



2025

ANNUAL REPORT







GREETINGS!

Dear Friends,

SOMETIMES ALL A GOOD IDEA NEEDS IS A NUDDGE. A bit of encouragement. A place to begin.

For more than four decades, since our founding in 1982, the Outer Banks Community Foundation has helped provide that first push — helping new projects get off the ground, new organizations find their footing, and promising ideas take shape. In 2025, that work was on full display. It was an amazing year by every measure.

We awarded more than \$250,000 in scholarships to local students pursuing their dreams, and distributed over \$1.2 million in grants to nonprofit organizations serving our community. Many of those grants supported new groups and fresh approaches — creative solutions to local challenges, led by passionate people willing to try something different. It is a privilege to say “yes” at the moments when momentum matters most.

But support is about more than dollars. We are also helping launch new ideas and strengthen local nonprofits through hands-on, non-financial support — sharing knowledge, offering guidance, and opening the doors of the Outer Banks Center for Nonprofits. By providing space for collaboration, planning, and connection, we are helping organizations build the capacity they need to grow and succeed. Sometimes the most powerful boost is simply knowing you are not alone.

Still, the very best part of 2025 was you. Nearly 20% more donors chose to give to the Outer Banks Community Foundation in 2025 than in 2024. That kind of growth is remarkable. It speaks to a deep and widening commitment to this place we call home — a place of breathtaking beauty, generous spirit, and neighbors who show up for one another. What a gift it is to live here. What a responsibility, too.

Because of you, bold ideas are becoming real solutions. Because of you, students are stepping confidently into their futures. Because of you, nonprofits have the spark they need to begin.

Thank you for every gift, every act of trust, every vote of confidence in this community. Together, we are not just responding to needs — we are giving the Outer Banks the steady push forward it deserves.

With deepest gratitude,



Chris Sawin
President and
CEO

Nandy Stuart
VP Programs
and COO

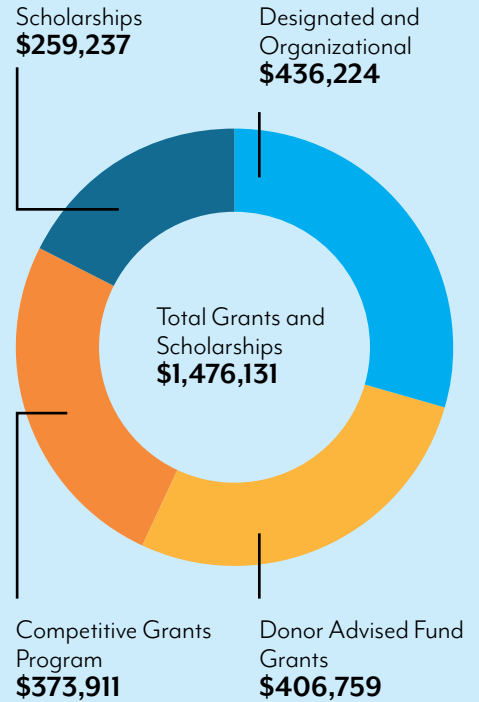
Tess Judge
2026 Board Vice Chair

Jason Waughtel
2026 Board Chair

Cover and previous page photos courtesy of Biff Jennings. The Outer Banks Community Foundation would like to thank Biff for generously donating his photography work, which can be seen throughout this report.

FISCAL 2025 AT A GLANCE

2025 Incoming Donor Gifts
\$2,808,173



- GRANTS** into and for the benefit of the community
- NONPROFITS** through Designated and Organizational funds
- SCHOLARSHIPS** awarded to 80 students from 98 funds

2025 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Unaudited assets as of December 31, 2025

Cash and Cash Equivalents \$300,428
 Investments, Net \$31,340,810
 Property, Net \$844,664
 Other Assets \$24,843
Total \$32,510,745



Outer Banks Community Foundation supports critical needs on Ocracoke Island

By *Connie Leinbach,*
Ocracoke Observer

OCRACOKE HAS A LOT OF OFF-ISLAND FRIENDS, and one of its most treasured friends is the Outer Banks Community Foundation.

In 2025, four Ocracoke nonprofit organizations received a total of 10 grants totaling over \$60,000 through OBCF’s competitive grant programs and donor-advised funds.

That’s the most funds ever granted to Ocracoke Island outside of the \$1 million+ the Community Foundation sent to Ocracoke as the fundraising conduit after the island was inundated by Hurricane Dorian on Sept. 6, 2019.

Nandy Stuart, Vice President of Programs and Chief Operating Officer, is thrilled that all four of the Ocracoke nonprofits, Ocracoke Preservation Society, Ocracoke Alive, Ocracoke Health Center, and the Ocracoke Community Pool Association, that applied for grants in the fourth quarter, were funded.

“We were so excited to see these grant applications from Ocracoke,” she said. “The grant committee does an exemplary job of spreading the money around to really represent all the folks in our service area.”

In addition to the larger grants received by these four Ocracoke nonprofits, they also received smaller grants from two donor-



Ocracoke Health Center staff members Avi Basnight (left) and Mackenzie O’Neal (right) with new machines. Photo courtesy of Ocracoke Health Center.

advised funds, the MAS Fund for Ocracoke and the Instrument of Thy Peace.

The Ocracoke Preservation Society (OPS) has received several grants for the restoration of the Island Inn, which it purchased in 2017. Last year, the OPS received a \$10,000 Impact Grant and a \$1,000 grant from the MAS Fund for Ocracoke.

“Since 2018, work on the Island Inn has focused on the outside—raising the building, restoring the siding, building stairs, and installing a new roof,” said OPS Chair Ken DeBarth. “This year, the focus is on finishing the interior. The Foundation has been wonderful and very supportive of us.”

Ruth Toth, president of the **Ocracoke Community Pool Association**, echoed DeBarth’s sentiments and noted that the millions raised through the OBCF Disaster Relief Fund for Ocracoke after Hurricane Dorian were instrumental in helping the island recover.

Now, the Ocracoke Community Pool Association is going through the permitting process on the land along Cutting Sage Road, which they purchased last year as a site for a community pool.

The Pool Association received \$500 from the MAS Fund for Ocracoke and a \$25,000 Impact Grant in 2025.



Ocracoke Alive is grateful for the grants from OBCF that help support their mission to bring together the island’s various cultures, according to Executive Director David Tweedie.

“It’s important to encourage the cultural exchange in a conscious way,” said David Tweedie from Ocracoke Alive.

Ocracoke Alive received \$500 from the MAS Fund for Ocracoke for program support and a \$4,860.54 Impact Grant for the “Celebrating Latino/Non-Latino Connection: Enhancing Well-Being Through Cultural Exchange on Ocracoke” program.

These grants have helped Ocracoke Alive launch activities for the Latino community, such as the Dia de los Muertos evening last November and increasing Spanish offerings in their winter cultural series.

The Ocracoke Health Center received four grants from OBCF in 2025: two grants from the Instrument of Thy Peace Fund totaling \$14,000, a \$1,000 grant from the MAS Fund for Ocracoke, and a \$10,000 Community Enrichment Grant for new equipment.

“The new vital signs monitors and blood pressure monitors help us improve patient care,” said Jamie Carter, interim CEO of The Ocracoke Health Center. “These new and improved machines integrate into our EMR, automate readings, and therefore are more accurate and save time. We are especially thankful to the Outer Banks Community Foundation for their support of health care in Eastern North Carolina along the Outer Banks.”

Both the Community Foundation and its donor advisors see the importance of supporting the arts, health and well-being, and history on Ocracoke Island.

Although the donor advisors who gave grants chose to remain anonymous, Stuart noted how much they love Ocracoke and want to help with the amazing things that these nonprofits are doing.

And, it’s not just these donor advisors that are fans.

“The Outer Banks Community Foundation believes in the importance of the work these Ocracoke nonprofits are doing too,” said Stuart.

Latino cooking class with Ocracoke Alive. Photo courtesy of Ocracoke Alive.



Rooted in History, Guided by Love: The Birindelli Legacy

By Gabrielle Giannone

THE OUTER BANKS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EXISTS both because of and on behalf of those who seek to leave this place and its people better than they found them. This year, over ten new scholarships have been added to OBCF's offerings to support local students, one of which is the Ben Birindelli Memorial Scholarship.

Author and historian James Benson "Ben" Birindelli passed away peacefully last March, and in the wake of his legacy, his wife Nancy established a scholarship for local high school seniors in October 2025. This spring will be the first time the scholarship is awarded.

The Ben Birindelli Memorial Scholarship is a renewable, merit-based scholarship for Dare County High School seniors who are members of the National Honor Society and plan to major in history or literature, as Ben was a prolific storyteller, historian, and author. Preference will also be given to students who plan to enlist in the military.

Born in Richmond, VA, he graduated from Benedictine High School, marking the beginning of his military life. After attending Virginia Military Institute (VMI) for his "rat" year, he received his appointment to the United States Naval Academy and graduated in 1962. He served in the U.S. Navy on active duty for eleven years and then began a long career as a Reservist. He then spent five years as a volunteer researcher at the Naval Historical Center in the Washington, D.C., Naval Yard, where he continued to pursue his love of military history.

While Ben pursued his research as a historian and worked as a Navy contractor, Nancy was an educator, and they invested the greater part of their life together in Falls Church, VA, where they raised their three children and lived for 22 years.

Ben served on the Recreation and Parks Board and was chairman of the Falls Church Tricentennial Committee when the city celebrated its 300th anniversary.

He later wrote a book on Stephen Decatur, a Naval war hero who played a major role in the War of 1812, titled *The 200 Year Legacy of Stephen Decatur, 1798-1998*. Decatur is revered as a founding figure of American naval traditions, with a museum collection located in the U.S. Naval Academy that Ben attended.

After he wrote the book, Ben and Nancy went on a book signing tour visiting over 15 places across the United States named after Decatur.

The Birindellis retired to their home in Southern Shores in 2004, having had rental property in Duck since 1983. During his retirement,



Ben and Nancy Birindelli. Photo courtesy of Nancy Birindelli.

Ben was employed at Duck's General Store for nine years. He worked there both as a way to stay in touch with his local community and also because he greatly enjoyed sharing his stories with customers.

