SHINING LIGHT

ON THOSE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

2017 Foundation Report

Beyond informing our stakeholders about our financials and grantees, we wanted to use our 2017 annual report to shine light on how some grantees in our state are living out the Foundation's core values on a daily basis. While only five of our grantees are highlighted in this report, we know that every grantee fights daily to serve the needs of their community and we applaud them all.

In response to God's call and in the spirit of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, the Foundation strategically uses resources to reduce poverty through action, advocacy, and leadership, thus helping families in South Carolina to live out of poverty.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." --Martin Luther King Jr.

In the spirit of The Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina began its journey in philanthropy in May of 1996. For more than 20 years, the Foundation has been committed to providing resources so that individuals and families can live out of poverty. Since inception, we have invested over $65 million in the areas of education, health and social services through more than 2,350 grants in all 46 counties of the state.

Through our grantmaking efforts, expanded advocacy and strategic initiatives, dedication to strengthening the leadership of nonprofits across the state and support of the dedicated Women Religious serving in South Carolina, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to being not only a supportive presence but a force for change in addressing issues surrounding poverty in South Carolina.

All of these efforts are grounded in our core values of courage, collaboration, compassion, justice, and respect. You will witness examples of our core values in the report as we lift up individuals and organizations that are shining light for others.

In 2017, we awarded 189 grants totaling $3,309,300 million. This is our largest individual grantmaking year since 2001. Also, the Foundation continued partnering with a multitude of nonprofit organizations committed to serving those living in poverty as well as addressing systemic change, invested in initiatives lifting up immigrant families and kinship care providers and supported emerging student leaders in the world of philanthropy at Benedict College and Columbia College.

For more than two decades, the Foundation has been driven by a spirit of service set forth by the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, and we continue to be grateful for their guidance as we work towards addressing issues of injustice and ending the cycle of poverty. We are thankful for the direction and support of our Board of Trustees and look forward to continuing as a strong presence to serve those most in need across the state.

It is important to also note that while the numbers of grants we've awarded, the dollar amounts given, the number of people served – all impressive and important, we also know that behind each number, there is a life, a story, a heart, and spirit loved by God and by us. Each life touched through the Foundation's work has been a true blessing and we continually give thanks for the opportunities that have been given to us.

Thomas C. Keith, President

Gerald Smalls, Board of Trustees Chair

2017 Grant Awards

Caritas

Anderson Free Clinic
Angels Charge Ministry
Area Churches Together Serving Acts
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Backpack Buddies Seabrook Island
Bailey Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic
Beyond Our Walls
Birthright of Georgetown
Bluffton Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine
Bluffton Self Help
Bridges For End-Of-Life
CareFIRST Carolina Foundation
Caring and Sharing
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Charleston
Center for Community Services
Charleston Jewish Federation
Charleston Legal Access
Cherokee County Free Medical Clinic
Children's Recovery Center
Circle of Hope Ministries
Columbia Oral Health Clinic
Communities In Schools of the Midlands
Developmental Center for Exceptional Children
East Cooper Community Outreach
East Cooper Ecumenical Network
East Cooper Meals on Wheels
Eau Claire Shalom Ministries/Tutor Eau Claire
EmmanuWheel
Family Justice Center of Georgetown County
Family Promise of Anderson County
Family Promise of Beaufort County
Family Promise of Florence
Family Promise of Pickens County
Food Bank of Greenwood County
Food For The Soul - Kershaw County
Four Holes Indian Organization Edisto Tribal
Freedom Readers
Golden Corner Food Pantry
Good Samaritan Clinic
Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic of Laurens County
Great Falls Referral Assistance Service Project
Greer Relief & Resources Agency
Hands of Christ
Harvest Hope Food Bank
Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg
Help 4 Kids Florence
HELP of Summerville
Helping Hands of Georgetown
Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour
Home Works of America
Hope In Lancaster
Hospice and Palliative Care Foundation of South Carolina
ICNA Relief USA, Shifa Free Clinic
Lighthouse Ministries
Loaves & Fishes
Loving America Street
Lowcountry Food Bank
Lutheran Social Services of the Greater Charleston Area
Meals on Wheels Bluffton-Hilton Head
Meals on Wheels of Greenville
MedNeed of SC
Mental Health America Aiken
Mercy Medicine Clinic
North Family Community School
North Greenville Food Crisis Ministry
Oconee Presbyterian Service Fund
Operation Home
Operation Sight
Renew Our Community
Richland County Court Appointed Special Advocates
Ride To Work Ministry Nonprofit
Safe Harbor
Sandalwood Community Food Pantry
Sea Haven
Second Helpings
Senior Resources
Sistercare
Smith Medical Clinic
SNAC
St. Claire of Assisi St. Vincent de Paul Society
St. Mary Catholic Church Outreach
Step By Step Ministry Hope Project
Taylors Free Medical Clinic
Teachers' Supply Closet
The Free Medical Clinic
The Therapy Place
Timmonsville Boys & Girls Club
Trident Literacy Association
Union County Carnegie Library
United Center for Community Care
United Christian Ministries of Abbeville County
Vital Aging of Williamsburg County
Volunteers in Medicine
Winfield Heights Baptist Church
York County Free Clinic

