and future plans. Like and follow us on social media @WaccamawCF to share in the good news!

MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILY WEALTH PLANNING

Melissa Levesque, Coastal Community Foundation Vice President of Development and Stewardship, will unpack wealth transfer and intergenerational wealth planning.

Join us for the fall installment of our donor and professional advisor education series at Prestwick Country Club – contact KarenM@mywcf.org to learn more and keep an eye on our events page for the date and time of this rescheduled (due to Hurricane Florence) event!
The Millionaire Next Door: How an Uncovered Fortune is Leaving a Lasting Impression

A woman from humble beginnings who believed in education as the great equalizer, Lois Carver was a force to be reckoned with in life, and her legacy gift will be a force for good in our community, forever.

Who knew when Lois Carver moved to North Myrtle Beach in the early 1990’s, one day her neighbor—former WCF board member Dr. Muriel O’Tuel—would be the executor of her estate, advisor of her fund, and would uncover many assets, their paper trails hiding in a home packed to the brim with “stuff”?

Lois and Muriel become fast friends, bonding over their passion for quality public education, and perhaps their similar backgrounds as rural North Carolinians and first-generation college grads who went on to blaze trails as “first female” administrators.

Muriel’s husband Maxcy, before his untimely passing, found a kindred spirit in this quirky new neighbor, too. They shared a love of boating that, as Muriel is quick to point out, always included heated debates about “the right way to do” some nautical thing.

When the O’Tuels first met Lois, they weren’t sure what to think. A retired educator and current real estate investor, she had an extreme enthusiasm for the Coast Guard’s Auxiliary Program, the civilian component that trains people in skills such as piloting, communications, patrol, and procedures... speciality areas in which Lois trained, studied, and received certification, already well into her 60’s.

Lois never did anything in a slapdash manner, as Muriel, Max, and their son Bryant (who counts Lois among his biggest influences) discovered. A birder, photographer, and yo-yo enthusiast, she had her pilot’s license and had owned champion German shepherds for a time. E. Lois Carver (the E. standing for Elsie, her mother’s name) excelled, bucked trends and traditions, and relished going against the conventional wisdom of what a woman could (or should) do.

It came as a heartbreaking surprise when Lois died unexpectedly in 2003 at age 75. Hadn’t Muriel just recently found her up on the roof of her beach house, photographing shoddy work to accompany fiery letters to the contractor and lawyers? To call Lois active was accurate, but she was an activist about, as Muriel put it, “getting things done the right way.”

“Gregarious but cantankerous” come to mind as Muriel remembers Lois, and as we sort through her memorabilia. One letter is addressed “Dear Computer” and continues, “Your operator has certainly misinformed you...” to lambaste a company sending her incorrect statements. Another pile of materials includes the roof photos and letters. Let’s just leave it at “you really didn’t want to mess with Lois.”

Her colorful, spitfire personality shines through in these materials and contains great humor and wit, and real grit. She stated in several versions of her own resume, “With access to no funds except my salary as an educator...it took...hard work to make a success of my real estate ventures.”

We know 40 area nonprofits who are thankful today of her grit when it came to investing. During the years it took Muriel to settle Lois’s estate, she uncovered deeds, accounts, and assets that have helped build the Elsie Beavers Carver and E. Lois Carver Educational Fund into what it is today—one of WCF’s main
competitive grant funds that has awarded over a quarter of a million dollars in just eight years. (The fund has granted $273,587 since its first award in 2011. Page 6 lists fund parameters.)

But why pour everything into education when Lois had so many interests? Muriel recounts Lois’s memories, helping her mother run Carver’s Drive-In in Washington, NC. Elsie Beavers Carver told her daughter to go get an education and “do better than me” so you don’t have to rely on a man.

Lois earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from East Carolina University. She taught, became a principal, and in the Mecklenburg School District was the first woman in NC to be the Assistant Administrator, at the age of 28. She helped create the revolutionary 1960 instructional book for educators pictured above, and later (after retiring to help her sick mother) turned around a failing rural school in Chester, South Carolina, in part by reversing the teachers’ attitudes that “these children can’t learn.”