Being an active part of their community was important to Ben and Nancy, and they have a long history of working with the Outer Banks Community Foundation to support causes that they were passionate about.

In 2013, Ben and Nancy established the Birindelli Family Fund with the Community Foundation. Over the years, the Birindelli Family Fund has made grants to Dare Education Foundation, Food For Thought, and the Outer Banks Relief Foundation.

Ben and Nancy have both been long-time members of OBCF's David Stick Legacy Society, which recognizes individuals who have named the Outer Banks Community Foundation as the beneficiary in a will, trust, insurance policy, retirement account, or other type of deferred or planned gift.

Since Ben's passing, Nancy has continued her work in the community serving as a member of the Dare County League of Women Voters and the Dare Education Foundation as well as volunteering as a member of OBCF's scholarship committee.

As someone with a background in education, Nancy is looking forward to reading through the applications for the new Ben Birindelli Memorial Scholarship.

"He was a unique person, and if there's a young person who can follow along in the things he enjoyed, it would help continue his legacy and encourage students to be lifelong learners," she said.

Ben's legacy and deep appreciation for education will be honored through the new scholarship, which will help him and Nancy continue to give back to the Outer Banks community for many years to come.



Willow Rea Temple and the mural she painted on the back of The Courtyard at Dare Arts in Manteo. Photo courtesy of Biff Jennings.

After graduating from UNCW in 2020 with a Bachelor's degree in Studio Art, she moved to Puerto Rico to make art, surf, and experience life in the tropics.

Temple moved back to the Outer Banks in 2024 and started her own home art studio. Shortly after returning home from Puerto Rico, she contacted Dare Arts about creating a mural in downtown Manteo.

"Ever since I was a kid, I have wanted to paint a mural in Manteo," said Temple. "When planning the mural, I knew that I wanted to showcase a couple of time periods from Manteo's past, and I wanted the mural to display community, leisure, and the arts. I originally had about 30 images from the Outer Banks History Center and I did four different mockups to share with the team at Dare Arts. And, of course, we all liked the first one that I did best."

Dare Arts worked with Temple to formulate a thoughtful plan for the mural that would educate viewers about Manteo's rich history and support the artist's unique style.

"Public art, specifically murals, enhances the visual appeal of public places while creating an inviting atmosphere," said Dare Arts Gallery Director Tiffany Lindsey. "Murals foster community pride and this one in particular celebrates the arts, history, and culture of Manteo."

In the summer of 2025, Temple painted the mural in downtown Manteo.

"It was hot out there," she said with a laugh. "I had lots of visitors, and I enjoyed sharing my process and the mural's story with viewers. I wanted the mural to tell a story, so I collaged images together, which allowed me to portray movement to keep the viewer's eye flowing with the mural."

Located on the back wall of Dare Arts' Courtyard, in the area affectionately referred to as "the alley-way", the mural is now on display for public viewing.

Temple said finishing the mural in Manteo was a circle moment for her as an artist.

"There have definitely been years where I have been living on pennies, but now I feel like I am entering this chapter where I can be a working artist," she added.

After creating the mural, Willow hosted a successful solo exhibition, titled *Little Worlds and Ephemeral Life*, at Dare Arts last October.

"The exhibit was a nod to the bittersweet notes of nostalgia," said Temple. "This series of paintings were inspired by vintage photos of local life with many photo references being sourced from the Outer Banks History Center and others found in friends' and family photo albums. I wanted to explore the temporality of life and youth, especially through the lens of my hometown. Decades pass, so much changes, yet our need to play and commune with one another is innate and timeless."

Temple is currently working on a new collection for an upcoming solo exhibition at The Duck Gallery, which will open in June of this year. Her artwork is for sale at Dare Arts in Manteo, The Duck Gallery in Duck, The KDH Cooperative in Kill Devil Hills, and New Elements Gallery in Wilmington.

"I want to play and I want to create, and ultimately, I just want to fill my days with as much joy as possible," said Temple.

Willow Rea Temple's Art Journey Comes Full Circle

By Tatum Clements

WILLOW REA TEMPLE IS NO STRANGER TO THE ART WORLD.

She grew up in Manteo surrounded by the performing, literary, and visual arts.

"Growing up in the Rea family was quintessential 'von Trapp' - we were always entertaining," said Temple. "It was awesome to be in a household that encouraged the arts. It was always about creativity and imagination."

While her childhood was filled with art, Temple says that her parents also emphasized the importance of "if you want something, you have to work for it."

And that is exactly what she has done, but on her own terms.

In 2016, Temple graduated from Manteo High School with multiple scholarships from the Outer Banks Community Foundation, including the Charles and Dorothy S. Ludemann Arts Scholarship, Duck Woods Ladies Tennis Association Scholarship, Kiwanis Leo Sheetz Scholarship, and the North Banks Rotary Scholarship, to support her college education at University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW).

"Apart from the obvious financial help, having members of my community like the Community Foundation supporting my choice to pursue art was pretty crucial," said Temple. "Choosing a creative career can be out of the ordinary for most, and therefore I came across many naysayers along the way. So having an organization like OBCF nudging me towards my dream helped to set a precedent through college and beyond that the arts are highly valued, and I too could be a successful artist with enough practice and perseverance."



Boland-Hunter Fund ignites hands-on STEM learning across Dare County

By Brian Tress

WHEN DONORS JIM WILLIS AND BOB MCKAY SET OUT TO SUPPORT LOCAL SCHOOLS,

they weren't looking to fund "more of the same." They wanted to light a spark—giving educators the freedom and resources to try bold, hands-on STEM projects that spark curiosity and confidence. That vision became the Boland-Hunter Fund, a new Outer Banks Community Foundation initiative launched in 2025 to champion teacher-driven STEM Education.

OBCF President and CEO Chris Sawin says the fund backs ideas that push past worksheets and into real-world discovery.

"The grant supports bold, inspiring ideas from local STEM teachers—projects that make students excited to explore science, technology, engineering, and math in new ways," said Sawin.

Willis and McKay—lifelong friends—have been working with OBCF for years to support local students and causes that they care about in the local community.

The Boland-Hunter Fund awards up to \$5,000 to two projects—one at a high school and one at a middle or elementary school. Funding flows to the school, but the ideas originate with teachers and can cover equipment, field trips, and other hands-on learning needs.

For Willis, a chemist by training who later led chemical safety programs at the U.S. EPA and the UN Environment Programme, the fund is personal. A single college professor, he says, changed everything.

"I had no idea what I wanted to do in college until a chemistry professor got me tremendously excited about the subject," Willis recalls. "That spark—when a teacher connects with a student—can set a life in motion."

Willis believes STEM education builds skills that serve everyone.

"Even if you don't choose a STEM career, those skills are foundational," he said. "They give you the tools to make informed decisions in life."

Just as important, he adds, is trusting educators: "Teachers already have creative ideas. They need freedom first—and then resources—to bring those ideas to life."

For the 2025/2026 school year, the Boland-Hunter Fund has supported the Green Carbon Project at First Flight High School and the Cluck & Flow: Our Eco-Learning Lab at Manteo Middle School.

At First Flight High School, science teacher Micah Ouellette is guiding students into a cutting-edge coastal experiment: testing olivine sand as a way to capture carbon dioxide and reduce ocean



Top: First Flight High School students working on the Green Banks Carbon Project, which is supported by the Boland-Hunter Fund. Photo courtesy of Biff Jennings. Bottom: OBCF donors Jim Willis (left) and Bob McKay (right). Photo courtesy of Bob McKay.



acidification—an approach currently being piloted in Duck. The project spans both biology and physical science, blending environmental observation with engineering and data analysis.

"Living here, you see how quickly the landscape changes," Ouellette said. "I wanted students to think about the future of their coast—and how science can help protect it."

The grant supports specialized materials, fieldwork, and the procurement of olivine sand from overseas.

"We simply couldn't do this without donor support," added Ouellette.

At Manteo Middle School, teacher Melissa Jones is building an outdoor classroom where students learn sustainability by caring for chickens, managing compost bins, and expanding greenhouse capacity to support aquaponics. The lab will serve the entire student body, align with curriculum standards, and create authentic pathways into science fair projects.

The grant funds permanent infrastructure—a chicken coop, compost systems, and greenhouse improvements—ensuring the project's impact lasts well beyond a single school year.

With both of these STEM projects underway at the schools, OBCF and the donors are enthusiastic about what these students and their teachers are getting to experience.

For Willis, success isn't measured by test scores. It's about lasting influence.

"If a project leaves a structure—a curriculum, equipment, or a model—that keeps the learning going, that's success," he said. "And if one or two students get so excited that they carry that enthusiasm forward into their careers or their lives, that's even better."

The Boland-Hunter Fund meets teachers where their best ideas live: in their classrooms, rooted in the local landscape, and powered by hands-on curiosity. From coastal carbon capture to sustainable farming, these projects show how STEM learning can be collaborative and transformative.

With this fund, Sawin sees a clear throughline from donors to educators to students.

"When you invest in teachers, you invest in students—and when you invest in students, you invest in the future of the Outer Banks," he said. "That's the ripple effect this fund aims to create."





'It's just evolved for the better': Retiring and incoming Saving Lives Task Force co-chairs reflect on growth, accomplishments of task force

Reprinted with permission from *Outer Banks Insider*

By *Corinne Saunders*

STAYING CONSISTENT, RELEVANT AND FLEXIBLE has led to the success of the Saving Lives Task Force, according to Roxana Ballinger.

At the end of June 2025, Ballinger stepped down from her 11-year role as task force co-chair when she retired from the Dare County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Katy Haslar, a task force participant since 2019, took over in her stead.

When the Saving Lives Task Force formed in July 2014, Ballinger recalled some community hesitancy to embrace it and harm reduction strategies in general. Through collaboration, education and respect, the task force has become more effective over time.

"When I was first coming to these meetings, we were not getting naloxone out to all the places that we're getting it out to today," Haslar said.

She credited the task force's consistent efforts with widening the acceptance of harm reduction strategies and increasing the use of "person-first language."

"I've seen the stigma crumble," Haslar said.

