For kids, for teachers, for all North Carolinians

We’re not your typical health insurer.

For 90 years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina has been committed to improving the health and well-being of everyone across the state.

Today we’re 5,000 strong – working to make health care more affordable and accessible for all.

North Carolina is our home. We’re here for you. All of you.

That’s why we’re proud to support organizations like the NC Foundation for Public School Children. Learn more at BlueCrossNC.com/Community

© Marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, U.S.A., 3/23.
CONEN MORGAN

In Loving Tribute

NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN
Thank you for your support!

On behalf of the board and staff of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children, THANK YOU for showing up for North Carolina’s public school children through your support. Because you have, 2022-2023 has been a banner of impact for our state’s public school children.

You can be very proud of your investment in this Foundation. We have the best stewards on our Board of Directors who are committed to our mission to ensure that as many students as possible have a fair chance to learn and enjoy school.

Because of your generosity, we were able to double our Children’s Fund to $100,000 so we could come to the aid of requests from teachers, nurses, social workers, education support professionals, and administrators.

We are very quick in responding to requests for students, but we have learned that we must be proactive. There are so many high-poverty school districts in very poor areas who are isolated and unsure of how to find and ask for help. Their staff are overwhelmed with so much need among their students. We are reaching out to school districts to ask them to tell us what they need for their children to be better learners.

We are showing up where children need us … even if we have to invite ourselves.

Another crisis in our state is the teacher shortage. Over 25 years ago, we created the NC Teacher Cadet Program, a curriculum-based elective to introduce high school students to the profession of teaching. Since, we have placed thousands of students in the pipeline to be a teacher.

We continue to expand this program as we complete the third year of a $625,000 grant from the National Education Association’s Great Public Schools. The grant has enabled us to implement and support Teacher Cadet programs in Tier 1 counties while focusing on growing the Male Teachers and Teachers of Color pipeline.

In closing, we dedicate this publication to the life of our devoted and widely loved member of the Foundation’s Board of Directors - Mr. Conen Morgan. Conen lived his life to give hope, dignity, opportunity, and a better life to others.

With gratitude,

Marca Hamm,  
Executive Director  
NCFPSC
Children’s Fund

The Children's Fund provides for items and services that public school children need that directly relate to a student's academic experience and success when no other resource will. For over twenty years, we have delivered a fast and efficient program that addresses those key “wrap around services” as a primary target unlike any other organization - usually within 48 hours.

Children who lose Medicaid-funded eyeglasses do not have to wait months to a year for replacements. Kids who have health issues that are not covered do not have to wait for a “go fund me” or, worse, to be discovered by someone in the community. Kids who come to school in dirty clothes or do not come to school because their shoes do not fit will not lose days of their education with a problem that can be solved in hours.

Eyeglasses and eye exams continue to be the greatest need because of Medicaid guidelines to cover only one pair of eyeglasses per year, no insurance, or no resources because of their migrant status. Rather than go without, wait weeks - or months - for a new pair, the Foundation comes to the rescue in a matter of days. This year over 150 school children are wearing new eyeglasses purchased by this Foundation.

The need for help with medical and health services has increased. Because of staff shortages and more families using local health departments – where poor children go for help - many have a backlog of up to three months.

One little Kindergartener was suspended from school because he had not received the mandatory health physical. His social worker wrote, "Our small town has 2 pediatrician offices and are booked 3 months out. Our local health department is doing school physicals only 4 days a month due to limited staff. We have an urgent care clinic but the family can’t afford it." The Foundation worked quickly to pay private providers for a health assessment for this little boy and dozens more who were sitting at home missing out on learning.

Bertie High School students can now go on college visits with funds from the Foundation.
Children’s Fund

A little girl in first grade is a Type 1 diabetic. She uses insulin needles - 4-5 times a day - and was using larger than normal for her small size because they were cheaper. The child’s single Mom did not have funds to order new needles. The school nurse wrote: “It kills me having to inject the larger needle into her tiny arm so many times a day. They hurt and she doesn’t want to take the insulin.” The Foundation provided small insulin needles that don’t hurt.

Along with providing hearing aids, band instruments, paying for dental emergencies, prescriptions, orthotics, and more, we expanded the statewide outreach to impact more school children than ever.

• We delivered clothing, coats, and undergarments to start “in-school” clothing closets in Tier 1 counties.
• We delivered over 700 school supply-filled backpacks to several poor counties right before school started.
• We stocked food pantries and put up shelves for toiletries and hygiene products.
• We partnered with food banks to provide food to allow school employees to access food for students.

We hear stories and receive comments about this unique Foundation on a regular basis like this one.

Twin sisters in fourth grade depend on prescription inhalers to manage their asthma. Without warning, their dad lost his job – and the family’s medical insurance. Their parents were frantic when they learned the out-of-pocket cost for the inhalers - money they did not have. Fortunately, their school nurse knew where to turn for help and the Foundation delivered. Their mom sent us this email:

“We felt so helpful and terrified for our girls. We did not know where to turn. I cannot believe an organization like this exists. You may have literally saved our children’s lives.”