Kinship Care

Helping and Lending Outreach Support (HALOS)

CMI Strengthening Ministry

Felician Center
Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach Services
Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Center
Springbank Christian Center Dominican Retreat
St. Cyprian Outreach Center
St. Francis Center
St. Martin de Porres Catholic School
Thumbs Up

Community Enrichment

Anderson Interfaith Ministries
City of Rock Hill
Community Works
Compass of Carolina
EdVenture
Florence Crittenton Programs of South Carolina
Foothills Family Resources
Hope Center for Children
Indian Waters Council, Boy Scouts of America
KNOW2
Middle Tyger Community Center
Midlands Housing Alliance
Miss Ruby's Kids
New Directions of Horry County
Palmetto Place Children's Shelter
Teach My People
The Sustainability Institute
Turning Leaf Project
United Ministries
United Way of the Piedmont
Village Group
WINGS

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Children's Trust of South Carolina
Greenville Chamber of Commerce
I. DeQuincey Newman Institute for Peace and Social Change
Phoebe Pember Foundation/The Sophia Institute
South Carolina Collaborative for Race and Reconciliation

Discretionary

Central Carolina Community Foundation
Christian Christmas Club
Columbia College
Community Foundation of the Lowcountry
EdVenture
Ensemble Eclectica
Healthy Learners
Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg
Junior Achievement of Central South Carolina
Lighthouse Ministries
Marion County Healthcare Foundation
Palmetto Animal Assisted Life Services
Pee Dee Community Project
Performing Arts And Science Academy Pasa
Saint Joseph Catholic School
Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands
SC Association for Community Economic Development
SC Center for Fathers and Families
Streams of Dreams
The ARK of South Carolina
The Therapy Place
Together SC
University of South Carolina Educational Foundation
Welvista

Immigrant Families

Alliance for Collaboration with the Hispanic Community
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Charleston
Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas
My Amigos Bilingual Education Center
Neighborhood Outreach Connection
Si Se Puede
South Carolina Legal Services
South Carolina Research Foundation - PASOs Program
Student Action with Farmworkers
YMCA of Beaufort County