The task force helped establish and promote harm reduction access points across the county. These businesses and agencies have dedicated areas for providing anyone with free information on recovery resources and harm reduction tools, such as naloxone and fentanyl test strips.

Since December, a Mobile Recovery Unit has traveled around the county to designated stops providing the same, along with food distributions, health screenings, syringe services and in-person connections for future support toward recovery.

"I am just extremely proud of how we have evolved and stayed relevant to what is going on in Dare County with substance use," Ballinger said. "It's just evolved through the years, and it's just evolved for the better."

The goal of this work is to support people wherever they are. The task force wants to keep them alive and build relationships that will give them a contact for whenever they decide they're ready for treatment.



Wally Overman, Saving Lives Task Force co-chair, presents outgoing co-chair Roxana Ballinger with a certificate of appreciation at the Saving Lives Task Force meeting in Manteo. Photo by Corinne Saunders.

She credited Wally Overman, task force co-chair and former Dare County commissioner, with originally wanting to pull people together to address substance use in the community.

"He's the one who really had the vision for the task force," Ballinger said. "We just started having monthly meetings and inviting everybody that had anything to do with substance use."

Counselors, medical practitioners, treatment program workers, nonprofit staffers and community members at large have showed up, and kept coming.

The task force's attendance hovered around 10 at first, and it averages around 30 now, with some meetings nearing 50 people, she said.

"There is no one silver bullet," Ballinger noted. "It's multiple strategies and initiatives that make the difference."

Dare County DHHS launched its ROSS (Recovery and Overdose Support Services) program with a full-time peer support specialist position even before the county began receiving opioid settlement funding in 2022, which now supports the program.

The task force received four Outer Banks Community Foundation grants totaling over \$25,000 since 2020—two for Recovery Court, one for the Mobile Recovery Support Unit, and one for its newsletter.

Overman presented a certificate of appreciation from the Dare County Board of Commissioners to Ballinger at her last task force meeting.

"Your vision and commitment have been instrumental in advancing the task force's mission to prevent substance use disorders, expand access to care and ensure effective treatment is available to all members of our community," Overman read aloud from the certificate at the meeting.

"Your tireless efforts have made a lasting impact on countless lives and helped shape a healthier, more hopeful future for Dare County," he continued.

Ballinger noted that she is just a phone call away.

"The task force just needs to continue to stay relevant and innovative, which I have no doubt they will do."

To read the full story by Corinne Saunders, visit *Outer Banks Insider* at <https://www.outerbanksnews.org/post/it-s-just-evolved-for-the-better-retiring-and-incoming-saving-lives-task-force-co-chairs-reflect>



GRANT SPOTLIGHT



A Surfing For Autism Sandbar Social event at Surfin' Spoon. Photo courtesy of Surfing For Autism.

Surfing For Autism launches Sandbar Social to support neurodivergent adults

By Sam Walker

WHAT BEGAN IN 2010 as a single day pairing children with autism and local surfers has grown into a year-round network of support and a new initiative designed to meet a growing need among neurodivergent adults on the Outer Banks.

Local nonprofit Surfing For Autism has launched Sandbar Social, an inclusive club aimed at helping neurodivergent adults connect, grow, and thrive alongside neurotypical peers through monthly social activities and shared experiences.

"We've recognized that many young adults who are more independent often see their structured-supports decrease significantly after graduation," said Surfing For Autism co-founder Eileen Lowery. "Sandbar Social is filling that gap of connection, friendship, and continued engagement."

Surfing For Autism started with 28 participants at the inaugural event in 2010. By 2025, the organization reported 106 unique Surfing For Autism event participants and 210 total engagements, reflecting individuals attending multiple events.

Including siblings, family members and volunteers, the total number of unique individuals involved in 2025 reached 879, with 1,545 total engagements throughout the year.

Over the years, organizers noticed a shift in participant ages.

As children who first rode waves with volunteer surfers became adults, families described what Lowery calls a "falling off a cliff effect" after high school, when school-based services and social networks disappear.

"There is no doubt in my mind that, had

Zack had opportunities like those presented by Sandbar Social as he reached young adulthood, the course of his life could have changed dramatically," said Janet Owen-Rosso, a parent of a son with autism.

Sandbar Socials are designed as monthly gatherings — bowling nights, pizza meetups, tie-dye sessions, game nights, and holiday celebrations — that encourage independence and peer relationships.

Organizers emphasize that the program is created with the participants, not simply for them.

"Our biggest thing is empowerment," Lowery said. "How do we empower them to own this initiative and create the experiences they would like?"

Participants echo that sense of belonging. "Sandbar Social is a great place and a group that makes everyone feel included!" one participant said.

As it is currently designed, Sandbar Social is limited to individuals who can safely engage in a group environment with a level of independence.

Local businesses have played a key role in the first six months of the Sandbar Social program, hosting events or providing space and support.

Turf's Up OBX hosted the first Sandbar Social event. Other partners include Surfin' Spoon, American Pie, OBX Beach Mobility, OBX Bowling, Island Dyes, and the Black Pelican Seafood Company.

"We were truly honored to welcome the Sandbar Social," Black Pelican Seafood Company said in a statement after hosting

a holiday gathering. "Seeing this incredible group come together to celebrate the season reminded us what the holidays are really about — connection, compassion and making memories with amazing people."

The Outer Banks Community Foundation recently awarded Surfing For Autism a \$10,000 grant to help expand Sandbar Socials. Even with that support, the organization reports a funding gap to fully sustain programming for the year.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Surfing For Autism relies on sponsorships, donations of space and services, merchandise sales and fundraising events, including its annual silent auction.

Colby Voight and Lisa Ammons serve as co-chairs of Sandbar Social, with Jill Hedges and Mandy Earnest as co-leaders.

Lowery said the goal is not rapid expansion, but sustainable growth that builds leadership within the group and deepens community inclusion.

"We're at the beginning of something," she said. "We had no idea what Surfing For Autism would become 16 years ago. I get that same sense with Sandbar Social. We think we know what it could look like — but I don't think we're even prepared for what it's going to become."

As Surfing For Autism heads into its 17th annual surfing event this summer, the organization's footprint now stretches far beyond a single day in the waves — and increasingly into adulthood, where connection can be just as life-changing as catching that first ride.



Hope beyond the bars: How community support is changing lives at the Dare County Detention Center

By Danielle Puleo

FEW PEOPLE THINK ABOUT what happens inside a detention center beyond the obvious work of keeping the public safe. But behind the locked doors and long shifts, there's a quieter mission underway in Dare County, one centered on healing, dignity, and second chances.

In 2024, the Outer Banks Community Foundation awarded a Community Enrichment Grant to the Dare County Detention Center (DCDC) for a proposal titled *Community Reentry Resources*. As OBCF Chief Operating Officer Nandy Stuart explained, "Dare County Detention Center will use these funds to pay fees or tuition for select individuals to access treatment for substance use disorders upon release from incarceration."

The goal was simple but powerful: help people leaving incarceration bridge the gap between jail and recovery.

"Reentry into the community after incarceration is a critical time for people with substance use disorders," Stuart noted from the grant application. "Overdose is a leading cause of death among those recently released."

In 2025, a second grant from the *Instrument of Thy Peace Fund*, a donor-advised fund of OBCF, continued support for the program, this time without a timeline restriction. "These types of grants," Stuart added, "are initiated by donors who view such programs as vital to the community."

For programs coordinator Ashley Bahen, who applied for the grants, the funding fills a vital gap in a system strained by mental illness and addiction.

"Many people with mental illnesses do not have appropriate support due to the closing of long-term mental institutions and a lack of community mental health resources," Bahen explained. "As a result of the lack of support and resources nationwide, jails have become America's largest mental health institutions."

Inside the Dare County Detention Center, that reality has inspired an extraordinary level of care.

"Currently, DCDC provides more services under one roof directly to people with mental health needs and substance use disorders than any entity in Dare County," Bahen said. "Nearly everyone who accesses these services in DCDC is released in much better health compared to when they arrived."

The OBCF grant-funded reentry support helps pay entry fees or tuition for residential treatment or faith-based recovery programs. Participants must demonstrate accountability before release by working, engaging in counseling, attending classes, and showing respect to others.

"We typically use the grant funding to assist incarcerated people who have been in custody for a significant period of time who want to attend a residential treatment facility upon release," Bahen explained.

So far, the funding has helped multiple individuals transition directly from incarceration to structured recovery programs. "The funding itself isn't as important as having the public support of OBCF for the



Lieutenant Kenneth "Kenny" Melton, who has worked in DCDC for 22 years, and Lieutenant Amy Hill, who is celebrating her 29th year of working in DCDC this year. Photo courtesy of Danielle Puleo.

work DCDC performs to help people in custody access treatment upon release," Bahen added.

For Lieutenant Kenneth "Kenny" Melton, who has served at DCDC for 22 years, this work is as much about faith as it is about safety. "No one plans to work in a jail," he reflected. "But after you spend time doing it, qualities you didn't know you had inside of you are born. I have developed

a strong faith while working in DCDC. If you truly understand the environment you are working in, you can make a difference in peoples' lives."

That culture of compassion extends beyond the staff. Bahen described DCDC's more than 40 volunteers who lead weekly Bible studies and Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. "These dedicated volunteers have a significant impact on the culture in DCDC," she said. "Their work increases safety, improves the well-being of incarcerated people, and reduces recidivism by providing reentry support and positive social connections."

Among those volunteers is Derek Stallings, who has been ministering to residents of the jail for ten years. "We need to go in there and give these men some hope that this is not their final destination," he said. "This is only a small stopping point in their life, and there's so much more out there for them."

For Stallings and the other volunteers who spend time at DCDC, ministry is not just about preaching, it's about connection. "We have a sign-up sheet where you write your first name down and a prayer request," he explained. "It's sent out to everyone in our Bible study group. When we finish up, we like to get together and hold hands and each one of us do a small prayer together, based on the requests."

He says the experience is transformative for volunteers as well. "Make no mistake, it's a blessing for us being able to do this," Stallings shared. "I get excited when I go in there, and always walk out with a smile on my face."