Sometimes we do … because of you.

Chowan Middle School Students had not been on a field trip in 3 years. The district did not have funds and months of fundraising left them very short of their goal. The Foundation surprised them with a check delivery to make those field trip dreams happen.
NC Teacher Cadet

“Teacher Cadet is the most cost-effective systematic recruitment effort for the public school teacher pipeline.”

John I. Wilson, Board Emeritus and Past NEA Executive Director

Now in its 25th year, Teacher Cadet is our in-state teacher recruitment and leadership program designed to create a pipeline of high school students to be the next generation of teachers. Teacher Cadet:

The NC Teacher Cadet Program:

- Is built on a rigorous curriculum written by North Carolina public school classroom teachers.
- Focuses recruitment efforts on males, students of color, and hard-to-fill teaching positions. This diversity is reflected in the members of the Teacher Cadet Cadre leadership team and in the State Officers elected each year.
- Uses a “Grow Our Own” philosophy for teacher recruitment, encouraging Cadets to understand the dynamics of, and advocate for, public school education in their communities.
- Offers student leadership opportunities as elected State Officers plan an annual professional, student-led state conference.

With a 3-year grant for $625,000 from the National Education Association’s Great Public Schools, we have expanded our impact in support and numbers.

- Dr. Gwynne Shoaf was hired as the dedicated Teacher Cadet State Coordinator.
- Over 50 high schools had teachers trained to implement new Teacher Cadet programs - with most representing school districts who are implementing the program districtwide.
- Three school districts are now offering teaching contracts to Teacher Cadets who meet specific criteria upon graduation from high school.
- Community Colleges are awarding college credit for Teacher Cadet courses.
- 300 high school students who are exploring the path to become a teacher attended our two-day Teacher Cadet state conference in Raleigh - fully funded by the NEA GPS grant.
Scholarships For Future Teachers

The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children is proud to support young people on their journey to become a teacher through our Scholarships for Future Teachers.

The Jane Hansel Teacher Cadet Scholarship, named after the program’s first state coordinator, awarded $2,000 to three high school senior Teacher Cadets:

**Cyncere Bell** - Richmond Senior High School

**Katelyn Leonard** - Lincolnton High School

**Johnny Ray** - Alexander Central High

In 2022, the Foundation partnered with the North Carolina Association of Educators, to reestablish the Mary Morrow-Edna Richards Scholarships. The scholarship is named in memory of Mary Frank Morrow who served as the first president of the North Carolina Classroom Teachers Association, and Edna Cotton Richards, an outstanding leader in the North Carolina Teachers Association and the North Carolina Association of Educators. The scholarship is open annually to high school seniors and college juniors pursuing degrees in teaching.

The 2023 Mary Morrow-Edna Richards Scholarship recipients were awarded $2,500 each. The winners are:

**Morgan Bellamy** - West Brunswick High School, Brunswick County

**Addison Campbell** - Agriculture and Science Early College, Iredell County

**Laura Caviness** - Union Pines High School, Moore County

**Reyna Herba** - Salem College, Forsyth County

**Alexis Hester** - Southern Alamance High School, Alamance County

**Bailey Hughes** - Riverside High, Martin County

**Kaley Miller** - Southern Alamance High School, Alamance County

**Reece Sharpe** - Alexander Central High School, Alexander County

**Matthew Sullivan** - Northwood High School, Chatham County

**Skylar Wheeler** - North Buncombe High School, Buncombe County
Disaster Relief

When it comes to natural disasters or house fires, you may not think about how schools and learning are impacted.

North Carolina has seen its share of entire schools destroyed, leaving teachers and students without the tools they need to continue receiving a quality education.

Teachers have seen their entire classrooms destroyed - and everything in it - filled with materials and resources accumulated over years with their own money.

When Jones County Public Schools saw their only middle school condemned after severe flooding, we were the first to show up on scene to ask, “What do you need?” We provided clothing and school supplies to students and teachers. We raised over $25,000 to replace all band instruments when all were destroyed.

The Princeville Elementary Media Center that was destroyed, along with the whole school, by Hurricane Floyd was built from Foundation funds.

This year, in the last three months of school, house fires destroyed everything for several families in North Carolina with public school children. This Foundation quickly provided new clothing, shoes, undergarments, hygiene products, and school supplies for the students so they could be in their safe, stable school environment and continue learning.
Our Partners

The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children is proud to partner with or support organizations and public school districts whose missions go hand-in-hand with ours to provide for student needs that directly impact their educational experiences.

Anchor Hope | Bertie County Public Schools | Jones County Food Bank
Chowan County Public Schools | Food Drive Kids | Greensboro Backpack Buddies
Helping Hands Mission | Methodist Home for Children
Northampton County Public Schools | NC Child | Made 4 Me
Mount Gilead Elementary School | Note in the Pocket | Wake County Public Schools
Wayne County Public Schools
Greetings and welcome to the 10th annual Champions for Children Gala!

