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ANNUAL REPORT



SISTERS of CHARITY FOUNDATION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*



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## MISSION AND VALUES

**MISSION:** 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.

**VISION:** Families in South Carolina have the resources they need to live out of poverty.

**VALUES:** Courage | Justice | Compassion | Collaboration | Respect

### JANUARY 2020 – DECEMBER 2022 STRATEGIC INTENTIONS

- 1 Raise and extend the profile of the Foundation to inspire and influence positive change for those living in poverty in South Carolina.
- 2 Deepen and sharpen our grantmaking focus for greater impact on our mission.
- 3 Elevate and expand action and results in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) space as a driver of reducing poverty.

As a Catholic organization, the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina sees the themes of Catholic Social Teachings as a guide for every aspect of our work. Our founders, the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, embody these core elements of Catholic Social Teaching through their daily lives and work, and our organization reflects those same tenets.

#### Catholic Social Teaching Themes

- Life and dignity of the human person
- Call to family, community and participation
- Rights and responsibilities
- Option for the poor and vulnerable
- The dignity of work and the rights of workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God’s creation

WITH A FOCUS ON REDUCING  
POVERTY IN SOUTH CAROLINA  
THROUGH SERVANT LEADERSHIP  
AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL  
STEWARDSHIP, WE SEEK TO BE  
RECOGNIZED AS A KEY DRIVING  
FORCE BEHIND THE IMPACTFUL  
CHANGES MAKING SOUTH  
CAROLINA A PLACE WHERE  
**ALL PEOPLE** HAVE THE  
RESOURCES TO THRIVE.

# Message from President & Board Chair



Our state and nation have experienced challenges in the last three years that no one anticipated. However, our Foundation believes that one of our greatest opportunities can be to build on the momentum the nonprofit and philanthropic sector found when we all “came together” for the greater good of the people in our state. People and organizations began to use their voices and their power for change and saw tangible results. We are all eager to engage in the change that we want to see, and more people are now inspired to increase their civic engagement, participate in collective action, and learn ways that they can be an active part of making their community a better place for all people. In every way that we are able, our Foundation seeks to walk alongside all those that are ready to advocate, take action, and lead.

During 2022, the Foundation experienced many major milestones, with perhaps the most noteworthy being the retirement of our long-time president, Tom Keith, in July. For several months leading up to his retirement, friends, and supporters from near and far were able to share memories and celebrate his accomplishments through our social media and also at a beautiful gathering in downtown Columbia. It was at this gathering that our beloved former president also received the outstanding achievement of the Order of the Palmetto from the South Carolina Governor’s Office. The contributions that Tom made to our state and to the work of the Foundation are deep and long lasting.

As you will see in the pages to follow, our grant investments and partnerships provided impactful funding and collaboration to over 200 nonprofit organizations who share in our mission to make South Carolina a place where all can thrive. Our advocacy agenda came to life in 2022, our work in the policy arena entered into a deeper and more strategic phase, with our commitment to infusing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging into every part of our work remaining at the forefront.

Our Foundation is energized to forge ahead into the future as we begin the new year under the leadership of Board Chair Macon Lovelace and a new president. It is with immense gratitude that we thank all our partners without whom we would not be able to carry out our mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna Waites".

**Donna Waites**  
*President*

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Folsom".