Her core belief that all children can learn—and deserve the highest quality resources and best trained teachers—is why her legacy fund exists today. We have highlighted Reach Out and Read, just one of the many nonprofits that have benefited from her belief, and the depth of Lois’s asset pool.

How fitting that it’s a program promoting a reading-from-birth initiative. Once quoted in a newspaper article, Lois stated that reading is “so important to a child’s development. The way for people to help their children get a head start is to read to them from the moment they’re born.”

We are pretty sure she is watching over us, with a captain’s wheel in one hand and maybe a yo-yo in the other, and smiling about the many programs and children her fund has helped.

To contribute, visit the Give Now page on the WCF website (www.waccamawcwf.org) and designate your gift to the Carver Education Fund. (Center photo: Lois with Muriel in the late 1990s.)
Doubling Down: New Grantmaking Strategy Aims for Maximum Impact

Each year Waccamaw Community Foundation accepts competitive grant applications for any nonprofit in Georgetown or Horry County meeting certain minimum eligibility requirements. These annual grants do much more than provide funding for programming alone. By also offering opportunities to supplement operation and equipment costs, Waccamaw Community Foundation strives to holistically assist those who are making a difference in our local communities by supporting these organizations to build their capacity over time.

This year, the Foundation is excited to implement a new strategy for grant funding, which places an emphasis on building capacity and ensuring nonprofits are better able to carry out their full visions. Rather than expanding the number of grants, WCF is opting to put more funding toward existing grants.

“We can never fully know if partial funding is actually greenlighting the intended programming,” says Program Associate Kristen Bitzegano. “The nonprofits we serve are experts in doing a great deal with very little, but we know that they can accomplish even more when given more,” she continues. “Our nonprofit partners have ambitious goals, and we want to help them achieve those goals by allowing for more funding to support the exemplary work that’s happening in the region.”

To qualify for grant funding, nonprofit organizations must have a 501(c)3 designation and serve Georgetown and/or Horry counties. If awarded a grant, nonprofits are required to supply a status report at the program’s conclusion, or within one year. Previous grant recipients must have spent all previous funds and completed a status report before submitting a new application.

Some examples of nonprofits that have recently received funding from WCF for programming and/or operations include: Camp Happy Days, Tara Hall Home for Boys, Catholic Charities, Boy Scouts of America (Coastal Carolina Council), Coastal Carolina University Chanticleer Center for Literacy Education, Community Kitchen of Myrtle Beach, Freedom Readers, Horry County First Steps, Long Bay Symphony Society, Salvation Army of Georgetown, Smith Medical Clinic and The Waccamaw Youth Center.

“With support from our grant from the Carver Educational Fund, Freedom Readers has been able to increase the number of books distributed to home libraries by more than 50%. This has been life-changing for the communities and people with whom we work.” - Dr. Tracy Bailey, Executive Director and Founder of Freedom Readers

WCF Competitive Grants

Generous donations from local citizens go back into the community by way of our grantmaking programs. Thank you to all who give, and to the nonprofit organizations who are making a difference in Georgetown and Horry counties.

We accept applications for our twice-yearly competitive grants in the second and fourth quarters.

- Applications open in early June and close mid-July
- Applications open in early December and close in mid-January
- Learn more details and apply online at www.waccamawcf.org/grant-opportunities
On the Road with Kristen Bitzegaio

Program Associate Kristen Bitzegaio conducted so many amazing site visits since the last issue, it was tough to choose which organizations to feature! Here are three diverse examples highlighting the incredible work being done by our nonprofit partners across Georgetown and Horry counties.