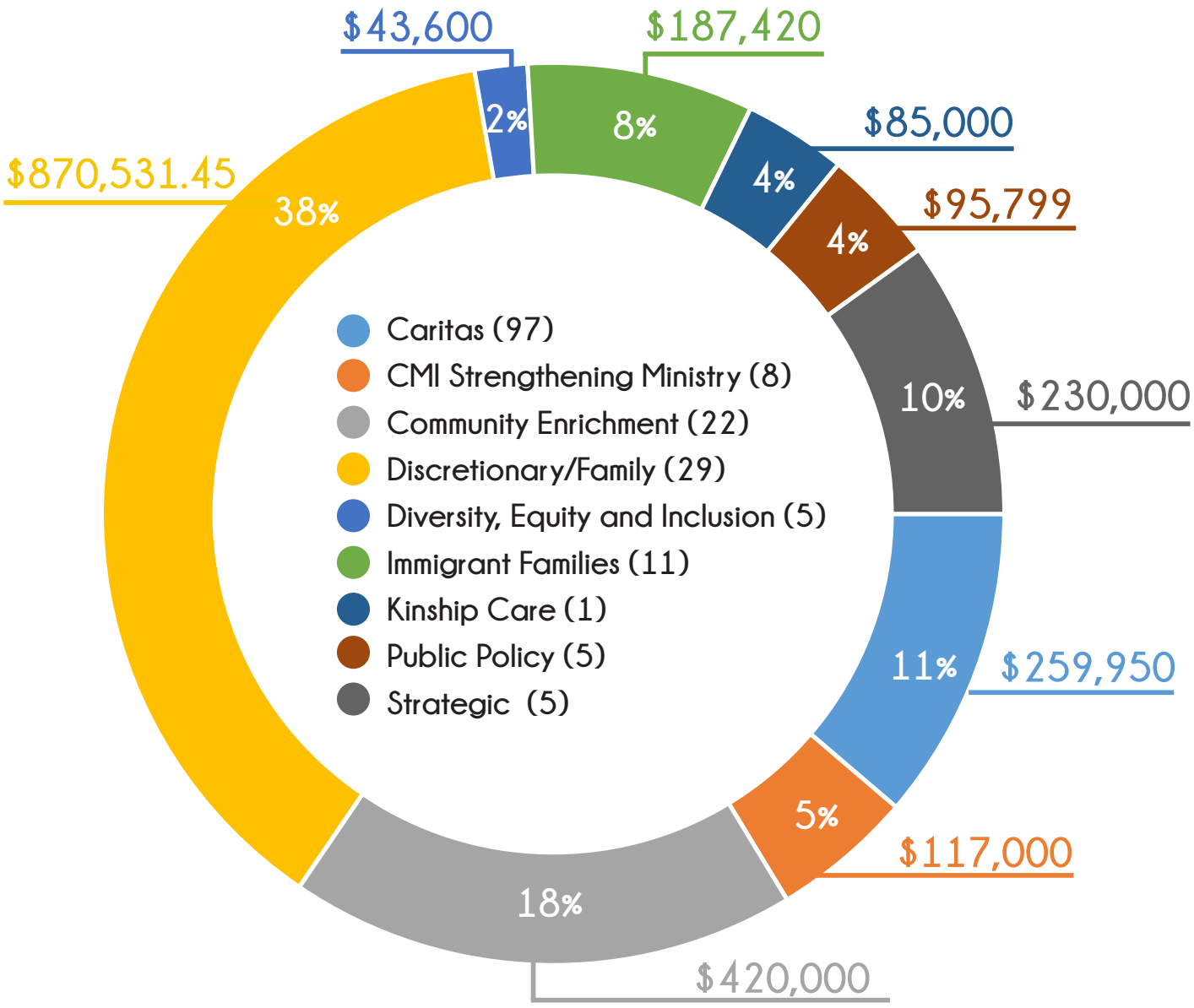
Public Policy

Fostering Great Ideas
Institute For Child Success
South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center
South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health
Women's Rights And Empowerment Network

Strategic

Community Foundation Of Greenville for OnTrack
Family Shelter
Homeless No More
Homes of Hope
Metanoia Community Development Corporation