Tonight, we honor five champions who have made a significant impact on the lives of children across North Carolina. Our honorees are from the worlds of philanthropy, law, religion, business, and government. While their professions are distinct, they all share a common passion for supporting our public-school children and ensuring that all students have access to a sound basic education.

“Won’t Take Nothing for My Journey Now...”. Maya Angelou

Eleven years ago, while working dual roles as the Associate Executive Director of NCAE and the Executive Director of the NC Foundation for Public School Children, I was tasked with creating revenue opportunities to ensure financial stability for the Foundation. I carefully considered various options that would allow us to continue the vision of the Foundation’s founder, Mr. John I. Wilson. After months of planning, the first “Champion’s for Children” gala was held on April 25, 2013.

The Foundation is funded solely from sponsorships, donations, and grants. The Champions for Children’s Gala is our premier fundraiser. Your sponsorships and donations allow us to provide students with the tools they need to be successful in the classroom. During our existence, the Foundation has spent over one million dollars for eyeglasses, dental needs, specialized medical equipment, temporary housing, clothing, school supplies, transportation, medical and mental health services for students—often within 48 hours of being notified of the need. We have been fortunate to have dedicated board members, committed volunteers, loyal volunteers, loyal supporters, and an exceptional staff led by Marca Hamm, Executive Director.

North Carolina, like all other states, is experiencing the worst teacher shortage ever. In addition to the Children’s Fund, we “grow our own” teachers through the Teacher Cadet program that is currently being offered in many high schools across the state. It is our hope that the love for education will flourish in each cadet to secure a pipeline of educators to teach in North Carolina public schools.

Each of us faces a fundamental choice between indifference and caring. Then—once we have decided to care—we must choose where to focus our efforts. Those of you here tonight recognize the truth, and you also understand the need for quick and decisive action. You recognize what Dr. Martin Luther King called “the fierce urgency of now”—the fact that delay carries devastating human costs. The urgency to ensure all students have the tools to be successful is now!

Your sponsorships and donations to the Foundation show us that you have chosen to “care” about the students in the public schools of North Carolina. We salute you!!

With love and gratitude,

Joyce E. Jarrett, Chair
NCFPSC Board of Directors
Reception (5:30–6:30 PM)

Mark Jewell, Master of Ceremonies, Board of Directors

Welcome
Joyce Jarrett, Chair, Board of Directors

Invocation
Rev. Dr. Linda B. Gill

Greetings
Tamika Walker Kelly, Board of Directors, NCAE

Recognition of Sponsors
Jessica Holmes, Board of Directors

Presenting Sponsor Remarks
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina

Silent Auction Announcements
John I. Wilson, Board of Directors Emeritus

Blessing
Rev. Dr. Linda B. Gill

Dinner

Recognition of Special Guests
Susan Evans, Treasurer, Board of Directors

Impact Remarks
Marca Hamm, Executive Director

Presentation of Honorees

Abby Ashburn – East Forsyth High School

Cyncere Bell – State President - Richmond Senior High School

Christian Martin – Appalachian State University

Johnny Ray, State Officer – Alexander Central High School

Haleigh Williams, Vice President – East Forsyth High School

Bishop George E. Battle, Jr.
The Honorable Robin Hudson
The Honorable David Price

NC Education Lottery - Mark Michalko, CEO

Carolina Hurricanes

Closing Remarks
John I. Wilson, Board of Directors Emeritus
George E. Battle, Jr. is a native of Rocky Mount, North Carolina. A 1967 graduate of Clinton Jr. College in Rock Hill, South Carolina with an Associate Degree. A graduate of Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina with a B.A. degree. He also holds a Master of Divinity degree from Hood Theological Seminary, also in Salisbury. He earned a Doctor of Ministry from Howard University in Washington, D.C. He has also received honorary doctorate degrees from Clinton Jr. College, Hood Theological Seminary, Livingstone College, Queens College, and University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He was elected a Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1992, 84th in the line of succession. He is presently retired as an active Bishop in the A.M.E. Zion Church after serving 29 years (2021).

Bishop Battle’s civic and community involvements include: Founder of the Greater (formerly known as the Gethsemane) Enrichment Program that received a national award for the best program of its kind utilizing Federal Funds (now in existence for over 45 years); Founding Committee Member of the Teen Health Connection; Founder/Member of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Alliance for Public Schools; member, River Run Club; member, Leadership Breakfast Group in Charlotte, North Carolina; One of the Founders of the Urban League of Central Carolinas; organizer of the Biddleville Five Points Community, such as boy scouts which led to major improvements in housing, parks, sidewalks, etc.; member, National Association for the advancement of Colored People.

The Bishop is or was affiliated with the following organizations: Charlotte City Club; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Sigma Psi Phi; National School Board Association; State School Board Association; Christian Ministers Fellowship Association; and the National Council of Churches.