For the Outer Banks Community Foundation and Dare County Detention Center, the partnership is about more than funding; it's about restoring lives and rebuilding community. Each dollar spent on a reentry program has a ripple effect, offering stability, sobriety, and a chance for people to rejoin society with purpose.

As Bahen put it best: "Treatment and recovery supports work if people can access them. Providing treatment and support services for incarcerated people begins with creating the safest environment possible in DCDC for the staff, inmates, contractors, and volunteers who come inside. The officers whose primary role in DCDC is to maintain safety are community heroes."

Hope, it seems, has found a home - and it's well beyond bars.



COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

With the support of a Community Enrichment Grant from the Outer Banks Community Foundation, this year's post-race celebration for **OBX GO FAR'S** 15th anniversary was extra special.



ROANOKE ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was awarded the Community Foundation's inaugural Focus Grant to develop workforce housing on their two-acre property.



THE OUTER BANKS FORUM FOR THE LIVELY ARTS was awarded a grant to bring *Billie Holiday: God Bless the Child*, a powerful cultural experience that celebrates music and the life of one of history's most influential vocalists, to the Outer Banks in April.

OBX ROOM IN THE INN received a grant to establish "The Neighbors In Need Fund" which will assist in covering security deposits and short-term rental costs, thereby removing the key financial barriers to stable housing.



WATER'S EDGE VILLAGE SCHOOL in Corolla received a grant to fund essential components of the computer network installation in their new school building.



HATTERAS ISLAND COMMUNITY STRINGS received a grant to purchase sound equipment for student performances and weekly practices, which will help bridge the gap between the youth and music education in the Hatteras community.

In order to continue to expand their in-house medical capabilities, the **OUTER BANKS SPCA** was awarded a grant to purchase additional equipment and supplies.



PEA ISLAND PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC. received a grant to purchase a computer, smart TV, and audio equipment, which will enable them to teach the story of Keeper Richard Etheridge and the Pea Island Lifesavers through their "Freedmen, Surfmens, Heroes" education initiative.



With a need for more affordable healthcare options across the nation, many people are not able to get regular health and dental screenings, which is why **NORTH CAROLINA BAPTISTS ON MISSION** was awarded an Impact Grant for their "Relief for Today. Hope For Tomorrow." program.

Photo credits clockwise from top left: Tatum Clements, Biff Jennings, OBX Room in the Inn, Hatteras Island Community Strings, Biff Jennings, North Carolina Baptists on Mission, Biff Jennings (Outer Banks SPCA and Water's Edge Village School), and The Jazz Legacy Project.



Still Showing Up: The Kerry Sanders Memorial Fund Keeps People Moving

By Brian Tress



Kerry Sanders. Photo courtesy of Outer Banks Family YMCA.

IN HER DAILY WORK AT THE OUTER BANKS FAMILY YMCA, Kerry Sanders didn't need recognition to lead. Her presence did that on its own — drawing people in, making them feel capable, and reminding them they belonged.

"She could make a best friend in only five minutes," her husband Bob Sanders said. "If it weren't for Kerry, I wouldn't be working out — people still come up to me and say that."

That ability to draw people in now lives on through the Kerry Sanders Memorial Fund, established with the Outer Banks Community Foundation.

Kerry Oaksmith Sanders died on July 16, 2025, after a hard-fought battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 66. In the weeks that followed, messages and online tributes poured in, along with packed gatherings to remember her.

Kerry and Bob met on the Outer Banks in 1985, when they were both living here full time — Kerry working in graphic arts and Bob in restaurants — and were married in 1989 at St. Andrew's by-the-Sea in Nags Head.

"She loved it here," Bob said. "The barrier islands, the nature — especially when you cross that bridge down to Hatteras Island. This place just gets inside you."

Kerry's path into fitness began before the YMCA opened. When their children were young, she started taking step-aerobics classes at a local gym, drawn initially by the availability of child care. "That's where she got the bug," Bob said.

When plans for the Outer Banks Family YMCA were underway, Kerry was hired as group fitness coordinator, six months before the Nags Head building opened in 2001.

Over the years, Kerry earned certifications in yoga, Pilates, Pilates reformer, cycling, and kickboxing, often teaching six or more classes a week.

Jamie Koch, Executive Director of the Outer Banks Family YMCA, worked closely with Kerry for years. "She was welcoming and encouraging to everyone," Koch said. "She helped members believe they could try something new and built a community of instructors from the ground up."

That commitment to people became especially clear during the COVID shutdown. When indoor classes were suspended, Kerry refused to let it stop her.

"She would get to the Y at five in the morning," said Jenny Ash, a longtime friend and fellow instructor. "She pulled the spin bikes out into the parking lot in the dark so people could keep moving."

"She knew everyone's story," Ash continued. "Their injuries, their goals, what they were working through."

After Kerry's death, many in the community wanted to honor her in a way that reflected how she lived. The Woods Walk, held in

October 2025, brought participants together for a community walk through Nags Head Woods. About 100 people took part, raising over \$5,000 to formally establish the Kerry Sanders Memorial Fund. Organizers hope to make the walk an annual event.

The donor-advised fund supports the Outer Banks Family YMCA, focusing on strengthening the fitness department Kerry helped build, including studio improvements, equipment, and continuing education for instructors.

"We were lucky enough to be able to afford traveling for certifications," Bob said. "A lot of instructors can't."

Chris Sawin, President and CEO of the Community Foundation, said the fund ensures that community-driven generosity continues to support the places and people that mattered most to Kerry.

Ash sees the fund as a direct extension of Kerry's values. "She believed in paying it forward," she said. "You couldn't really blow anything off around Kerry. She would ask you, 'If not now, then when?'"

On March 1, the YMCA dedicated its Mind/Body Fitness Studio in Kerry's name. "It matters that it's something people experience," Bob said. "But more than anything, I feel her presence there will continue to inspire people to say, 'I can keep working out. I can keep pushing through this. She would want me to.'"

For a woman who believed in being fully where you are, Kerry Sanders' legacy continues where she lived it — in motion, in community, and in the lives of people who keep showing up.



A Race to Be Thankful For: First Flight Track Club Starts New Duck Turkey Trot 5K

By Tatum Clements



The Duck Turkey Trot 5K. Photo courtesy of Jason Denson.

THANKSGIVING DAY IS THE MOST POPULAR RUNNING DAY IN THE UNITED STATES, with Turkey Trot races taking place all over the country, and this tradition holds true on the Outer Banks, too.

However, for the last few years, there has not been a Turkey Trot in the Town of Duck.

But on Thanksgiving Day 2025, that all changed when the First Flight Track Club partnered with the Town of Duck to host the inaugural Duck Turkey Trot 5K on Thursday, November 27.

Formed in the spring of 2024, the First Flight Track Club is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides support for youth runners in Dare County.

“We all love running, and we are all invested in growing the running community, especially for kids,” said President of the First Flight Track Club Gray Berryman. “We have a deep pool of very talented student runners here. So, we are working to grow this community by supporting teams and encouraging youth participation in running. At Thanksgiving last year, I wanted to run in a local Turkey Trot, but I waited too long to sign up, and they were all booked a few weeks before Thanksgiving,” said Berryman. “This made us realize that there is a need for more Turkey Trots on the Outer Banks.”

There had not been a Turkey Trot in Duck since 2021, when Outer Banks Community Foundation Emeritus Director and Race Director Nancy Caviness retired the Annual ADVICE 5K Turkey Trot, which she and Donna Black (owners of Advice 5 Cents, a bed & breakfast) created in 1996 as a way to give back to their community.

Caviness’s race thrived for 25 years, and for many of those years, net proceeds from the race were donated to the Outer Banks Community Foundation and directed into the ADVICE 5K Endowment Fund, which still supports the health and well-being of people living and working on the Outer Banks today. The Annual ADVICE 5K Turkey Trot Fund has awarded just shy of \$85,000 in grants since it was established in 2013.

“I couldn’t be happier for my beloved community,” said Caviness. “My hope was always that someone would come in and fill the gap, and I am thrilled that the First Flight Track Club is reintroducing the importance of having a Turkey Trot in Duck. I have watched Gray’s interest and passion for running grow, and I think this is a great focus for him and the track club. It is wonderful that Gray is throwing the net a little wider with an emphasis on youth running.”

To enhance the race’s charitable impact, the First Flight Track Club established a new endowment fund with OBCF to support student athletes with financial need.

“Each Dare County running sport team (cross country and track, high school and middle school) has a fund they can use to purchase items for students in need,” said First Flight Track Club Secretary Amy Denson, who also serves as the First Flight Middle School Head Track Coach and the First Flight High School Assistant Cross Country Coach. “Racing shoes get to be very expensive! Often, students need to purchase clothing items for their uniform. So the Track Club has given coaches the capability to provide those, as needed.”

Gray’s passion for youth sports and running combined with Nancy’s passion for the Outer Banks community and her knowledge on how to organize a successful race, helped make the Duck Turkey Trot 5K one to remember. The sold out race had idyllic running weather, and the day was full of community merriment.

“My hope is that the community will embrace this opportunity in the same way they embraced the ADVICE 5K,” said Caviness. “At the heart of everything I have done is a notion of community, and Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trots create connections to causes and are the social fabric of a community. The Duck Turkey Trot 5K is a new concept and a new course, which is terrific! We laid the groundwork for the Town of Duck to have a race, and we know it takes many people to get something to fly. I hope this race continues to fly high and has 25 years of success!”