2017 GRANTMAKING

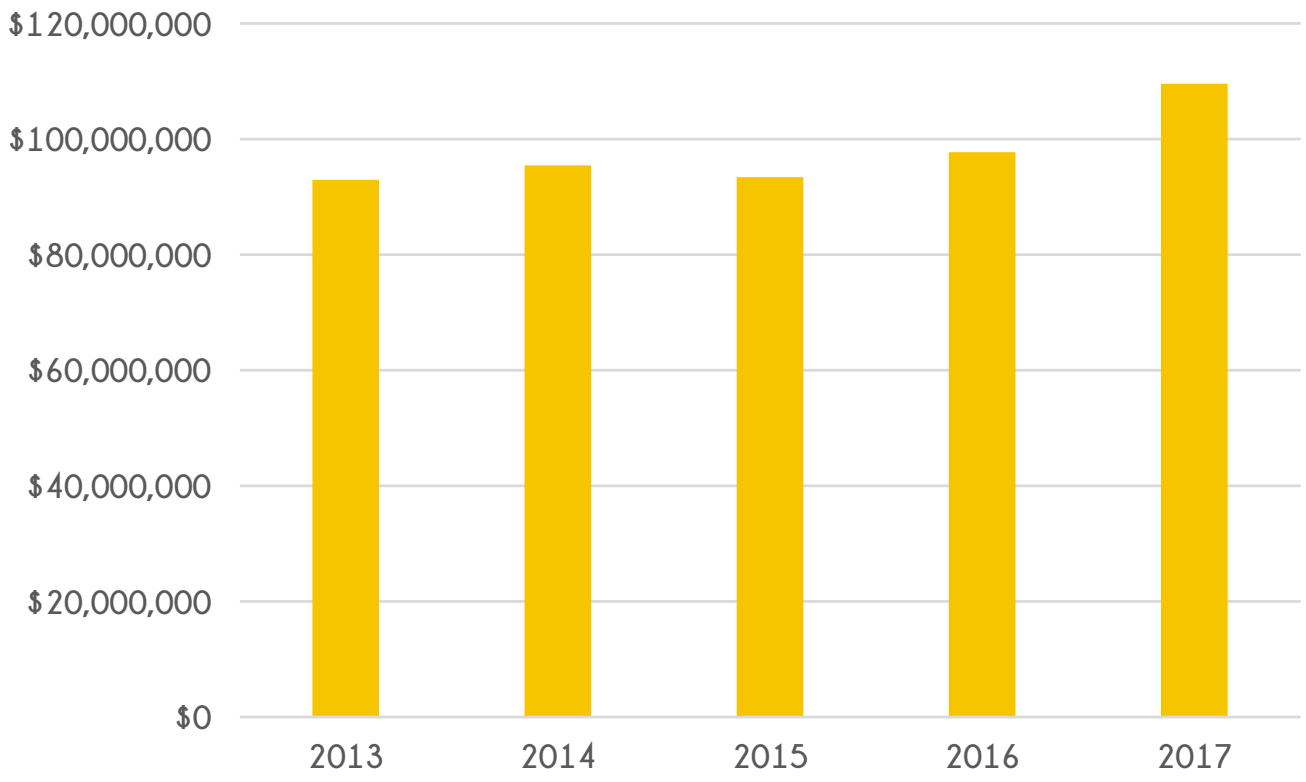


185 Grants Totalling **$3,309,300***

Social Services	$2,366,260*, 72%
Health	$406,471, 12%
Education	$536,569, 16%

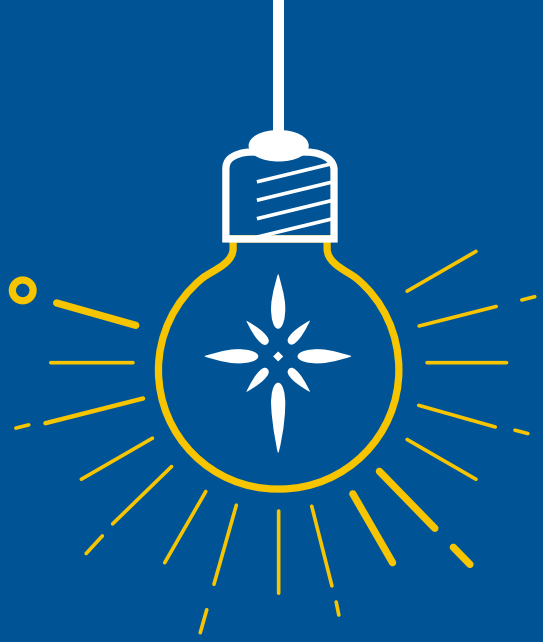
* This value includes a one-time capacity and sustainability building grant to the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families, a ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, in the amount of $1,000,000 to be disbursed over three years.