Phoenix Renaissance
Phoenix Renaissance is a faith-based nonprofit providing childcare, aftercare, daycare, and summer camp opportunities for Myrtle Beach children in the Racepath community. For over 30 years the Racepath Summer Youth camp has provided a safe environment for children ages 4–12 to experience educational, recreational and cultural activities. Phoenix Renaissance was developed as an off-shoot of the Racepath Community Association to develop programs to reach families and children throughout Horry County “to develop, promote and sponsor alternatives to the abuse of drugs and the use of violence, by providing programs for local community improvement, such as education, recreation, counseling, housing rehabilitation, career training, creative arts, child development, and family services.” We are pleased to announce that Phoenix Renaissance is a first-time recipient of both of our competitive grants this cycle.

Franklin G. Burroughs-Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum
Kristen brought her family along to enjoy all the museum has to offer (multiple exhibits, pottery studio, gift shop and more) but they didn’t want to miss Myrtle Beach native Drew Brophy’s retrospective exhibit. Drew is a world-renowned surf artist who revolutionized surfboard art by using Posca Pens instead of airbrushing, and talked about how it all began when a Myrtle Beach neighbor picked up these special art supplies for him during a business trip to Japan, the only place where the pens were sold in pre-Internet days.

American Rivers (Waccamaw River)
On a brisk February site visit with American Rivers, Kristen had the chance to learn much more detailed information about the conservation of and recreation on our beautiful black water rivers.

If you’d like to get more involved, or are a nonprofit grantee with questions for Kristen, reach her at kristen@mywcf.org.
Meet the New Board Members

Rev. Joseph E. Washington

Reverend Washington has served as a minister in The United Methodist Church for over 40 years. After receiving his Master of Divinity from the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, he began his life of service as a pastor in Boston, Massachusetts, where he met his wife of 30 years, Dr. Dode Washington. In addition to serving as a pastor while there, he became senior advisor to the mayor of Boston, and was also Chairman and CEO of the Organization for a New Equality, a nonprofit agency that promotes economic opportunity for women, people of color and economically distressed communities.

Before moving to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in 2002, Rev. Washington lived in New York for over 40 years and served as a pastor for St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in New Rochelle and Brooks Memorial in Jamaica, Queens.

For the past 13 years, he has been a part of Extension Ministry in Myrtle Beach, where he started SharedCare, a healthcare collaborative that addresses the needs of low-income, uninsured residents of Horry County. He established a mentoring program, which later became the mentoring program for students at Coastal Carolina University, and he also started a local chapter of The First Tee. In 2011, he founded the Academy of Hope, a year-round public charter school based on the principles of international business. Most recently, he served as Executive Secretary for Africa for the Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. In this role, he managed relationships with bishops, churches and local missionaries stationed throughout Africa.

Daniel W. Stacy, Jr., J.D.

Daniel Stacy serves the Pawleys Island area as a shareholder with Oxner & Stacy P.A. He practices law in the areas of commercial real estate, finance, resort residential, zoning and planning and general business transactions. A graduate of Wofford College and the University of South Carolina, his career began in 1997 when he joined the firm Nexsen, Pruet, Jacobs & Pollard, LLP in Columbia, South Carolina. A few years later, Daniel journeyed to the Grand Strand, working as an associate with the McNair Law Firm, P.A., as well as the Senior Director of Development and Leasing for Burroughs & Chapin Company, Inc. In addition to serving as a director of the Waccamaw Community Foundation Board, Daniel currently serves on the board of trustees for Tidelands Health.

“I have been aware of Waccamaw Community Foundation since my arrival in 2002, and recognize the outstanding work that the Foundation does in helping develop the community, especially with organizations that uplift the residents of Horry County. It is a joy, privilege and honor to serve and continue this work.”

Kathleen Burroughs, Director

Kathleen Gour Burroughs is a native of Montreal, Quebec, Canada and has resided in the Myrtle Beach area for 25 years since her marriage to Edward E. Burroughs II, a Myrtle Beach native. They have two wonderful children, Franklin Augustus III and Nicholas Edward. Kathleen graduated from Champlain College.