New Funds for 2025

- Ben Birindelli Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Blue Zones Boards Fund
- Boland-Hunter Grant Charitable Purpose Fund
- Celia Rollinson Meekins Fund
- Dare County A250 Fund
- Denver Lindley, Jr. Arts Scholarship Fund
- Duck Woods Women’s Association Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Edward D. and Carol S. Cowell Relief Fund

- First Flight Track Club Endowment Fund
- First Flight Track Club Pass-Through Fund
- Food For Thought Pass-Through Fund
- Ghost Fleet Gallery Evolution Fund
- Gino and Barbara Stalvey Scholarship Fund
- Gwen E. Botson Foundation
- Harmon Fund
- Kerry Sanders Memorial Fund
- Mark Ward Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Michael Andreasen Memorial Fund
- Minton Family Fund
- Mr. Morris’s Scholarship Fund
- Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts Scholarship Fund
- Pam and Ray Evans Grantmaking Fund
- Perry & Kiki Kiouis Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Rohe Family Fund
- Walton Family Fund
- W. R. Davis Educational Fund
- W. R. Davis Scholarship Fund



Championing Arts & Culture

Something old, something new – 2025 brought a great mix of arts and cultural events to the Outer Banks, supported by Community Foundation grants. Friends of Jockey’s Ridge received a grant to support Jockey’s Ridge’s 50th anniversary celebrations, which included a concert by **The Connells** on the sand dunes. Dare Arts was also awarded a grant for their 50th anniversary in 2025, which brought new art experiences to the area, including **Fresh- A Plein Air Event**. A grant to the Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series supported a lively 10-day residency with the **Saakumu Dance Troupe** from Ghana last year.

Photos courtesy of Biff Jennings, Jannie Kenyon, and Biff Jennings.



THE DAVID STICK LEGACY SOCIETY recognizes those individuals and families who have named the Outer Banks Community Foundation in a will, trust, insurance policy, retirement account, or other type of deferred or planned gift. Through our endowments, these gifts will become permanent sources of support for all future generations here. We gratefully recognize these members.

Anonymous (14)

Jack L. Adams
Nancey H. Atkinson
Louise Baraw
Alyson Belvin
Barbara A. Bingham
James B. Birindelli*
Nancy B. Birindelli
Patti Bourexis
Marcy Brenner
Allison Brown
Scott Brown
Catharine L. Bryan*
Donald W. Bryan*
R. Stewart Couch*
Carol S. Cowell
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Moncie L. Daniels, Jr.*
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Arlene Davis
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Helen K. Wiegel*
Jo Williams
Jim Willis
Mary Woodruff
Phillip S. Woodruff
Pauline Wright*
Dr. Joseph Zoll
Patsy Zoll

*Deceased



COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas \$8,133

Outer Banks Childhood Cancer Safety Net

Corolla Education Foundation \$10,000

Tech for Tomorrow: Installing a Computer Network in WEVS's New School Building

Dare Education Foundation \$10,000

After School Club Grant

Dare Wildlife Rehab, Inc. \$5,500

Feeding Orphaned Wildlife for Survival and Release

Don and Catharine Bryan Cultural Series \$10,000

Rhythms of Ghana: Saakumu Dance Troupe's Cultural Exchange in the Outer Banks

First Flight Society \$5,000

National Aviation Day Fly-In and Food Pantry Collection

Food For Thought \$20,000

Providing Food for Children During the Holidays

Hatteras Island Community Strings \$9,992

Sounds of Strings

Hatteras Island Futbol Club \$10,000

Hatteras Island Futbol Club Spring and Summer recreational/travel season equipment grant

Interfaith Community Outreach \$20,000

Sound Minds

Interfaith Community Outreach \$10,000

Healthy Foundations Grant – Emphasizing the connection between stable housing and good health

Manteo High School \$5,000

New Wrestling Mats for Manteo High School



Hatteras Island Community Strings perform at Artrageous 2025. Photo by Biff Jennings.

North Carolina Aquarium Society \$6,500

Dual Language Night at the Aquarium

North Carolina Baptists on Mission \$15,000

Relief for today. Hope for tomorrow

North Carolina Coastal Federation \$4,000

Engaging Coastal Communities on Key Environmental Issues

OBX GO FAR \$5,000

Going Far for 15 Years! OBX GO FAR is going to the movies!

OBX Room In the Inn \$20,000

Neighbors in Need

Ocracoke Alive \$4,861

Celebrating Latino/Non-Latino Connection: Enhancing Well-Being through Cultural Exchange on Ocracoke

Ocracoke Community Pool Association \$25,000

Ocracoke Community Pool

Ocracoke Health Center \$10,000

Purchasing Equipment that is Vitrally Important to Patient Care

Ocracoke Preservation Society \$10,000

Restoring the Historic Island Inn to Ocracoke Village

Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts \$7,120

The Billie Holiday Project: Legacy in Song and Story

Outer Banks Lighthouse Society \$2,500

Print NC Lighthouse Brochures in our final operation assignment

Outer Banks SPCA \$6,000

Expanding In-House Medical Care

Outer Banks Woman's Club \$15,000

Angels Among Us

Pea Island Preservation Society \$8,000

Creative Storytelling - PIPSI Equipment Needs

Roanoke Island Presbyterian Church \$50,000

Program Support for Housing

St. Andrews by the Sea \$5,000

Outer Banks Youth Choir

Surfing for Autism, Inc. \$10,000

Sandbar Social

The Secotan Alliance \$5,000

In the Spirit of Wingina: Our Women, Our Words, Our Water

Verdant Minds \$5,000

Planted Potential

Funds Contributing to the Competitive Grant Program:

Adams Family Fund
Adams/Brown Fund for Animals
All God's Creatures Fund
Annual Advice 5K Turkey Trot Fund
Aviation Education Fund of America
Aycock Brown Memorial Fund
Banxblock Beach Fund
Benevolent Fund
Bob Parker Memorial Fund
Charles H. & Dorothy S. Luedemann Arts Fund
Children & Youth Fund
Christina Nicole Jones Memorial Fund for Substance Abuse Education, Counseling, Prevention, and Treatment
Christopher Ellison Fund for the Arts
Community Fund
Cookie Jar for Good Deeds

Cowell Gratitude Grant-Making Fund
D. Victor & Catherine D. Meekins Memorial Fund
David Aycock Loy Memorial Fund
Diane and Nelson Henderson Endowment Fund
Donna Designs Fund for Children and the Environment
Dr. David Rostetter Memorial Fund for Self-Advocacy and Inclusion
Environment Fund
Founders Fund
Franklin Y. Hundley Education Fund
Hatteras Fund
Helping People Help Animals
Hunting Family Fund for Health and Wellness
Jeffcott-Jones Family Fund
Little, Owens, & BB&T Fund
Lois Nelms Unmet Needs Fund

Martin Kellogg Memorial Fund
Milton A. Jewell Grant Fund
Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund
Ocracoke Fund
Outer Banks Road to Recovery Fund
Pauline Wright Endowment for Dare County Individuals with Special Needs
Pauline Wright Endowment for Educational and Developmental Needs in Currituck
Ruth Pitt Performing Arts Fund
Schiffman Fund for Animals
Serbousek Family Fund
Shirley & David Doran Memorial Fund
Thomas and Annie Baum Memorial Fund
William Walter Reams Memorial Fund



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**Denotes new 2025 fund*

Barbara Barnes Sherman Scholarship Fund

Jose Brown \$1,000.00

Best Family Scholarship Fund

Catherine Tyre \$1,000.00

Bill Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund

Chloe Clark \$1,000.00
Ivy Godwin \$1,000.00
Jeni Hooper \$1,000.00
Jamie Holcomb \$1,000.00
Isabella Thorn \$1,000.00
Addison Daniel \$1,000.00

Catherine Carrington Clawson Scholarship Fund

Jordan Holcomb \$2,000.00

Charles H. & Dorothy S. Luedemann Art Scholarship Fund

Thomas (Tommy) May \$3,500.00
Fernanda Perez-Chavarria \$3,500.00
Loxley Wayland \$3,500.00

Courtney M. Burgess Memorial Scholarship Fund

Kayla Hallac \$1,500.00
Chloe Wienert \$1,500.00

Curtis Creech Memorial Scholarship Fund

Alonah Austin \$1,700.00

Dare County Association of Fire Officers Scholarship Fund in Memory of Douglas A. Remaley

Kristin Bennett \$2,000.00
Logan Botson \$2,000.00
Cormac Davis \$2,000.00
Abigail Edwards \$2,000.00

Doug and Maureen King Scholarship Fund

Skye Hall \$1,500.00



Ocracoke School senior Danny Palacios-Badillo, shown here with OBCF Scholarship Committee members Robin Mann (left) and Claudia Neal (right), will study electrical engineering at Cape Fear Community College, supported by the Dr. Frederic B. Jr. and Ernestine H. Westervelt Scholarship Fund and the Sawyer Scholarship Endowment Fund.



2025 First Flight senior Mary Williams, seen here with her parents, received the Glenn & Pat Eure Scholarship for Arts Education. Photo by OBCF.

Dr. Frederic B. Jr. and Ernestine H. Westervelt Scholarship Fund*

Marilyn Espinosa Monter \$1,500.00
Danny Palacios-Badillo \$1,500.00

Duck Woods Ladies Golf Founders Scholarship

Mason Dobie \$2,000.00

Duck Woods Ladies Tennis Association Scholarship Fund

Grace Garman \$3,000.00

Duck Woods LTA First Year Scholarship

Samuel Cage \$3,000.00
Addison Daniel \$3,000.00
Jamie Hopkins \$3,000.00

Elizabeth and Wayne Evans Scholarship Fund

Benjamin Hanusik \$5,000.00
Alayna Jester \$5,000.00
Daisy Morales Bravo \$5,000.00
Mya Murphy \$5,000.00

Frank M. Cahoon Memorial Fund

Aaron Stewart \$1,300.00

Gayle Grinstead Memorial Scholarship

Logan Botson \$3,000.00
Anita Lin \$3,000.00
Samantha Vargas-Aparicio \$3,000.00

George W. Neighbors Memorial Fund

Kellen Morris \$1,400.00

Glenn & Pat Eure Endowment Fund for Arts Education

Mary Williams \$1,300.00

Greg & Eden Honeycutt Scholarship Fund

Alan Garcia Velazquez \$1,000.00

Greg & Eden Honeycutt Scholarship Fund

Alan Garcia Velazquez \$1,000.00
Mariah Temple \$10,000.00

Hanft McDevitt Family Scholarship Fund

April McPherson \$1,700.00

Healthcare Professionals Scholarship Fund

Emerson Mann \$4,000.00

Helping Hand Cookie Jar Scholarship

Natalie Scarborough \$2,000.00
Hannah Wallace \$2,000.00

Howell Revier Shearouse, Jr. Scholarship Fund

Jeni Hooper \$5,000.00

Inez Daniels Austin Scholarship Fund

Catherine Parker \$3,000.00

Irene Nolan Memorial Scholarship Fund

Audrey Kramer \$1,000.00

Jeannette U. McOwen Memorial Scholarship Fund

Jordan Haywood \$1,000.00
Amanda Hernley \$1,000.00

Jerry & Arlene Davis Scholarship Fund

Kylee Carter \$6,000.00
Ebony Orgsbon \$6,000.00
Samantha Vargas-Aparicio \$6,000.00