He is married to the former Iris Miller and they have two children, son George, III who is married to Renita and daughter LaChandra who is married to Michael Rapley; five grand children Trey, Alex, Peyton, Elias and Chandler.
The Carolina Hurricanes, North Carolina’s own professional ice hockey team, has brought not only a Stanley Cup championship and love for the game to our state, but also a dedication to improving the lives of children and their families.

Their charitable arm, the Hurricanes Foundation, the players, and the entire organization take pride in being part of the community both on and off the ice. Throughout the year, the Foundation raises funds through annual special events. Since their inception in 1997, more than $17 million has been donated in grants and in-kind support to youth-serving organizations. The Foundation provides funding to children’s nonprofits with a health or education focus.

The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children is only one of many organizations who benefit from the philanthropy of the Carolina Hurricanes organization. Every year the ‘Canes support the Back Our Students Drive by donating van loads of school supplies that go to our state’s poorest children.

To help fight childhood hunger, the Hurricanes Foundation gave a multi-year funding grant to the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to expand hunger programs in rural counties by creating School Pantries and increasing the outreach of the BackPack Buddies program.

The Carolina Hurricanes’ READvolution, launched in the Triangle and surrounding counties, was designed to increase literacy among elementary students. “Literacy remains an important need and we are excited to help encourage reading in our community,” Hurricanes President and General Manager Don Waddell said.

With the mission to improve the accessibility and inclusivity of hockey through an enhanced experience while promoting a healthy lifestyle the “Canes” have offered in-school programs free of charge to equip students with basic hockey knowledge and fundamental skill instruction.

The Carolina Hurricanes have assured that children who would not receive game experiences at PNC Arena do so with their help. The poorest children are often given free game tickets.

The hockey team makes it easier for critically ill children to catch a game by providing one of the PNC Arena’s luxury suits for the families to use during homes games for free, including free food, drinks, and parking.

The Hurricanes players themselves support children, teachers, and the military through various individual program. Hockey Fights Cancer and Hockey is For Everyone are two of their league-wide initiatives.

The Carolina Hurricanes are our ice hockey team and Champions for North Carolina’s children!

Go ‘Canes!
From the small town of Erwin, Tennessee, Price came to UNC-Chapel Hill in the Fall of 1959 as a transfer from Mars Hill University. He was a double major in mathematics and history, the latter of which awakened his interest in the liberal arts.

“I came to UNC at a time when the civil rights movement was gaining steam. I became the president of the Baptist Student Union (even though I wasn’t Baptist), and the religious groups on campus were the ones pushing the rest of the student groups for movie theater integration in North Carolina,” Price recalls.

This leadership led him into student government and a larger role in local movements to further civil rights in North Carolina. He stood in picket lines, passed student government civil rights legislation and “urged local merchants to serve all people.” Price enrolled at Yale to pursue a degree in theology immediately after graduating from UNC in 1961.

“I was in divinity school to learn about social ethics and the prophetic aspects of the Christian faith with a vision of a just society. The Hebrew prophets had been rediscovered in the context of the civil rights movement. My personal awakening, in terms of my religious and political views, has been shaped by the civil rights experience,” Price said.

Duke President Terry Sanford started a new institute focused on public policy. Price was recruited as a professor of political science in 1973. Price recalls his initial role clearly.

“I was asked to develop the ethics part of the public policy curriculum. Nobody in these public policy schools that were starting up knew quite what ethics should look like. This was just after Watergate. We knew there had to be an ethics component,” Price said.

He ran for Congress in North Carolina’s 4th Congressional District and was elected in November 1986. For the next 36 years, the cycle of homecoming would repeat. After four terms, Price lost reelection and, for two years in 1995 and 1996, was again able to teach the next generation of public policy leaders at Duke. After winning reelection again in 1996, he never lost again.

Volumes have been written about David Price’s 17 terms in Congress. E.J. Dionne Jr. wrote a farewell to an “institutional patriot” in The Washington Post recently, and Price finished his fourth edition of The Congressional Experience, a personal recounting of lessons he learned in his time in the “people’s branch” of government.

Just as his education fostered his love for public service, Price expresses his anticipation for training students for a life in public policy at Duke’s Sanford School.
Lotteries exist in the United States to raise money for good causes and under the leadership of Mark Michalko the N.C. Education Lottery just crossed the $10 billion milestone on its mission of raising money for education programs in North Carolina.

Mark joined the lottery in 2018 as its third executive director. Under his leadership, the lottery has grown from a $2.4 billion a year business to a $3.9 billion a year business. Its annual return to education has grown from $600 million a year to more than $900 million a year.

The N.C. Education Lottery enjoys a stellar reputation in the lottery industry and is viewed as one of the most successful lotteries in the nation.

“No Lottery anywhere in the country has a better Executive Director than Mark Michalko,” said Ripley Rand, chairman of the N.C. Education Lottery Commission. “Mark’s wealth of experience and leadership has produced strong growth and sustainability for our Lottery. As we have had the highest level ever of sales and funds directed for education, we have also maintained the highest certification possible for responsible gaming. Mark ensures that our lottery meets its mission in providing much needed money to benefit the future of our children while making sure we do business the right way, with integrity and responsibility.”