**Andy Folsom**  
*2020-2022 Board Chair*

# Board and Staff Leadership

## 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Andy Folsom *Chair*

Pam Bryant *Vice Chair*

Macon Lovelace *Secretary*

Gerald Smalls *Treasurer*

Donna Waites *Foundation*

*President/Ex Officio*

Jan Murphy, *Ex Officio*

Lisa Bernardin

Sr. Judith Ann Karam, CSA, FACHE

Dr. Reshma Khan

Mike McCabe

Rick Mendoza

Patricia Moore-Pastides

Brian Murrell

Thomas Otis

Lee Pearson

Ron Pitner

Karen Smith

Maria Smoak

Mitch Watson

Tiger Wells

## FOUNDATION STAFF



Donna Waites  
*President*



Hiller Davenport  
*Special Assistant  
to the President*



Sarah Katherine DeVenny  
*Community Outreach  
Coordinator*



Kim Frohnappel  
*Director of Operations*



Meredith Mathews  
*Senior Director  
of Grantmaking  
and Strategy*



Chynna A. Phillips  
*Senior Director of  
Policy and Research*

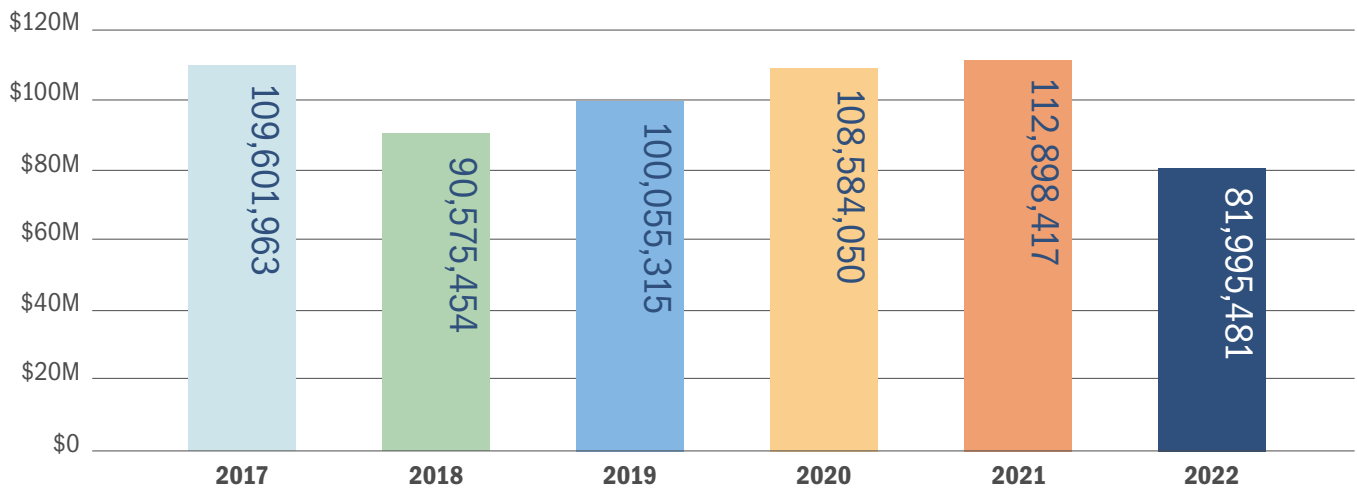


Ericka Wooten  
*Director of Culture  
and Values*



# Total Assets

TOTAL ASSETS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2022





# Policy & Research

The Foundation focused on expanding its capacity to engage in policy and knowledge-sharing that further educates our partners, changemakers and other relevant constituencies of SC. One of the primary avenues our Foundation utilized in increasing our policy work is through our Advocacy Learning Series. The Foundation launched the quarterly series which aimed to increase the collective understanding of navigating advocacy while operating under a nonprofit status. Learning opportunities were made available to staff, board members and the community at large.

## **Bolder Advocacy Training: Non-Profit Lobbying and Advocacy 101**

This workshop, hosted by national expert, Bolder Advocacy of Alliance for Justice, aimed to give nonprofits the ability to have a clear understanding of how to maximize their advocacy, the kinds of advocacy activities 501(c)(3)s can engage in, and when communication is considered lobbying.

## **Bolder Advocacy Board Education Session**

Bolder Advocacy program is the nation's leading resource for foundations and nonprofits who want to engage more actively and knowledgeably in the policymaking process. Bolder Advocacy's legal experts help organizations move from cautious to courageous by providing workshops. The Foundation held an internal training for all board members to learn how to effectively fund and conduct advocacy efforts as a philanthropic organizations.