Joe Riddick Trade & Technical Scholarship

Trace Riden \$1,500.00

John T. Daniels, Lois Pearce Smith, and J. Bryan Smith Scholarship Fund

Spencer Twiford \$1,000.00

Josephine A. Oden Scholarship Fund

Sherlyn Mendieta-Lozano \$5,000.00

Karen Willis Memorial Scholarship

Kelley Cook \$5,000.00
Isabella Thorn \$5,000.00

Lillian W. Riddick Scholarship Fund for Nurses

Alyssa Bryan \$2,000.00
Casia Ensenat \$2,000.00

Love of Learning Scholarship Fund

Kirra Ensenat \$2,500.00

Lucian Griffin Scholarship Fund

Regan Parker \$1,000.00



SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

**Denotes new 2025 fund*

Mary Anne McKay Memorial Scholarship Fund

Patrick Bravo \$2,500.00
Graham Godwin \$2,500.00
Adrian Simpson \$2,500.00

Milton A. Jewell Scholarship Fund

Parker Doerr \$6,000.00
Maggie McNinch \$6,000.00
Catherine Tyre \$6,000.00
Colson Walker \$6,000.00

NCPC Bettye Neff Merit Award in Communications Fund

Jackson Strange \$700.00

OBX Scholars Fund

Charlotte Ernst \$4,000.00
Grace Vernesoni \$2,000.00
Josephine Voight \$4,000.00

OBX Scholars Fund - COA

John Cook \$2,000.00

Ocracoke Friends of the Library Scholarship Fund

Noah O'Neal \$1,000.00

Osborne Scholarship Fund

Caroline Fuller \$1,500.00
Mya Murphy \$1,500.00
Kiana Willis \$1,500.00

Outer Banks Association of Realtors Scholarship Fund

Julian Alvarez Isidoro \$1,500.00
Kristin Bennett \$1,500.00
Samuel Cage \$1,500.00
Dresden Jackson \$1,500.00
Mya Kelly \$1,500.00
Audrey Kramer \$1,500.00
Caroline Stocks \$1,500.00
Spencer Twiford \$1,500.00

R. Stewart Couch Hatteras Island Scholarship Fund

Kristin Bennett \$7,000.00

R. Wayne Gray Memorial Scholarship Fund

Mary Kathryn Stroud 1,250.00

Ralph & Ida Lee Saunders Scholarship Fund

Joshua Royals \$1,000.00

Ray Gray, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

Elizabeth Fairbanks \$1,000.00

Rex Sample Fund for Courage and Determination

Bryson Capps \$1,000.00

Robert E. Rollason, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

Joshua Mouser \$1,000.00

SAGA Community Focus Scholarship

Kevin Gonzalez-Herrera \$1,000.00

Sawyer Scholarship Endowment Fund

Danny Palacios-Badillo \$1,000.00

Scott Day Family Scholarship Fund

Jade Hernandez-Sanchez \$1,000.00
Alexis Zavala-Roldan \$1,000.00

Smith-Cooper Scholarship Fund

Tobias Fleckenstein \$5,000.00

Teddy and Savory Garrett Veterinary Medicine Scholarship Fund*

Brandon Woods \$2,000.00

Vocational Opportunity Fund for Northeastern North Carolina

Annie Coyle \$1,800.00

Wallace H. McCown Scholarship Fund

Samuel Cage \$1,500.00
Catherine Parker \$1,500.00

Warren and Jane Davis Memorial Dare Math/Science Scholarship Fund

Isaac Drummond \$2,000.00



Caroline Fuller, Elizabeth Fairbanks, and Cate Parker celebrate at Cape Hatteras Secondary School scholarship night. Fuller received the Osborne Scholarship, Fairbanks received the inaugural Ray Gray, Jr. Memorial Scholarship, and Parker received the Inez Daniels Austin Scholarship and the Wallace H. McCown Scholarship.

PARTNER SCHOLARSHIPS

Managed by College of The Albemarle Continuing Education and Workforce Development:

Billy G. Roughton Memorial Scholarship for Medical Professions

Milton A. Jewell Scholarship Fund - Hospitality Certification Program

Milton A. Jewell Scholarship Fund - Trade & Technical Scholarships

Managed by College of The Albemarle Foundation:

Billy G. Roughton Memorial Scholarship for Tourism and Hospitality

College of The Albemarle Foundation Scholarship Fund

Dorothy Scott Townsend Fletcher Memorial Scholarship Fund

ECB Land of Beginnings Living Legend Scholarship Fund

First Flight Rotary Lacy J. McNeill Memorial Scholarship Fund

First Flight Society Scholarship

Linda Porter's Shear Genius Scholarship Fund

North Banks Rotary Scholarship Fund

Peggy O'Brien Scholarship Fund

Sgt. Earl Murray Memorial Scholarship Fund

Tom O'Brien Scholarship Fund

Managed by Dare Arts:

Wayne Fulcher Art Scholarship Fund

Managed by Manteo Rotary:

Kellogg Cuthrell Manteo Rotary Scholarship Fund

Manteo Rotary Club Percy W. and Elizabeth G. Meekins Scholarship Fund

Manteo Rotary Club Scholarship Fund

Manteo Rotary Club Sonny Albarty Memorial Scholarship Fund

Managed by Mount Olivet United Methodist Church:

Karen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the generous Contributor Scholarship Funds whose support makes the OBX Scholars Program possible: the Dare County Outer Banks Jaycees Scholarship Fund, the Kiwanis Lea Sheetz Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Ocracoke Island Realty & Village Realty Scholarship Fund.



LOYALTY DONORS



The Outer Banks Community Foundation depends on the ongoing generosity of loyal donors who have consistently supported us year after year. Their commitment to enhancing the resilience of the Outer Banks is truly commendable. Below are some of the donors who have made annual gifts consistently, and we sincerely appreciate their continued support.

10+ Years of Giving

- Austin Jr Bruce and Amanda
- Stephanie G. Beasley
- Barbara A. Bingham
- Scott and Allison Brown
- David Clawson
- Carol S. Cowell
- Jerry and Arlene Davis
- Victor and Debbie Diaz
- Duck Woods Ladies Tennis Association
- Sarah Anne Griffin
- Jack Guard
- Shirley Hamblet
- George and Nancy Hettenhouse
- Greg and Eden Honeycutt
- Gary and Carole Kimmel
- Penny Leary-Smith
- Gail Mee
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- Maylon and Charlotte White

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- Charles and Sarah Ayers
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- Bethany Church of Wanchese
- Jeanne deCamps and Bill Husted
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- Ernest Boyce
- Sarah Boyd
- Dan and Kim Bradley
- Michael and Suzanne Callaghan
- Ann Cowper
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- W.C. and Elizabeth Crenshaw
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- Philip and Jane Davis
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- Townsend Duong
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- Daniel and Dawn Fenyak
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- Rolf and Ronda Hoffmann
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- Hutchins Canning & Company
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- Clinton and Donna Kemp
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- Paul and Robin Mann
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- Billy and Monica McOwen
- David and Kerry Meagher
- Ray and Kathy Meekins
- Elmer and Gail Midgett
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- Robert C. Newman Jr.
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- Bill and Ginny Nolan
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- Anita C. Vollmer
- Chip and Karen Walton
- David and Kim Whittle
- Womble Generator Service, Inc.
- David C. Wright
- Kevin and Kathleen Wright





GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY



To sustain increased demand for local diaper needs, Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County (CYP) received a grant to expand its diaper bank program. Photo courtesy of CYP.

The following donors contributed in 2025 to the Outer Banks Community Foundation's unrestricted and internal funds, including the Community Fund, Greater Outer Banks Fund, OBX Scholars, Disaster Relief Fund, Directors Fund, Building Fund, and Operating Fund.

12 Bars of Christmas Fund

- Basnight's Lone Cedar Cafe
- Blue Water Grill & Raw Bar
- Bonzer Shack
- Chello Inc.
- Jack Brown's Beer & Burger Joint
- KDH Punk LLC
- Mama Kwan's Grill & Tiki Bar
- Lucky 12 Tavern
- More Cow Bell Ink, Inc.
- Outer Banks Brewing Station
- Outer Banks Craft Distilling/Kill Devil Rum
- Poor Richard's

All God's Creatures Fund

- Primos Best Lemonade Stand

Annual Advice 5K Turkey Trot Fund

- Anonymous

Barbara Barnes Sherman Scholarship Fund

- Carol Sparks

Beach Food Pantry Endowment Fund

- Michael and Kathryn Caballero
- Nancy Darr
- Grace Forlenza-Cosgriff
- Honoring Peter Graves Roberts' birthday
- William S. Jones, Jr.
- Primos Best Lemonade Stand
- Tony Tesseneare

Ben Birindelli Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Nancy B. Birindelli

Benevolent Fund

- Anonymous

Best Family Scholarship Fund

- Billy Best

Bill Jones Memorial Scholarship Fund

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- Barbara Bingham

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- Judy Lotas
- Ron & Mary Jane Slesinski
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- Harrell & Associates
- Chris Mann and Christina Bowen
- Courtney Brooke Saunders

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- Margery and Robert McKay
- Jim Willis

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- Anonymous
- Carol S. Cowell
- Percy W & Elizabeth G Meekins Charitable Trust
- Robert P. Holding Foundation
- Jane Webster
- Thomas White

Burwell A. Evans Charitable Fund

- EEMCO, LLC

Catherine Carrington Clawson Scholarship Fund

- Boyce and Mary Harwell Charitable Trust Fund
- Terry and Priscilla Deming
- Holly Meekins Williams