Kathleen is passionate about helping those in need and giving back to the community whenever possible. She is active in many community organizations, serves as Chair for the Burroughs and Chapin Family Fund, is a member of the pastorial council for St. Andrew Catholic Church, chairs the Development and Donor Services Committee for WCF, and serves as Chair for Alumni Relations on the school board for St. Andrew School. She was a member of St. Andrew School Board for eight years, serving as President for five; served on the Horry County Museum Board as a member and as Vice-Chairman; served on the Burroughs and Chapin Art Museum Board; chaired and co-chaired Taste of the Town, chaired a capital campaign for St. Andrew Catholic Church, volunteered for the Heart Association and twice chaired the Myrtle Beach Heart Ball.

“...I strongly believe the Waccamaw Community Foundation embodies the true definition of philanthropy and helping the community. In addition to working with individuals and community stakeholders, WCF helps us identify and address the unique challenges of Horry and Georgetown Counties. No one better understands the needs of our community than Waccamaw Community Foundation and I am proud to be a member of the WCF Board.”
Not If, But When: Disaster Relief & Recovery

Many who live and work in Horry or Georgetown County might tell you, “hurricane season” is a bit of a misnomer when it comes to the true significance of these storms. While active storms typically threaten our coastline June through November, the effects of water and wind damage last long after the storms pass our shores.

As citizens, it is important to understand that disaster relief and recovery is a year-round effort that requires both immediate action and follow-through to ensure those impacted by inclement weather get the full extent of help they need once the television cameras leave and the telethons are over.

“The immediate response is always really important: getting people safe and taken care of,” says Edie Blakeslee, Vice President of Grantmaking & Community Leadership. “You see these amazing crews come in as volunteers, work with state emergency services to repair houses, assess mold and water damage, and clear the roads.”

This efficient immediate relief comes from planning during “blue sky times” when nonprofits convene to be completely prepared for when a disaster strikes, a coalition referred to as Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD). Locally, these chapters are Winyah Bay Long-Term Recovery Group (Georgetown & Williamsburg) and Waccamaw Long-Term Recovery Group (Horry).

“Waccamaw Community Foundation is the primary facilitator of financial donations for a time of disaster,” says Program Assistant Kristen Bitzegaio. “When donations come in, we know exactly who to point to for food, medicine and shelter.”

This allocation of funding is based on recommendations from the VOADs.

“Whoever is on the ground for the recovery group, they submit requests for the volunteer groups to continue their efforts: whoever is repairing what and where,” adds Blakeslee.

These are the names you may more readily recognize, like The United Way, The Salvation Army, Red Cross, Hearts and Hands, The Mennonites, and the many others who come in from around the state and the nation to chip in.

While immediate assistance always impresses and inspires, Blakeslee warns that too often there is a lack of understanding about long-term recovery, which is an essential part of disaster philanthropy.

“We are still doing work from the flooding in 2015 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016,” notes Blakeslee, who also points to the cautionary tale of Nichols, South Carolina—a small town 50 miles northwest of Myrtle Beach. “These storms are more powerful and moving further inland,” she comments. “In 2015 [Nichols] was underwater, but they rebuilt. The next year they got slammed again, and all those people had to be relocated again. Rebuilding two years in a row.”

According to Blakeslee, when it comes to the recurring threat of tropical weather, there is no easy fix or simple solution. However, it is important to continue a conversation about relief and the longer-term efforts of recovery, year-round. This means public awareness, buy-in from mayors and other local elected officials, and vigilance in Columbia.

“Looking at models of sea level rise, we can’t shy away from this,” says Blakeslee. “Something is going to come again at some point. We live in a place where this is our reality.”

Hurricane Florence bore down on the Carolinas as we were going to press with this issue. Please visit www.waccamawcf.org/disasterrelief to donate to the WCF Disaster Relief Fund (for local VOAD chapters) or Help the Grand Strand. With rivers expected to crest above the historic flooding of recent years, relief and recovery funding will be critical for our region.

NATURAL DISASTER DAMAGES: QUICK STATS

S.C. was recently awarded $213 million in federal relief funding for damages from 2015 flooding and Hurricane Matthew in 2016 for a total of $513 million in federal relief funding for 2015–16.