## **Data: Where to Find It and How to Use It**

This event focused on data—where to find data, how to utilize data effectively, and emphasized the importance of disaggregated data. Attendees heard from well-known statewide and national experts on their techniques when using data to inform their advocacy strategies. This installment aimed to provide tools to continue to strengthen our sector and empower organizations to create data-informed missions, goals, and outcomes.

## **Exploring the Role of Power, Trust, and Purpose in Healthy Philanthropic Ecosystems: A Conversation With Marcus Walton President & CEO of Grantmakers for Effective Organizations (GEO).**

GEO is a community of funders committed to transforming philanthropic culture and practice by connecting members to the resources and relationships needed to support thriving nonprofits and communities. Attendees learned how to create better ecosystems that support the change they seek. This learning installment was extended to the Foundation staff, board, and all leadership of the Sisters of Charity Health System Ministries, both in South Carolina and in Ohio.



# Advocacy Agenda

## Supporting Pathways to Economic Mobility, Advancing Health Equity, Prioritizing Human Dignity

As a direct result of the learning gathered from the 2020 Poverty Study, the Foundation introduced its inaugural Anti-Poverty Advocacy Agenda. This multiyear agenda highlighted the focus areas of economic mobility, health equity, and human dignity. This is done through intentional coalition participation and community outreach. The Foundation aims to elevate existing grassroots efforts and identify ongoing opportunities to learn with our community members. By centering lived experience in all aspects of our advocacy and research, we seek to ensure that the direction of the Foundation is driven by the self-identified needs of the community. We remain steadfast in our determination to build generative partnerships and pathways to deepen the impact of the Foundation's work and create a thriving South Carolina.

## 2022 COLLECTIVE ACTION HIGHLIGHTS



**Addressing the debt spiral.** The Foundation became an active member of the South Carolina Fair Lending Alliance (SCFLA). SCFLA is an alliance comprised of various faith communities, non-profits, community development organizations and individuals that support a rate cap of 36% inclusive of all fees on all consumer loan products. Collectively, this alliance represents neighbors all across the state who seek to address the obstacles and overwhelming debt that can arise from current consumer loan product lending practices.



**Cultivating public private partnerships.** The Foundation began its partnership with Sustain SC as they embarked on a pilot study to tackle the Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) and elevate South Carolina's ranking from 37 to 25. The Foundation joined leadership of the Stem Education and Workforce Development taskforce, that identifies and removes barriers through innovative and equitable thought leadership creating a robust, sustainable workforce and economic mobility for South Carolina's future. This effort effectively partners with large corporations that have a presence in South Carolina.



**Investing in the corridor of opportunity.** The Foundation joins efforts with The Aspen Institute's Criminal Justice Reform Initiative (CJRI) and members of its Justice and Governance Partnership (JGP) initiative for an inaugural meeting of the Aspen Justice Network. JGP is the signature program of CJRI. Focusing on mid-size and rural jurisdictions, JGP works to transform community safety and promote justice reforms at the local level by joining together data-driven and community-informed policies and practices in a new rigorous, collaborative approach. This effort will focus on 17 rural counties in South Carolina.







# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

The connection between poverty and racism is well documented. Racism, bias, inequity against groups and persons based on their ethnicity, race, religion, or other characteristics leads to unequal access to basic needs and services. The Sisters of Charity Foundation's mission is to reduce poverty through action, advocacy, and leadership. Growing in GRace (GIG) is a staff learning program that explores systemic issues that are drivers of poverty in South Carolina and considers the ways in which the Foundation, through grantmaking, policy and advocacy work, and leadership development can successfully address these issues.

The Foundation partnered with Dr. Jennifer Gunter, SC Collaborative on Race (COR) and the Interim Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the College of Arts and Sciences at USC for the 2022 GIG sessions. Dr. Gunter and Ericka Wooten, Director of DEIB facilitated ten discussions using an interactive and participatory format.

The GIG sessions had two main goals:

- 1 To explore how specific issues are impacted by systemic racism and how Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and historically marginalized communities are disproportionately impacted.
- 2 How could the Foundation use this information to better serve people experiencing poverty.