TOTAL ASSETS (IN MILLIONS)



FINANCIALS (2017)

Current Assets	
Cash	$278,430
Property and Equipment	$48,425
Investments	$109,240,396
Restricted Assets	$1,200
Total Assets	$109,601,963
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	$5,751
Accrued Expenses	$14,033
Grants Payable	$600,000
Total Liabilities	$619,784
Total Funds Balance	$108,882,179
Total Liabilities and Balance	$109,601,963



RESPECT

One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say. –Bryant H. McGill

In 2015 Homeless No More, which was then Trinity Housing Corporation, began to recognize that their services had a gap in them: emergency shelter services. They saw families that lived in cars show up needing emergency assistance, but were unable to support them through the St. Lawrence Place program, an existing primary program. It was with this understanding that they listened to their community and began their journey toward merging with Family Shelter, the only emergency shelter service in Columbia, South Carolina.

"After we finished our strategic plan, we knew we had two options: either build our own emergency shelter, or we work together to bring Family Shelter into the Homeless No More family," Lila Anna Sauls, President and CEO of Homeless No More, said. "At that time we were still Trinity Housing Corporation and no one knew what the future looked like. What we did know, though, was that emergency shelter was a part of it."

As a grantee, Family Shelter came to the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina recognizing that they needed help in order to continue serving families in the Midlands. With this understanding, the Foundation brought various nonprofits to the table to discuss how to make sure that Family Shelter continued offering assistance to families in need. Homeless No More was part of the answer.

Sauls then found herself in a position where she had to convince two separate boards that merging together was the best answer for the community.

"We had two issues moving forward: my board needed to be okay with how to pay for this, how to run it and the Family Shelter board needed to be okay with this change. I was having to convince my board that we weren't taking on a negative, and someone was having to convince their board that it's okay to make this merger," Sauls said.

Making a change as large and as important as this respectfully was at the forefront of Sauls' mind throughout the entire process. While Homeless No More managed Family Shelter in 2017, Sauls wanted the Family Shelter family to feel welcomed and a part of Homeless No More. The Family Shelter board of trustees self-selected who joined the full board.

"We respected this board who had put blood, sweat, and tears into this organization. Dissolving this board was never a thought," Sauls said. "We knew we needed to respect their timing and space because no matter what, making this shift was going to be uncomfortable and tough."

Along with the board, staff from Family Shelter also joined Homeless No More. Sauls found it important to stress the importance of new staff and existing staff operating as one team.

"We never wanted to walk in and wipe out the Family Shelter staff—that would be foolish, but after six months we could tell that they weren't happy," Sauls said. "We started hiring joint staff, meaning no more 'I'm St. Lawrence Place' or 'I'm Family Shelter.' Everyone is Homeless No More. All the children attend our Children's Program and you can't tell who is a St. Lawrence Place child or Family Shelter child; I just know that it's a child we are all taking care of."

Being one team is crucial to meeting the needs of Midlands families, and the organization's shared missions have been the key to moving forward.

"Respect of the family was an unspoken among all of us. During all this transition serving our families was at the forefront. Respecting their needs is what drove all of us to make this transition as easy as possible – we didn't want them to see a thing. The only thing our families had to deal with was that there were some new rules in place to make services seamless," Sauls said.

As of January 1, 2018 Family Shelter officially became a part of the Homeless No More continum of services. Though they worked strategically and thoughtfully to make this transition respectfully, there are still lessons to be learned.

"We now have a new team and board. The work culture has had to change for everyone. We suddenly went from 6 employees to 27 employees, so you go from all being in one place together then suddenly there 27 of us and we're all on different campuses," Sauls said. "It's a constant challenge of remembering we're all on one team. We still have not nailed it; we're still working on it. It's a perpetual challenge with constant assessment."

COMPASSION

"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive." -Dalai Lama

Thumbs Up Children's Educational Center is more than just a place for children to work on their literacy. It is a place where tenacity, understanding and compassion meet to create a safe and useful environment for children and their families.

According to their mission, Thumbs Up Children's Educational Center "is a year-round, no-cost early literacy intervention and support services program designed to help low-performing children who are living in economically disadvantaged families to achieve grade level proficiency in reading and math; thus preparing them to become successful students in school and in life."

The holistic approach that Thumbs Up uses provides an after-school tutorial program, a summer academic/enrichment program and a parent outreach and support program. Rosalyn Fields, Thumbs Up Executive Director says that the programs reach further than the children, focusing on the entire family unit.