The “privilege of education” is enshrined in our state constitution and the lottery is proud to do its part to raise funds needed to maintain that right.

Of the $10 billion raised since the start of the lottery, about $3 billion has gone to help counties build new schools and repair older ones. Those funds also provided 420,000 Education Lottery scholarships to students attending state universities and community colleges; allowed 234,000 four-year-olds to attend a free, academic preschool; and annually provides funds to all public schools to help with the costs of support staff and school transportation.

Mark’s career encompasses four decades of experience in both U.S. lottery and international gaming. That broad experience includes executive management roles with world-class gaming operators and global technology supplier companies.

His lottery experience began in 1980 as Legal Counsel for the Ohio Lottery. In 1985, he was selected as the founding Executive Director of the California State Lottery and led the start of what would become one of the largest U.S. lotteries. For his accomplishments Mark was inducted into the Lottery Industry Hall of Fame in 2019. He and his wife, Kimberly, live in Chapel Hill and have two adult sons.
Justice Robin E. Hudson was born in DeKalb County, Georgia and moved to Greensboro, NC with her family in 1966. A graduate of Page Senior High School in Greensboro, she earned her BA degree in philosophy and psychology from Yale University, and earned her JD from the University of North Carolina School of Law.

Justice Hudson was admitted to the NC Bar in 1976 and practiced law in Raleigh and Durham until her election to the NC Court of Appeals in November 2000. She is the first North Carolina woman elected to the appellate court division without having been appointed first. Justice Hudson explains her judicial philosophy and life’s work best: “In 1977, I hung out a shingle in downtown Raleigh, and began what became more than twenty years of small firm civil and criminal law. Not long after I opened my practice, I began representing textile workers all over the state who had lung trouble from breathing cotton dust.

When a legal matter comes before me on the court, those who have issues at stake – often a very great deal at stake – do not want or expect to encounter a judge who has preconceived opinions. Instead, they deserve a judge who does not bring a personal bias or a political ideology into the courtroom.

As a Justice on the NC Supreme Court, I offer one commitment to the persons, businesses, and communities who bring cases before me for resolution. The only promise I make is that I will be fair and act in accordance with my oath as a judge, to apply the law to the facts in each case, without favoritism to any.”

As the author of the Hoke County Case, perhaps more well known as the Leandro Case, Justice Hudson famously wrote, “For twenty-five years, the judiciary has deferred to the executive and legislative branches to implement a comprehensive solution to this ongoing constitutional violation. Today, that deference expires. If this Court is to fulfill its own constitutional obligations, it can no longer patiently wait for the day, year, or decade when the State gets around to acting on its constitutional duty “to guard and maintain” the constitutional rights of North Carolina schoolchildren. Further deference on our part would constitute complicity in the violation, which this Court cannot accept. Indeed, ultimately “it is the state judiciary that has the responsibility to protect the state constitutional rights of the citizens.”
Board of Directors

Joyce Jarrett, Chair  |  Becky Wallace, Vice Chair
Amy Hinson, Secretary  |  Susan Evans, Treasurer
Lynn Shoemaker, Immediate Past Chair

Matt Aber-Towns  |  Michelle Burton  |  Dorian Cromartie  |  Laura Crumpler
Shirley Harris  |  Jaalil Hart  |  Oliver Holley  |  Jessica Holmes
Anthony Jackson  |  Mark Jewell  |  Henry Johnson  |  Monika Johnson-Hostle
Tamika Walker Kelly  |  Symone Kiddoo  |  Julia Kron  |  Mike McLaughlin
Conen Morgan  |  Malbert Smith, III  |  Tiffany Smith  |  Darren Williams

Marca Hamm, Executive Director
John I. Wilson, Director Emeritus

Thank You for Supporting Our Children!
Champions for Children Gala 2023

Our Sponsors

PREMIER
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina
NC Retired School Personnel

SIGNATURE
Jordan Lumber Company
NC Association of Educators
John I. Wilson

CHAMPION
Sesha and Dean Debnam
Metametrics

ADVOCATE
H.W. Culp Lumber Company | Patsy Keever
Uwharrie Bank | The Honorable Becky Wallace

SUPPORTER
Dr. June Atkinson | John and Ann Campbell | Cunningham Law, PLLC
Joyce and Raymond Jarrett | Julia Kron | Neal, Bradsher & Taylor, PA
NC Community Foundation | NCAE Principals & Administrators Division
NEA Foundation | Chris and Susan Pierce | Poyner Spruill, LLP
Troy Lumber Company | Troy Ready Mix
FRIEND

Appalachian State University - Reich College of Education | Commissioner Vickie Adamson