## 2022 TOPICS

**Whiteness** – Discussed the history and evolution of whiteness.

**Education** – Reviewed the history of education in the US including some unique barriers faced by LGBTQIA students and students with disabilities in addition to the obstacles created by race.

**Career and Technical Education (CTE)** – Defined technical training and discussed how CTE became an important part of creating equity and how does bias and inequity show up in CTE.

**Healthcare** – Learned about the history of inequities in healthcare including lack of access and present-day health care inequities based on race and gender. Explored the unique barriers faced by the BIPOC and LGBTQIA communities.

**Food Access** – Examined the differences between a food desert, food swamp, food apartheid, and food sovereignty. Explored ways in which the philanthropic sector and the Foundation specifically could address food access disparities.

**Mental Health** – Reviewed mental health statistics regarding suicide, mental health, and access to care in rural areas, and mental illness and the criminal justice system.

**Crisis Assistance** – Examined crises resulting from climate change and how climate change disproportionately impacts communities experiencing poverty and communities of color.

**Transportation** – Explored how transportation is one of the systems that can contribute to people experiencing poverty.

**Childcare Assistance** – Shared information on universal childcare in America, why it was abolished, and why we cannot get it back.

**Voting and Mass Incarceration** – Learned about the history of voting rights in America. Explored the link between mass incarceration and poverty as well as the link between mass incarceration and voting.



# Grantmaking

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina partners with organizations throughout the state that serve individuals and families experiencing poverty through several areas of grant funding: Meeting Immediate Needs, Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Systems-Level Change. Additionally, the Foundation allocates grant funding specifically for Healthy Learners and the SC Center for Fathers and Families, both designated as “Family Ministries.”

Built upon the clearly defined and optimally aligned grantmaking framework, process, and values developed in 2020 and refined throughout 2021, the Foundation’s 2022 grantmaking strategies continued to deepen mission impact through a sharpened focus on framework and resource congruence, infrastructure and process refinement and value-aligned practice.

2022’s grantmaking strategies were an extension of the intentions developed and executed in 2021, with adjustments and continuous improvement gleaned from praxis and lessons learned:

- 1 Continue to strategically align grantmaking framework and Foundation resources to increase the Foundation’s impact, focusing intentionally on the areas of breaking the cycle of poverty and systems level change
- 2 Steward resources effectively and efficiently through continued refinement of grants management infrastructure (streamlining internal processes and applicant-facing processes)
- 3 Continue to cultivate a positive, value-aligned experience for applicants and grantee partners