"In the Thumbs Up program, we provide a parent outreach and training component because parents are key to the success of their children in school," Fields said. "A series of home visitations, parenting and health workshops, social worker interventions and family communication exercises are designed by Thumbs Up staff to instill self-confidence, overcome negative attitudes, understand child development, build healthy family relationships and diminish the fear of the involvement of social service agencies."

Thumbs Up was founded by Sister Mary Trazcko, OP, who developed an organization based on love and compassion for those who need assistance. Thumbs Up has continued to build upon those values, which are at the very core of its existence.

"Sister Mary led a mission to provide for the needs of all children living in poverty with their parents who had been diagnosed as having disabilities--through the Beaufort County Disabilities Department--and who suffered pervasive stigmas and discrimination. Diversity and kindness will always be embraced and promoted by Thumbs Up, its Board and its staff," Fields said.

COLLABORATION

"None of us, including me, ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful." – Mother Teresa

Collaboration is an idea that is often feared. Collaboration can lead to working with competition, meeting often or differing opinions. Though it can prove to be a great challenge, when organizations get together to support a shared cause, amazing things can happen.

This challenge was met when the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina worked together with FoodShare and Columbia College to support the growth of one impressive recent graduate.

Michelle Troup, Columbia College '17, was a PLACE Fellow throughout her undergraduate education, making her a familiar face around the Foundation. The Philanthropy Leadership and Community Engagement (PLACE) Fellowship Program is a unique, four-year partnership with the Sisters of Charity Foundation and Columbia College designed to increase students' awareness of the impact of philanthropy on community nonprofits. Troup spoke numerous times to Foundation staff and board about her experience as a Fellow and earns the respect of all those she encounters.

"After I presented to the Foundation board, Tom and the board chair both showed an interest in helping me find a place to work," Troup said. "When Tom heard about my passion for food access and food insecurity, he began conversations with FoodShare."

FoodShare South Carolina emerged in response to the challenges that low-income families face in accessing fresh, affordable food. The program was created through a partnership between the Columbia Housing Authority, Richland Library, EdVenture, and the USC School of Medicine and uses a community based approach to ensure "Good Healthy Food for All" and to improve health conditions of those in underserved areas of the city.

Foundation President Tom Keith began conversations with FoodShare Executive Director Beverly Wilson about an intern, offering to fund a paid internship for Troup at the organization due to her proven responsibility and dedication throughout her undergraduate studies.

"It is always a risk with managing an intern. You never know exactly what you're going to get, but Tom seemed to really trust that this would be a perfect fit," Wilson said. "What we got was the best of them all. Michelle works so hard and genuinely relates with our clients."

Troup has now been working full-time at FoodShare since February 2018 as their Culinary Educator. In this role she facilitates cooking classes and teaches the community how to prepare tasty and nutritious meals.

COURAGE

Jump, and you will find out how to unfold your wings as you fall.

–Ray Bradbury

Dr. Reshma Khan's dream was to start a free medical clinic that served those in need and proved to be pleasing to God. After years of thinking, Khan finally found the courage to start one, prompted by one small question from her young son.

Before coming to South Carolina, Khan and her family lived in Maryland where she and her husband were practicing physicians. Khan loved her position as an OBGYN doctor and considered her job "perfect." When Khan's husband accepted a job at the Department of Veteran Affairs in South Carolina, Khan decided that the move was right for them as a family and that she must personally take on her children's religious studies herself.

"I was happy in Maryland and there was only uncertainty in South Carolina," Khan said. "Somehow, though, I was less concerned about having a job and more concerned with how I will teach my children about religion."

When they moved to the South. Khan took a part-time position at the VA. Though she was unsure about whether the position was right for her, she decided to take it and work harder on developing her faith.

"It was a slow process for me learning how to teach my son about religion," Khan said. "But the population I was working with at the VA inspired me. I truly connected with them and realized this is why God brought me to Charleston."

For two years, Khan continued at the VA, growing in her faith. It was at this point that during one of her sessions with her young son about obedience to God, that he said something that deeply impacted her.

"At this point I wasn't wearing my headscarf. After our lesson about obedience to God, my son had a very important question," Khan said.