Total estimated damages of 2015 flooding were $12 billion, on par with Hurricane Hugo (1989).

Hurricane Matthew (2016) caused $341 million in damages, and cost the state $64 million even after federal funding.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts that the 2018 hurricane season has a 70 percent likelihood of five to nine classified hurricanes, with one to four being Category 3 or higher.
Waccamaw Wisdom—Estate Planning

Is it time to update your will or estate plan? Take this quick quiz to find out and start thinking about your next steps!

Have your finances changed because of a change in employment or retirement? []

Has your family size changed because of a marriage, birth or other life event? []

Have you moved to a different state since you last updated your plan? []

Have you changed your mind about beneficiaries and/or executors? []

Has it been more than two years since you have reviewed your plan? []

If you checked any of the questions above, it is time to revisit and revise your current plan, or perhaps create one for the first time so you can rest easier knowing your affairs are in order for your spouse, children, grandchildren, professional partners and other loved ones and associates.

Waccamaw Community Foundation is your go-to resource for all things charitable in Georgetown and Horry counties. Consult with your financial advisor and contact Karen Minogue to start a conversation about the many ways in which you can leave a lasting legacy in your community.

Benefits of Working with WCF:

- We provide highly personalized service tailored to each individual’s charitable and financial interests.
- We multiply the impact of donors’ gifts by pooling them with other gifts, and investing them for long-term growth.
- We help donors achieve legacy in perpetuity through endowments and memorials.
- We are the low-cost, simple alternative to a private foundation. Donors can still stay involved in their grantmaking, and we handle the details.
- We accept a wide variety of assets, and can facilitate even the most complex gifts.
- We offer the maximum tax advantage under state and federal law and we simplify IRS record keeping.
- We can provide anonymity to donors, and act as a buffer against unwanted solicitations.
- We are a local organization with deep roots in the community. Our staff has broad expertise in connecting donors with community need.
- We are a community catalyst, convening diverse groups to work on solutions to local issues.
- We foster greater giving in the region.

Karen Minogue
WCF Director of Development
843-357-GIVE (4483)
KarenM@mywcf.org
2017 Annual Report at a glance...

- **134 FUNDS**
- **$34M IN TOTAL ASSETS**
- **GIFTS $6,674,372**
- **GRANTS $1,740,879**

### GRANTS BY INTEREST AREA AS OF FYE
- **EDUCATION 24%**
- **RELIGION 21%**
- **HUMAN NEEDS 18%**
- **HEALTH 15%**
- **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 9%**
- **PHILANTHROPY 6%**
- **ENVIRONMENT 4%**
- **ARTS 3%**

### ASSET GROWTH

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**WCF’s Community Partnership Program**

**Community Leaders Who Understand The Power Of Endowed Philanthropy**

If you live in the area, you don’t have to spend too much time looking around (or driving on any given day!) to see our community’s needs are changing and expanding. A healthy community foundation with the operational endowment to meet these growing needs and changes translates into a community rich in inclusive opportunity and filled with a network of healthy nonprofit organizations.

There are so many ways to give back, including direct gifts to area nonprofits which we encourage and support. Contributing to the health and wellbeing of Waccamaw Community Foundation is a way in which you can ensure that your favorite organizations receive capacity and growth support they need for years to come.

Joining the CPP is the beginning of a special relationship between you and like-minded community leaders who understand what endowed philanthropy can accomplish.

To learn more about the CPP and its benefits, call (843) 357-4483 or email our Director of Development, Karen Minogue, at karenm@mywcf.org.

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We’d like to thank our newest CPP member, South State Bank, for their forward-thinking commitment to the Grand Strand and Waccamaw region!
Our Purpose

Waccamaw Community Foundation builds sustainable philanthropy by connecting donors with causes they care about to strengthen our communities.

Staff & Board

Kristen Bitzegaio
Program Associate

Karen Minogue
Director of Development

Shawna Mosley-Foster
Donor Services and Office Manager

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