## 2022 GRANTMAKING HIGHLIGHTS



222  
GRANTS



\$2.9M+

in grant funding disbursed to nonprofits across South Carolina



20  
New Grantee Partners

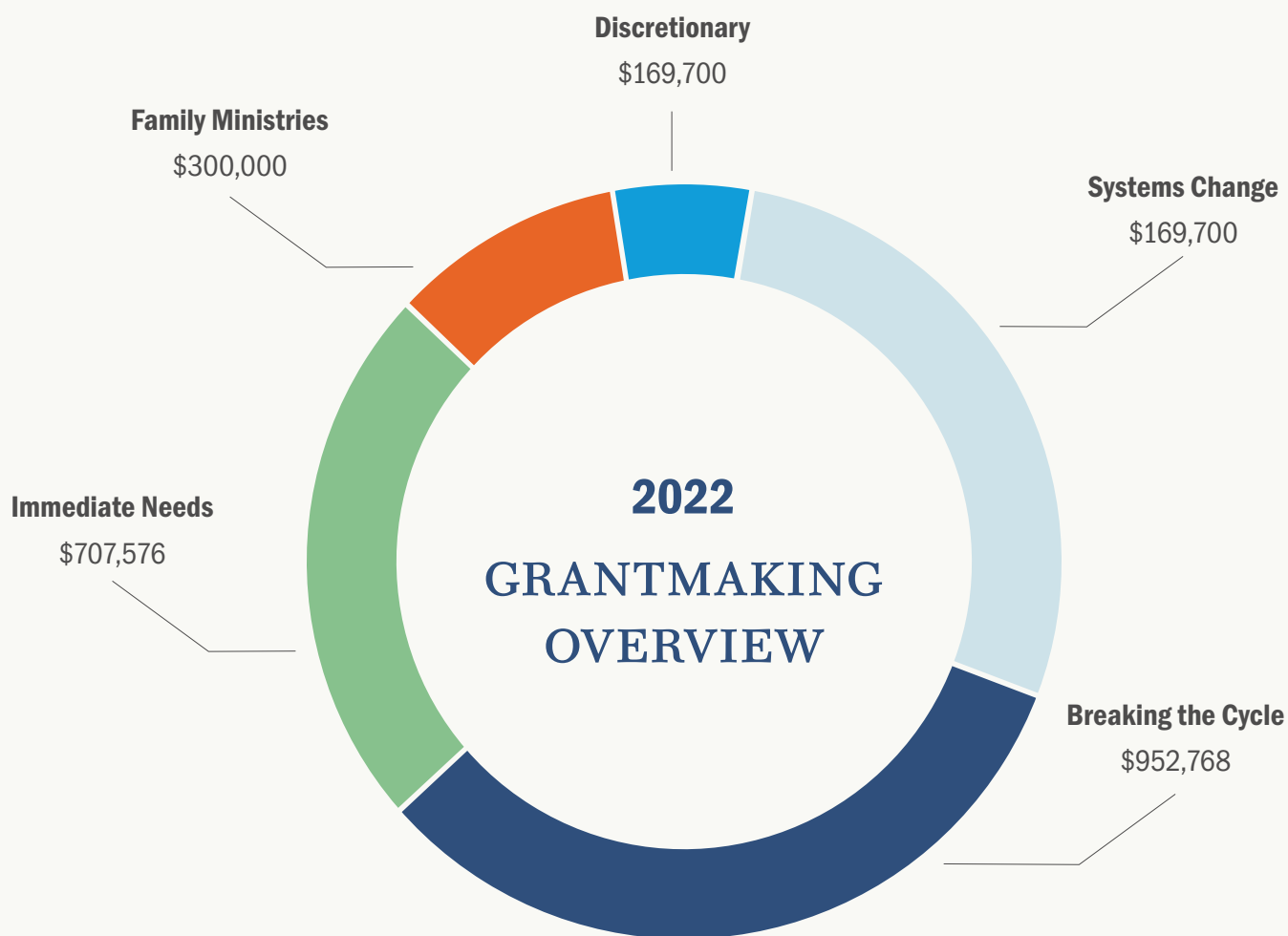


60%

of 2022 grants supporting systems level change and breaking the cycle of poverty



Deeper learning and practical application of values-based practice



PROGRAM AREA	NUMBER OF GRANTS	TOTAL \$
Health	61	\$659,000
Education	50	\$680,384
Social Services	111	\$1,600,660
<b>TOTAL GRANTS</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>\$2,940,044</b>

# 2022 Grantee Partners

Alston Wilkes Society  
Anderson Free Clinic  
Anderson Interfaith Ministries, Inc. (AIM)  
Angels Charge Ministry  
Area Churches Together Serving Acts  
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired SC  
Barrier Islands Free Medical Clinic  
Beaufort-Jasper YMCA of the Lowcountry  
Berkeley County First Steps  
Bethel Men's Shelter  
Beyond Abuse  
Beyond Our Walls  
Big Brothers Big Sisters Upstate, Inc.  
Bluffton Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine  
Bluffton Self Help  
Boys & Girls Club of the Lowcountry  
Bridges For End-Of-Life  
Brothers Restoring Urban Hope, Inc.  
Camp Happy Days  
Carolina Human Reinvestment (CHRSC)  
Carolina Youth Development Center  
Catholic Charities of South Carolina –  
Immigration Services  
Central Baptist Church- Helping Teachers  
Help Students  
Central Midlands Justice Ministry  
Charleston Area Justice Ministry  
Charleston Climate Coalition  
Charleston Legal Access  
Charleston Pro Bono Legal Services  
Charleston Promise Neighborhood  
Children's Attention Home  
Children's Recovery Center, Inc.  
Christ Central Ministries' Chester Center of Hope  
Classroom Central Inc  
Communities in Schools of the Charleston Area, Inc.  
Community Foundation Of Greenville  
(Greenville Homeless Alliance)  
Community Initiatives  
Community Medical Clinic of Kershaw County  
Community Works  
Compass Of Carolina Inc