"He said that he sees me wear my headscarf to the mosque, but not every day like other women and asked why I don't wear it other places. I told him that God told us to be modest and to cover as a part of our religion. The question he then asked was so simple, but struck me. He said, 'Well you just told me we need to listen and obey God. So why don't you obey him by wearing the headscarf?'"

This seemingly small conversation moved Khan into making the courageous decision to begin wearing her headscarf all the time. This decision inspired her to walk closer with God.

"It was more than just wearing it on my head. There is so much that comes with wearing a headscarf. You represent an identity and religion and to be that one person different from everyone else isn't easy," Khan said.

That one step toward God was positive reinforcement of Khan's faith. Over a period of time Khan began to feel normal with her head cover and was able to move forward with her passion, serving the community's medical needs.

"I decided that I needed to give all of myself to the community," Khan said. "I started volunteering my services at clinics and saw a big need. Clinics would give me three or four hours and then I'd be done. I wanted more than that. I wanted a place where people could leave messages and I could know if treatment was working. I knew something needed to change for me."

After three years of working, Khan and her husband attended the Islamic Circle of North America Relief USA Conference. ICNA Relief provides social services, women's shelters, and other programs for the hungry and other nationwide services. It was at this conference that Khan noticed a sign that said 'We Help Start Free Clinics.'

After submitting a proposal to them, it took 10 months to hear the final decision. During the final interview, Khan learned whether she received the organization's support or not.

"The director said to me 'Reshma I've done a lot of these interviews and I know that you already have what you need to start a clinic. You have it inside of you. You don't need the money or community – it will come to you,'" Khan said.

With that, Khan was given $40,000 to start and a 1-year commitment from ICNA Relief. As the sole person starting a clinic, Khan began to figure out her next steps. In the same month that she received the news from ICNA, she also went on Hajj, the Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca that all able-bodied Muslims must take as one of the five pillars of Islam.

"Amongst the millions I felt completely alone and the first thing that came to me was to ask forgiveness" Khan said. "I was overwhelmed by the fact God gave me this opportunity to stand in this blessed mosque. I made a prayer that although I want the clinic, if I am not the right person, to please take it away from me before I start. If this work is acceptable to Him, to put His blessings in it and make it a source of peace, blessing and love for all. A portal of goodness and mercy for all and guide me towards such. "

When Khan came back from Hajj she received the check and found a facility to start the clinic. She couldn't afford a staff. No one believed in the project at the time, so she couldn't find any physicians, nurses, or volunteers. Finally, with the help of three housewives who did what they could, the clinic started. Khan started out small, working only 4 hours on Saturdays and spent additional time trying to connect with other clinics to learn from.

"Looking back, it is so hard to fathom how we got here. I just kept persistent," Khan said. "Never once have I felt like this was a burden to me or too much to handle. For me it was always renewal and I looked forward to Saturdays."

She eventually got one doctor on board, which led to continual growth of the clinic. She started practicing GYN and slowly added services that the community needed. People started to find out about it and wanted to help.

Today, the Shifa Free Medical Clinic provides primary care, obstetrics, gynecology, dental, pediatrics, vision, dermatology, mental health and adult and children vaccinations as well as an onsite dispensary. In addition to these medical services, the clinic provides numerous outreach programs such as an onsite food pantry, back to school supplies giveaways, and diabetes self-management education classes. To learn more about the clinic visit shifa101.com.

JUSTICE

'Justice cannot be for one side alone, but must be for both. – Eleanor Roosevelt

The South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health (IMPH) has one simple goal-- to collectively inform policy to improve health and health care. One way that IMPH does this is by convening legislators through their Health Policy Fellows Program.

According to IMPH's website, "the South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health (IMPH) developed the Health Policy Fellows Program to provide members of the General Assembly with clear, evidence-based health policy information in a non-partisan manner. The Fellows Program is intended to assist elected officials by providing resources and information related to complex health policy topics."

The Health Policy Fellows Program provides structured time away from the sometimes chaotic environment of politics to take a step back and look at the big picture of health and health care.