Sid Baker | Suellen Beaulieu | Laura Crumpler and John Dowd | Alan Duncan | Jessica Holmes
Integrated Family Services, PLLC | Dr. Henry Johnson | Anthony Jones | John Kane | Richard Land
Gary McRae | Conen Morgan | Mt. Olive Pickles | NeoPollard Interactive | Dr. Dale and Susan Oller
Patricia Orrange | Participate Learning | Mack Pearsall | Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Pierce | Perry Safran
The Honorable Terry Van Duyn | Hope Morgan and Mike Ward | Wegman’s | Brad and Carole Wilson
Publix Super Market Charities | Lynn Shoemaker | Thigpen and Jenkins, LLP

CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Frank and Joan Celestino | Marca Hamm

TABLE HOSTS

Sid Baker | Commissioner Susan Evans | Durham NCAE / Michelle Burton
Karen Garr | Jessica Holmes | Monika Johnson-Hostler | Mike McLaughlin
Lynn Shoemaker | Wake NCAE/ Christina Spears | Darren Williams

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU

Valerie Hollingsworth - Executive Assistant
Dr. Gwynne Shoaf - Teacher Cadet State Coordinator
Dana Bennett | Kasey Knight | Josh McGee Julie Parks | Katey Taylor

Program & Event Graphics: Tentpeg.org
Event Photography & Videography: Triple7Creative.com
Champions for Children

2022
The Honorable Robert Hobgood
Vonta Leach
The Honorable Elaine Marshall
The Honorable Bev Perdue
Z. Smith Reynolds

2021 (Virtual Gala)
The Honorable Anita Earls
Robert B. Jordan

2020 (No Gala)

2019
The Honorable Robert F. Orr
The Honorable Bev Perdue
Glenn Pierce - Pierce Group Benefits
Bishop J. Jasper Wilkins, II
Chris Paul

2018
Venessa Harrison / AT&T
Dr. Dumas A. Harshaw, Jr.
Larry Perkins
Senator Terry Van Duyn
Roy Williams
Robert Spearman, Posthumously

2017
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina /
CEO Brad Wilson
Communities in Schools of North Carolina
Governor Roy Cooper
Torry and Terrence Holt
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward
2016
The Honorable Dennis Wicker
Dean Debnam – Workplace Options
Rabbi Fred Guttman
Dereck Whittenburg
Leslie Winner

2015
Senator Dan Blue
The Honorable Howard E. Manning, Jr.
Reverend Doctor Nancy Petty
Capitol Broadcasting Company
The Dale Jr. Foundation
Senator Martin Nesbitt, Posthumously

2014
Dr. June Atkinson
Dr. Yevonne Brannon
Ms. Melanie Black Dubis, Esquire
Dr. T. Anthony Spearman
State Employees Credit Union

2013
The Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr.
Mr. Julius Chambers, Esquire
Reverend Doctor John Mendez
Golden Corral
National Inclusion Project
NCAE is proud to support the vital resources provided by our charitable branch, the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children, and we congratulate this year’s honorees who have been recognized for their contributions to the students and public school communities of North Carolina:

Former Congressman David Price

Carolina Hurricanes

Bishop George Edward Battle Jr.

NC Education Lottery and CEO Mark Michalko

Former NC Supreme Court Justice Robin Hudson
WE ARE PROUD SUPPORTERS OF NCFPSC!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR DO FOR OUR CHILDREN!
NEVER STOP WORKING
NEVER STOP CARING

We believe that every student should have the resources to be successful in school. The NC Retired School Personnel is pleased to support the work and mission of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children. Across the state, our members and local units, have raised more than $32,000 during this school year to aid in the work of NCFPSC.

President Linda Gunter
Vice President Lena Murrill

ncrsp.org
John I. Wilson
Salutes the 2023
Champions for Children

Bishop
George E. Battle Jr.
The Honorable
Robin Hudson
The Honorable
David Price
Mark Michalko &
The NC Education Lottery
Carolina Hurricanes
Sesha & Dean Debnam

We are grateful for your support to the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children
Bringing meaning to measurement by matching students to resources using a scientific, universal scale.

www.metametricsinc.com

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE NC FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

Malbert Smith III
Ph.D., CEO, President & Co-founder
WE ARE PROUD SUPPORTERS OF
THE NC FOUNDATION FOR
PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN

culplumber.com
In celebration of our
2023 Champions for Children
and the work of the
NC Foundation for Public
School Children
We believe that, as a true community bank, we have a unique ability and responsibility to help others soar. Our logo is a constant reminder that we aspire to make a difference every day in individuals, families, businesses and our communities. Let us know how we can make a difference for you.
In Memory of

Chris Wallace
September 20, 1996 – February 16, 2018

Chris was a giver. He was known to empty his pockets to help someone in need. Chris loved animals and seeing people happy. He had a way of looking out for the underdogs. In that thought, my gift to honor Chris will help the “underdogs” of public school children.

From “Meme”

Becky Wallace
(The Honorable Becky Wallace was the First Female US Marshal in North Carolina)
Over $32,000 was raised this year for the NC Foundation for Public School Children!