Developmental Center for Exceptional Children  
Dickerson Children's Advocacy Center Inc  
Dorchester Children's Advocacy Center  
Dyslexia Resource Center  
E3 (Educate, Empower, Elevate)  
East Cooper Community Outreach  
East Cooper Meals on Wheels  
Edisto Indian Free Clinic  
EmmanuWheel  
Equal Justice Works  
Ezekiel Ministries  
FADICA  
Fairfield County Council on Aging  
Family Promise of Anderson County  
Family Support Services of Horry County Inc.  
Felician Center  
Feonix Mobility Rising  
Florence Crittenton Programs of South Carolina  
Foothills Family Resources  
Free Medical Clinic of Aiken, Inc.  
Freedom Readers  
Friendship Medical Clinic and Pharmacy  
Golden Corner Food Pantry  
Good Neighbor Medical Clinic  
Good Samaritan Clinic  
Good Shepherd Free Medical Clinic  
of Laurens County  
GRASP  
Greenville Free Medical Clinic  
Greenville Housing Fund  
Greenville Tech Foundation (African American Male  
Scholars Initiative)  
Habitat for Humanity Georgetown County, SC  
Healthy Learners  
Healthy Smiles of Spartanburg  
Helping and Lending Outreach Support, HALOS  
Helping Hand of Myrtle Beach, Inc.  
Helping Hands of Georgetown  
Hilton Head Island Safe Harbour  
Hispanic Alliance  
Homeless No More  
Homeless Period Project

Homes of Hope, Inc.  
HomeWorks of America  
Hope In Lancaster, Inc.  
Hopeful Horizons  
Hospice and Palliative Care Foundation  
of South Carolina  
Housing Development Corporation of Rock Hill  
Hub City Farmers Market  
ICNA Relief USA, Shifa Free Clinic  
Impact America  
Institute For Child Success  
Jasmine Road Inc.  
Jewish Family Services of Greater Charleston  
Kershaw Area Resource Exchange – KARE  
Kindred Hearts SC  
KNOW(2)  
Koinonia of Columbia  
Laurens County Cancer Association  
Lighthouse Ministries  
Limestone University, Department of  
Kinesiology-Exercise Science  
Lions Vision Services  
LiveWell Greenville  
Loaves & Fishes  
Lowcountry Food Bank  
Lowcountry Local First  
Lutheran Family Services in the Carolinas  
MDC  
Meals On Wheels Of Greenville Inc  
Meals on Wheels of Summerville, Inc.  
Memory Matters  
Mercy Medicine Free clinic  
Metanoia Community Development Corporation  
Meyer Center For Special Children  
Middle Tyger Community Center  
Midlands Housing Alliance, Inc.  
Midlands Technical College Foundation  
Mill Community Ministries  
Miss Ruby's Kids  
My Amigos Bilingual Education Center  
Neighbor to Neighbor of South Carolina  
Neighborhood Focus