"It also provides a chance to see health as not just what is our expenditure on Medicaid this year, which is important and significant, but starts a bigger discussion. When we get done talking about social determinants of health, legislators start talking about education policy and how we have to do better in our state with failing schools. They question how we expect healthy outcomes when there is such a high percentage of people living in poverty or how limited public transportation is," Maya Pack, co-director of IMPH, said. "They begin to think deeply about all these barriers and the social determinants of health, and it gives the decision makers more tools to have an impact on the outcome."

Legislators are often expected to be experts in a variety of issues which they have to vote on. The Health Policy Fellow Program is aimed to assist them in having better understanding when it comes time to make important decisions regarding South Carolinians.

"It's hard to imagine being in their shoes and being expected to be knowledgeable about so many different topics. We wanted to empower legislators with a basic understanding of health and health care that may be new to them and how their decisions impact the people they serve. We also want to help them frame what questions to ask when there are bills or legislation they are asked to review or vote on. The volume of information that comes across their desk every day is overwhelming, so helping them identify the key questions has been a success," Pack said.

Beyond gaining better understanding of health issues in South Carolina, legislators also take-away knowledge of how to communicate effectively. IMPH brings in a facilitator to discuss conversational capacity, the ability to talk constructively with others who might have a different world view, with the Fellows.

Pack said, "At times, conversations devolve quickly in this day in age because people are so wed to their point of view, but sometimes deconstructing that and getting to the 'why' can help people find common ground and work together in a positive manner. Even though that session isn't about specific policy, it is the most popular because of the tools that are provided that can be immediately implemented in day-to-day life."

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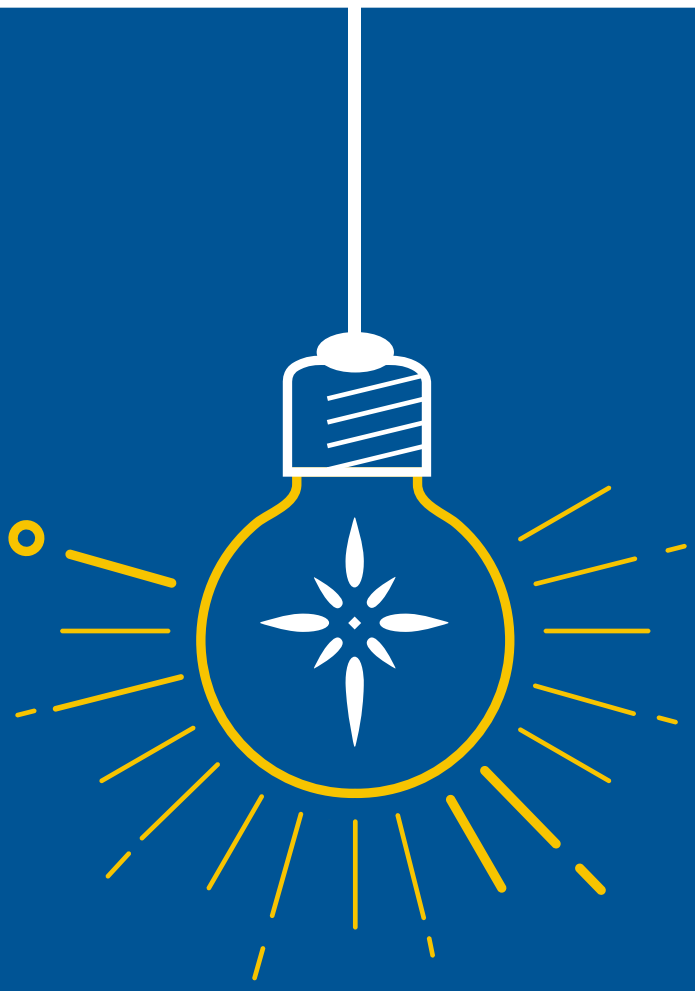
FOUNDATION STAFF

Back Row: Mark Ward, Project Coordinator and Special Assistant; Kim Frohnappel, Director of Operations and Facilities Management; Lydia Royals, Digital Media Specialist; Tom Keith, President; Meredith Mathews, Program Manager; Langley Shealy, Director of Communications and Public Information; Chynna Phillips, Research and Policy Manager.

Front Row (seated): Ericka Wooten, Program and Initiatives Manager; Donna Waites, Senior Program Director.



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