Region 1A RSP
Region 1B RSP
Region 2 RSP
Region 3 RSP
Region 4 RSP
Region 5 RSP
Region 6B RSP

Alamance/Burlington RSP, Alexander County RSP, Ashe County RSP,
Beaufort County RSP, Cabarrus County RSP, Catawba County RSP,
Charlotte/Mecklenburg RSP, Cleveland County RSP, Durham RSP,
Edenton/Chowan RSP Edgecombe/Nash RSP, Gaston County RSP, Gates
RSP, Granville County RSP, Greene County RSP, Greensboro/Guilford RSP,
Halifax/Northampton RSP, Hyde County RSP, Haywood County RSP,
Johnston County RSP, Lincoln County RSP, New Bern/Craven RSP, New
Hanover RSP, Onslow County RSP, Pamlico County RSP,
Pasquotank/Camden RSP, Pitt County RSP, Richmond County RSP,
Rockingham County RSP, Stokes County RSP, Transylvania County RSP,
Union County RSP, Wake RSP, Warren County RSP, Watauga County RSP,
Winston Salem/Forsyth RSP
Wenonia Wall
WE SALUTE OUR FRIEND

BISHOP

GEORGE E. BATTLE, JR.

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. & First Lady Carolyn Hunt
The Honorable Dennis & Alisa Wicker | The Honorable Becky Wallace
Senator Dan Blue & Edna Blue | Congressman Wiley Nickel & Caroline Nickel
Joyce Jarrett | John I. Wilson | Marca Hamm
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Retired School Personnel
CAROLINA HURRICANES

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING A 2023 CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN AWARD RECIPIENT

GOVERNOR JAMES B. HUNT JR. AND FIRST LADY CAROLYN HUNT

SENATOR DAN BLUE AND EDNA BLUE

RANDOLPH CLOUD AND ASSOCIATES

MARCA HAMM

JOYCE JARRETT

SHERI MULLING

CONGRESSMAN WILEY NICKEL AND CAROLINE NICKEL

LORI STRICKLAND

THE HONORABLE BECKY WALLACE

JOHN I. WILSON
Salute to the Honorable
David Price
2023 Champion for Children

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. & First Lady Carolyn Hunt
Senator Dan Blue & Edna Blue | Jane D. Brown & Jim Protzman
Brad Crone | The Honorable Rufus Edmisten | John I. Wilson
Vann & Jody Langston | Congressman Wiley Nickel & Caroline Nickel
Patricia Orrange & John Dornan | Mack Paul | Steve Rao
Congresswoman Deborah Ross | The Honorable Becky Wallace
Allen Wellons | The Honorable Dennis Wicker & Alisa Wicher
NC Education Lottery & CEO

Mark Michalko

Congratulations to the 2023 Champions for Children

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. & First Lady Carolyn Hunt
Courtney Crowder | Van Denton
Marca Hamm | Joyce Jarrett
Congressman Wiley Nickel & Caroline Nickel
NeoPollard | Terri and Matthew Rose
The Honorable Becky Wallace | John I. Wilson
CONGRATULATIONS
The Honorable
ROBIN HUDSON
On receiving NCFPSC’s 2023 Champion for Children Award

Governor James B. Hunt Jr. & First Lady Carolyn Hunt
The Honorable Martha Alexander | The Honorable John Arrowood
Myra Best | Senator Dan Blue & Edna Blue
Justice Anita Earls | The Honorable Sam Ervin, IV
Kathleen & Mike Glancy | The Honorable Lucy Inman
Gene Nichols | Congressman Wiley Nickel & Caroline Nickel
The Honorable Robert Orr | Hank & Jane Patterson
The Honorable Linda Stephens | The Honorable Becky Wallace
Allen Wellons | Hope Williams | John I. Wilson | Paula Wolf
JUNE ATKINSON
Thank You for Supporting Our School Children!
SUELLEN ALICIA BEAULIEU

Thank you for supporting the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children.

Congratulations to the 2023 Champion for Children Honorees!

John & Ann Campbell
Sponsors of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children
Building Value at the Intersection of Law, Business and Community

www.calcunninghamnc.com

JOYCE & RAYMOND
JARRETT
Thank you for supporting our children!
Julia Kron

Thank you for your support!

NBT | Neal, Bradsher & Taylor, PA
Certified Public Accountants

Thank you for supporting the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children.

www.nbt-cpa.com
As one voice, the Principals/Administrators division aims to promote excellence in educational leadership in North Carolina.

The NEA Foundation envisions schools as places that foster both educators' and students' love of learning, enabling both to excel.
SUPERIOR BENEFITS. PERSONAL SERVICE.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2023 CHAMPION FOR CHILDREN HONOREES!
Chris & Susan Pierce

www.PierceGroupBenefits.com | 888.662.7500

p.s.
Poyner Spruill LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

www.poynerspruill.com
Employing People
Creating Lumber

We employ over 170 people and produce over 3.1 million board feet of finished lumber every week. We are a very safety oriented company.

troy-lumber.com
Reich College of Education
App State
rcoe.appstate.edu

Commissioner Vickie Adamson
Thank you for faithfully supporting the NC Foundation for Public School Children

Proudly honors five incredible heroes whose work has impacted the lives of thousands of children across North Carolina in a positive manner.
LAURA CRUMPLER & JOHN DOWD

Thank you for faithfully supporting our children!

NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jo Ellen Holder

Thank you very much for all your support!

NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

JESSICA HOLMES

CHAIR, WAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Congratulations to the 2023 Champion for Children Honorees!
The mission of Integrated Family Services, PLLC is to assess, coordinate, monitor and provide a wide variety of comprehensive mental health services in a manner that promotes dignity, respect and empowerment to all consumers.

www.integratedfamilyservices.net

Dr. Henry Johnson, we appreciate your support!

ANTHONY JONES
Thank you for supporting the NC Foundation for Public School Children
Congratulations to the 2023 Champions for Children

JOHN KANE
Sponsor of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children

KANE REALTY CORPORATION

RICHARD LAND

Gary McRae, thank you for supporting our children!

Conen Morgan, thank you for supporting our children!
Thank you for your support!
Mack Pearsall, thanks for believing and supporting the work of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children!

Perry Safran, thanks for your love and care for our Foundation!
Lynn Shoemaker
The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children is grateful for your faithful support!

“I applaud the work of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children.”
Senator TERRY VAN DUYN

Publix Super Markets Charities
Proud sponsor of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children

THIGPEN & JENKINS, LLP
Your legal matter is extremely personal and can impact the rest of your life. Personal attention and one-on-one advice are essential to protect your best interests. That is exactly what you will receive at Thigpen & Jenkins, L.L.P.

www.thigpenjenkins.com
Bishop Hope Morgan Ward & Dr. Mike Ward

Congratulations to the 2023 Champion for Children. We are proud to support the work of the North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children.

OUR MISSION
The NC Foundation for Public School Children is the education lifeline and safety net that offers hope, dignity, and opportunity so ALL students have a fair chance to learn and enjoy school.

Wegmans

Brad & Carole Wilson
Thank you for your support!
NEA Executive Committee, NEA Current & Former Staff and Friends of Public School Educators

Adam Shapiro
Andrea Prejean
Andrea Walker
Andrew Linebaugh
Ann Maddock
Anne Franklin
Anthony Jackson
Audrey Galloway
Barbara Hopkins
Barbara Stein
Betty Jeung
Brian Washington
Britt & Ann Cobb
Carol Patton Strickland
Carolyn Breedlove
Celia & Doug Berger
Charles Coble
Cheryl Quick
Cheryl Scott Williams
Christine Kushner
Cindi Jolly
Congresswoman Deb Ross
Cynthia M. Jolly
Cynthia Swann
Dawn Shephard
Deborah Delisle
Diane Shust
Evon Mazyck
Floyd Cox
Franklin Freeman
Hampton Dellinger
Harriet Sanford
Jackie Wooten
James Kelly
Jane Stein
Jay Reiff
John Arrowood
John Denning
John I. Wilson
John Stocks
Joyce Powell
Judge John Arrowood
Julie Garcia
Karen Garr
Karen White
Katherine Mattos
Kathleen Hurley
Kim Anderson
Laura Gross
Laura Tormey
Leona Hiraoka
Leslie Winner
Linda Cabral
Linda Davin
Lydia Anderson
Mack Haywood
Malethia Armstrong
Marie Evans
Marilyn Monahan
Martha Alexander
Martha Royal-Shafer
Mary Elizabeth Pacheco
Mary Mountcastle

Thank You for making it possible for Teachers and Educational Support Professionals to be with us tonight.
NEA Executive Committee, NEA Current & Former Staff and Friends of Public School Educators

Mary Pacheco
Michael McPherson
Michael Weisel
Mickey Ibarra
Mike McPherson
Morgan Jackson
Nancy Mack Haywood
Noel Candelaria
Pamela Seamans Feldman
Patricia Yancey
Paul Toner
Peter Arum
Princess Moss
Rafael Rivera
Rep. Ashton Clemmons
Richard D. Adelman
Richard Snider
Rocio Inclan
Ruth Felter-Massie
Sarah Fuerst

Senator Graig Meyer
Sheila Simmons
Sheriff Willie Rowe
Smedes York
Stef Mendell
Steve Snider
Teresa Bergeson
Teresa Rankin
Terry Bergeson
Thad & Betsy Daise
The Honorable Michael Easley
The Honorable Linda Stephens
The Honorable Rufus Edmisten
The Honorable Sam Ervin IV
Thomas Williams
Tony Stewart
W. Britt Cobb, Jr.
Wynne Shaw
Zeke Creech

Thank You for making it possible for Teachers and Educational Support Professionals to be with us tonight.
“All kids need is a little help, a little hope, and someone who believes in them.”

– Magic Johnson