Neighborhood Outreach Connection  
 Neighbors Together (Previously Tricounty Family Ministries)  
 New Directions of Horry County  
 North Charleston Dental Outreach  
 Northside Development Corporation  
 Operation Home  
 Operation Sight  
 Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach Services  
 Palmetto Community Health Care fka York County Free Clinic  
 Palmetto Place Children and Youth Services  
 Partners For Active Living  
 Pendleton Place  
 Pickens County Advocacy Center Inc  
 Pickens County Meals On Wheels Inc  
 Power In Changing  
 Pregnancy Center and Clinic of the Low Country Inc  
 Pride Link  
 Public Education Partners  
 Reach Out And Read (South Carolina)  
 Reading Partners South Carolina  
 Rebuild Upstate  
 Richland County Public Education Partners  
 Richland Library  
 Richland School District Two  
 RIP Medical Debt  
 Root & Rebound  
 Safe Harbor Inc  
 SC Counts  
 Second Chance Bikes  
 Senior Resources  
 Servants for Sight  
 Serve & Connect  
 Sistercare  
 Smith Medical Clinic, Inc  
 Soteria Community Development Corporation  
 South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center  
 South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development SCACED  
 South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families  
 South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, Inc  
 South Carolina Collaborative on Race  
 South Carolina Infant Mental Health Association  
 South Carolina Institute of Medicine and Public Health  
 Southeastern Chapter National Safety Council  
 Springbank Christian Center Dominican Retreat House  
 St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic  
 Student Action with Farmworkers

Taylors Free Medical Clinic  
 Teach For America - South Carolina  
 Teach My People  
 Teachers' Supply Closet  
 The ARK of South Carolina  
 The Aspen Institute (Criminal Justice Reform Initiative)  
 The Center for Community Self-Help  
 The Dee Norton Lowcountry Children's Center  
 The Foothills Alliance  
 The Free Medical Clinic  
 The Green Heart Project  
 The Hive Community Circle  
 The Naomi Project  
 The Sophia Institute  
 The Sustainability Institute  
 The Village Group  
 Thornwell  
 Together SC  
 Tri-County Cradle to Career Collaborative  
 Trident Literacy Association  
 Turn 90  
 United Ministries  
 United Way of Aiken County, Inc. "Project VISION"  
 United Way Of Greenville County Incorporated (On Track Greenville)  
 United Way of Kershaw County  
 United Way of the Midlands  
 United Way of the Piedmont  
 United Way of York County  
 University of South Carolina (Center for Community Health Alignment)  
 University of South Carolina (PASOs)  
 University of South Carolina Educational Foundation- FoodShare  
 Vision To Learn (Charleston)  
 Vital Aging of Williamsburg County  
 Volunteers in Medicine Hilton Head Island (VIM HHI)  
 We Are Family  
 Welvista, Inc.  
 Wholespire  
 Windwood Farm  
 WINGS  
 Women's Rights And Empowerment Network  
 YMCA of Greenville (Judson Community Center)





# Tom Keith

## Honoring the retirement of founding President and CEO, Tom Keith

After over 26 years of service the Sisters of Charity Foundation of SC said goodbye to the founding president Tom Keith. Under Keith's leadership, more than \$81 million in grants has been disbursed to over 3,100 organizations across South Carolina. He also helped found the South Carolina Center for Fathers and Families, the South Carolina Grantmakers Network, and the Collaboration for Ministry Initiative for women religious across the state.

Because of his lifetime of service in the Palmetto State which includes the 26 years he spent as President and CEO of Sisters of Charity Foundation, Keith was selected to receive The Order of the Palmetto award. Presented by Senator Katrina Shealy, the award is our state's highest civilian honor, presented in recognition of a lifetime of extraordinary achievement, service, and contributions on a national or statewide scale. Foundation staff go boldly into the future with their new president but grateful for the years of wisdom that they have had from leader Mr. Keith.

Visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gue7Qox4Iq4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gue7Qox4Iq4) to watch and learn more about the history of the Foundation, Tom's impact and the Sister who loves Tom like a son.

To our grantee partners, community  
leaders, fellow advocates, and  
changemakers — *thank you* for your  
unending dedication to creating a South  
Carolina where everyone can thrive.



SISTERS *of* CHARITY FOUNDATION  
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*

sistersofcharitysc.com