Celia Rollinson Meekins Fund

- Celia Rollinson Meekins Estate

Chicamacomico Historical Association Endowment Fund

- Anonymous

Children & Youth Partnership Endowment Fund

- Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County
- Nandy Stuart

Christina Nicole Jones Memorial Fund for Substance Abuse Education, Counseling, Prevention, and Treatment

- Brenda Hughes
- Rick and Mary Ann Jones
- Andrew, Tricia and Lilly

Coastal Campership Fund

- Colony Realty Corporation
- Gray and Ali Berryman
- Brian & Mary Jo Sullivan

Community Fund

- Richard and Annoica Ingram

Cookie Jar for Good Deeds

- Karen DelVacchio

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- Mr. and Mrs. W.R. Hoffert
- Gary E. Reed and Elaine Walls Reed
- Jane Perry Parr
- Jessica Rieneerth

Dare County Arts Council Endowment Fund

- Dawn E. Enochs

Dare County Association of Fire Officers Scholarship Fund in Memory of Douglas A. Remaley

- Dare County Association of Fire Officers

David Aycock Loy Memorial Fund

- Doug and Laura Askew
- Stephanie G. Beasley
- Saunders Hedberg
- Greg and Lisa Loy
- Colleen Shay Murray
- Gloria Perry
- Rachel Powell
- Barbara Tesseneare

Denver Lindley, Jr. Arts Scholarship Fund

- Winston-Salem Foundation

Directors Fund

- Dave Clawson and Kathy McMahan
- Ray Meiggs
- Bob and Ruth Toth

Disaster Recovery Fund

- Joel and Dawn Battiste
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- Georgetee Budnik
- Community Foundation of Henderson County
- Community Foundation of Western North Carolina
- Dustin Davis
- Colleen Kennedy
- John and Annette Ratzenberger
- Sidney Elijah Smith
- Henry and Marie Sprenger
- Mary Wyman

Disaster Response Endowment Fund

- Anonymous

Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series Endowment Fund

- Barbara Tesseneare

Doug and Maureen King Scholarship Fund

- Doug and Maureen King
- Andy and Sue Ward
- Watson/Liske Family Fund

Dr. David Rostetter Memorial Fund for Self-Advocacy and Inclusion

- Linda Marie Lewis
- Dr. Lucia Guarino
- Michael Norman
- Barbara Tesseneare



GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY

Duck Woods Ladies Golf Founders Scholarship

Duck Woods Ladies Golf Association

Duck Woods Ladies Tennis Association Scholarship Fund

Duck Woods Ladies Tennis Association

Duck Woods Women's Association Memorial Scholarship Fund

David and Mary Ahearn
Anonymous
Mark and Rosemarie Halloran
Ann and Tom Rust
Scott and Stacey Starsman
Women's Association of Duck Woods Country Club Scholarship Fund

Emily Fredricks Memorial Fund for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

Rich and Laura Fredricks

Environment Fund

Cynthia Bortz
Dan and Becky Costello

Evans Family Fund

Wayne and Betty Evans

Everyone's Playground Fund

1st Flight Lactation
Dave and Mary Ahearn
Skip Albright
Anonymous (10)
Ken Baittinger
Sherry Ball
Beach Construction Group
Drs. Christina Bowen and Chris Mann
Kali Brouse-Yetter
Scott and Allison Brown
Willow Byrum
Nicholas Chaber
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Lisa Jo Colvin
Shane and Liv Cook
Carol S. Cowell
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Dowdy & Osborne, LLP
ECU Health
Mary Lou Fahey
Tate Felts | Loan Officer | Southern Trust Mortgage
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Ivy Ingram
Tiffany J.
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Tess Judge
Kellogg Supply Co
Kitty Hawk Elementary School, PTO
Kitty Hawk Rotary
Stephen and Annette Lamm
Terry & Tony Leonardis
Anne Lizardi
James McNulty
Patty and Matt McKenna
Rachel Metzler
Midgett Insurance Agency
Nola Byrne's Grandmother
OBX Beverage Company
Jeannie O'Grady
Debbie Pardue
Parrish Insurance Services
Ken and Carlen Pearl
John Peters
David Plewes and Suzanne Sartori
Mary T. Plewes
Read-A-Thon
Robert and Jo Ann with Four Seasons Realty
Brian and Megan Rubino
The Sakers Family
Marc & Telly Salafia
Donald and Marilee Sartori
Karen Savona
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Sarah Spencer
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F.C. Minton Fund

Lucky 12 Tavern
Watson/Liske Family Fund

First Flight Track Club Endowment Fund

First Flight Track Club



The Community Foundation serves as the philanthropic partner of the 12 Bars of Christmas on the Outer Banks, a community-driven event in which local restaurants come together to raise funds and support charitable causes during the holiday season. Pictured are Tod Clissold and Gina Berghoff of Poor Richard's Sandwich Shop presenting a grant award to Patty McKenna of Outer Banks Relief Foundation. Photo by OBCF.

First Flight Track Club Pass-Through Fund

Beach Realty & Construction
Brindley Beach, Inc.
Coastal Provisions, Inc.
Colony Realty Corporation
Cozy Home Custom Cabinets
Duck Church
Anonymous
First Flight Track Club
Four Seasons Realty
Just for the Beach Rentals
Landmark Sotheby's International Realty
Lighthouse Bagels
NC Coast Grill & Bar - Duck
Turkey Trot Sponsor
Reliant Construction, LLC
Run Sign Up
Twiddy & Company
Village Table and Tavern

Food For Thought Fund

Barbara Tessenaar

For The Love of OBX Fund

Sarah Spencer at Keller Williams OBX

Fred Murray Memorial Fund

Nancy Murray

Frisco Native American Museum and Natural History Center Fund

Frisco Native American Museum & Natural History Center
Joyce Bornfriend

Gayle Grinstead Memorial Scholarship

Margery and Robert McKay
Jim Willis

General P.X. Kelley Memorial Fund

William and Brenda Ashton, Jr. Fund

Ghost Fleet Gallery Evolution Fund

Stephen Kirton

Gino and Barbara Stalvey Scholarship Fund

Gino and Barbara Stalvey

Glenn & Pat Eure Endowment Fund for Arts Education

Anonymous
David and Barbara Ayars
Craig Crutchfield

Greater Outer Banks Fund

A Team
Anthony and Maureen Accamando
Denise and Van Adams
Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Adams
John B. Adams
Bruce and Patricia Aitkenhead
Robert and Jill Albanese
Kimberley Alexander
Jennifer Allen
Mary E. Ames
Steven and Ann Marie Anderson
Roberta Andrews
Jennie's Heating & Cooling
Anonymous (45)
Baron and Linda Ashfield
Susan M. Austin
Bruce and Amanda Austin
Charley and Sally Ayers
John David Back
Adam and Cathy Baldwin
Barkley Plumbing
Richard and Diane Bashar
Julie Bauer
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Horace Beasley
Mary Beatty
Bechly Family LLC
Becky and Dan
Ron and Becky Bennett
Marsha Berry
Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy on behalf of Whitney Levin's Bat Mitzvah Donation



GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY

Ben and Monika Birch
 Mac and Sandra Birdsong
 Sonja Blackhawk
 Mary Pat Blaylock
 Vicki-Hecht Boehme and Fred Boehme and the Hecht Family Foundation
 GG & Bonny Bonner
 Joan Boone
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 Julie M. Daniels
 Philip and Jane Davis
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 Muffet E. Deisher
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 Paul and Sandra Detwiler
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Victor and Debbie Diaz
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 David and Jean-Louise Dixon
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 Amalia Duarte
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 Michael Eagan
 Rich and Leslie Edsall
 Talisa and Mark Ernstmann
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 Lisa and Clint Everett
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 Todd Farrand
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 Melanie Ferguson
 Barbara A. Figiel
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 Judith Fischer
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 Barbara Fletcher
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 Bob and Sylvia Forbes
 Mrs. Anne Ford
 Tom and Barbara Franchi
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 Keith and Loretta Haglund
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 Keith Hall
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 Jen Keaveney
 Andy and Marcia Keeney
 Keep up the good work.
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 Clinton and Donna Kemp
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 Ron & Alva Lamothe
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 Dr. Doug and Angie Lesan
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 Judy Lotas
 John and Judith Lutolf
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 Althea MacWhorter
 Raj Mahimairaj
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 Paul and Robin Mann
 Allen Massey
 Nancy K. Matthews
 William Mayhew
 Richard McCarty
 David and Connie McGlaughon
 Maureen McGrath
 Jack and Ruth McLaughlin
 Natalie Mead
 David and Kerry Meagher
 Joe and Joanne Meagher
 Dr. Gail Mee
 Ray and Kathy Meekins
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 The Michael and Claudia Gift Fund
 Microsoft
 Nettie Midgett
 Midgett Insurance Agency
 Elmer and Gail Midgett
 John and Claire Miller
 Minchew Family Foundation
 Miyamoto Fund
 Donna Mohler
 Tom Montelione
 Caroline Morisseau
 Carolyn Moschella
 Kim and Cindy Moyer
 Marilyn Munden and Jack Underdonk



Through a Community Enrichment Grant, Manteo High School will purchase new, modern mats that will not only improve safety for wrestlers in grades 2 through 12 but also transform the space into a true multi-purpose athletic room. Manteo High School Wrestling photo courtesy of Coach Jimmy Metzinger.



GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY

Delores Nester
 Robert Newman Jr.
 Joel and Sally Newton
 Bill and Ginny Nolan
 Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals
 Nancy Opalack
 Ronald and June Ordas
 Janet Owen-Rosso
 Beverly Parker
 Dick and Peggy Parker
 Parrot Bay Trading Company
 Leanne Paul
 Christine and Loel Payne
 Billy and Penny Peebles
 Randi Piascik
 Frederick Pittard
 Laurel Pokelwaldt
 Daniel and Andrea Poland
 Penelope Powell
 Leslie Price
 John and Susan Pucciano
 Jack Pulwers
 Kim Raines
 Lynn T. Reams
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 Fran and Mike Reeves
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 Barbara Rohr and Kenn Herrington
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 Dixon and Carleen Rollins
 Elin Ross and Michael Olson
 Kay Ross
 Rob Ross
 Daniel Sack
 Anna Sadler
 Marc and Nancy Samuels
 Sanctuary Vineyards
 Sarah Hormel Everett Charitable
 Fund
 Scarborough Boatworks
 J. Lee Schafer
 Harry Schiavone
 Andrea Schollaert
 Bette Schultz
 Rick and Ginger Scott
 Chris and Kathy Seawell
 Laurie Davis and Joe Sellers
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 Carolyn and Tom Shaner
 Phil and Fran Shannon
 Kendall and Debbie Shaw

Joseph and Ann Shay
 Peter and Susan Shelley
 Henry and Gail Shelton
 Dr. Timothy and Lori Shipe
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 Patti and David Shufflebarger
 Alice Silver
 Deon and Chrissy Simmons
 Jodie Kelley & Scott Sinder
 Willis and Caroline Slane
 Ronnie Sloan
 Tom and Amy Small
 Susan P. Smith
 Dave and Dawn Snow
 Steve Solon and Kathryn King-
 Solon
 Barbara Sparaco
 Carol Rogallo Sparks
 Bill Sport
 Frank and Paige Spruill
 Paul Stalter
 Amelia Steinmetz
 Chuck Still
 Deborah Sumner
 Paul Survello
 William E. Sutherland
 Bill and Coralea Tarlton
 Katherine Taylor
 Barbara Tessenaar
 Tony Tessenaar
 Thank you and best wishes for a
 great 2026!
 Larry Thomasson
 April Thompson
 Steve and Vikki Thompson
 Tony and Dawn Tillett
 Lisa & Andrew Toombs
 Town of Nags Head Board of
 Commissioners and Staff
 John H. Tucker Jr.
 Tucker Landscaping
 Rick and Didi Tupper
 David A. Tweedie
 Ross and Grier Twiddy
 Twiddy & Company
 United Way of South Hampton
 Roads
 Lynn and Janan Usher
 Theresa Vanda
 Robert Vill
 Chip and Leigh Anne Vincent
 Vitale-Nelson Giving Fund
 Sheryl Tillett and George Viverette
 Anita Corsa Vollmer
 Von Der Heyden Family
 Foundation
 Elizabeth von Stade
 Jillian Walker
 Tim and Susie Walters
 Alvah H. Ward Jr.



The newly-established W. R. Davis Scholarship Fund will award traditional college scholarships, and the W.R. Davis Educational Fund will support students in lower grades by financing everything from field trips to needed supplies. Selection committee member Bea Basnight holds the biography of Walter R. Davis as she poses with Pastor Susie Fitch-Slater and Nancy Beach Gray from Bethany Church of Wanchese. Photo by OBCF.

Andy and Sue Ward
 Beverly Ward
 Nancy Ward
 Jason and Michaux Waughtel
 Marie Welch
 Robert Wells
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 Charles and Jackie White
 Maylon and Charlotte White
 Peggy and Dick Whitehead
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 Thomas Wilson
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 David C. Wright
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 Kathleen and Kevin Wright
 Kent and Barbara Yandle
 Rosemary and Smedes York

**Greg & Eden Honeycutt
 Scholarship Fund**

Greg and Eden Honeycutt
 Ocean Atlantic Event Rentals

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Gwen E. Botson Foundation

Halloween Island Fund

OBX Ghost Tours
 Donna Thompson
 Tranquil House Inn & 1587 Lounge

Harmon Fund

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 From the Borlands with love
 Georgiana Bowman
 Joanna Carr

Dianne George
 Caitlyn Gray
 Charles Huff
 Beverly Karr
 Dan Kunze
 Lloyd and Lisa Minerich
 Paul and Robin Mann
 Brian Miller
 Marsha RiibnerCady
 Ann and John Rosendale
 Peggy Saporito
 Mark Seavey
 Toni Shalhoup
 Kevin Smith
 Walt and Kathy Smith
 Michael Sprague
 Laura Strickland
 Lawrence Summers
 Sheila Williamson
 Melody Winters

**Hatteras Island Cancer
 Foundation Endowment Fund**

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 Welders Ark Charters, Inc.

**Healthcare Professionals
 Scholarship Fund**

Anonymous

**Helping Hand Cookie Jar
 Scholarship**

Karen DelVacchio

Helping People Help Animals

Anonymous

Hester Family Legacy Fund

Frank and Lynda Hester
 The Hester Girls
 Anonymous

**Hugh A. McCullen Scholarship
 Fund**

The McCullen Family
 A work friend.



GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY



Dare Wildlife Rehab, led by founder Dana Roepcke, provides care and rehabilitation to orphaned, ill, or injured wildlife with the goal of release. The organization has received grants from multiple Community Foundation funds dedicated to animal welfare. Photo courtesy of Dana Roepcke.

Inez Daniels Austin Scholarship Fund

OBX Rod & Custom Festival
Sybil Skakle
Rob and Debbie Lawson

Interfaith Community Outreach Endowment Fund

Tony Tessenear

Irene Nolan Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ronald and Carol Ahlers
Fred and Kathleen Andres
Chick Ciccolella
Raymond Clare
Ernie and Lynne Foster
Peter and Frances Foti
Friend
David and Elizabeth Greider
Cate Kozak
James C. and Deborah Lawson
Connie Leinbach
Chris Nolan
Dennis O'Doherty
Cathy Roth
Lawrence and Beth Shanda
Parker Sykes

Jeannette U. McOwen Memorial Scholarship Fund

Billy and Monica McOwen

Jerry & Arlene Davis Scholarship Fund

Jerry and Arlene Davis
Watson/Liske Family Fund

Joe Riddick Trade and Technical Scholarship Fund

Steven Michael Riddick

June & John Kemble Memorial Cancer Fund

Anonymous

Just for Today & Tomorrow Endowment Fund, in Memory of Dorman N. Doult & Florence B. Satterwhite

Ron and Tiney Curtis

Karen Willis Memorial Scholarship

Margery and Robert McKay
Jim Willis

Karl and Debby Daniels Family Fund

Karl and Debby Daniels

Kelly Family Fund

Kitty Hawk Kites, Inc.

Kelly's Golf Tournament Fund

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Jerry and Arlene Davis
Josh Dunavant
First Flight Rotary Club
Kristina Gee
Steve Gillis
Nathan Giroux
Greg White Plumbing Inc.
Melissa Harrison
Hutchins Canning & Company
Jerry Kelly Inc.
Bill Jones
Kelly's Management Group
James R. Kenny
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Phil Morgan
Performance Food Group
Pinnacle Plumbing Co.
Thomas Davis Rust
Sandtrap Tavern
Servpro OBX
Sysco Hampton Roads
TowneBank
David Sanders Watson
Jamie Weatherly

Kerry Sanders Memorial Fund

Barnes Street Open Horseshoe
Tournament
Steven and Carolyn Nagorny
Wood Walk for Kerry
YMCA Good Morning Crew

Lillian W. Riddick Scholarship Fund for Nurses

Steven Michael Riddick

Linda Porter's Shear Genius Scholarship Fund

Colin and Christine Cooper
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Love of Learning Scholarship Fund

Anonymous

Lucian Griffin Scholarship Fund

Dale and Katherine Guidry
Jack Guard
Robert and Kelly Griffin
Sarah Anne Griffin

Marc Basnight Scholarship Fund

Bea and Saint Basnight
Caroline Basnight
Bethany Church of Wanchese
GG & Bonny Bonner

Marine Life Preservation Fund of North Carolina

Philip Aitcheson
PF Damon, of PF Damon
Company/Isle Royale Records

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Fund
Margery and Robert McKay

Martin Kellogg Memorial Fund

Bruce & Amanda Austin
GG & Bonny Bonner
Charitable Conduit
Children of Hunter & Beth Morgan
(Bill & Ed Morgan, Mary
Chester M. Wasko)
Terry and Priscilla Deming
First Judicial District Bar
Clint and Nita Hepler
Laura and Robert Hobbs
Partners, colleagues and friends at
Hornthal, Riley, Ellis, & Maland
Fran and Mike Reeves
Michael Sanders
Town of Nags Head Board of
Commissioners and Town Staff
Suzanne Thatcher
Holly Meekins Williams
Tammy Woodward

Martin Smith Endowment Fund

Peggy Saporito
Waukesha County Community
Foundation / Don and Judi
Stephens Family Fund

Mary Anne McKay Memorial Scholarship Fund

Anonymous
Jody and Jim Chickowski
Jim and Karen Willis Charitable
Fund
Margery and Robert McKay

MAS Fund for Ocracoke

Margaret Siegel

Minton Family Fund

Kim Minton

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OBCF Pass Through Fund

Nancy Opalack
Richard Beadles

OBX First Responder Giving Program Fund

Firehouse Boil Delivery

OBX Room In The Inn Fund

Anonymous

OBX Scholars Fund

Judith Guzy
Shirley Hamblet
Nancy Hennessy
John and Jill Lettieri
Jose Simon
Tony Tessenear

Ocracoke Fire Protection Association Fund

Lee A. Kimball and Richard T.
Scully

Ocracoke Fund

Bill and Wendy Farrior
Greg and Leigh Lewis Giving Fund
Paul and Denise Sorenson
Anna Waller

Operating Fund

Steven and Ann Marie Anderson
Community Care Clinic of Dare
County
Kelli Harmon
Our EPIC Project
Gray Michael Parson
David Tweedie

Osborne Scholarship Fund

Anonymous
James and Julia Osborne
Teresa and Butch Osborne
Joyce Pickrel

Our EPIC Project Fund

Our EPIC Project



GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY

Outer Banks Association of Realtors Scholarship Fund

Atlantic Appraisal Service
E. Crouse and Juanita Gray
Daniel and Dawn Fenyak
Frye Financial
Happy to Help Homes
Island Appraisers, LLC
Kathie Nesbitt
Shelley O'Grady and Alan Willis
Outer Banks Association of Realtors
Susan Ray
Sandbar Dreams OBX, Inc.
Soundside Subs II, LLC
Soundside Subs IV, LLC
Richard Tolson

Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts Scholarship Fund

Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts

Outer Banks Orthodontics Scholarship Fund

Outer Banks Orthodontics

Outer Banks Realtors Disaster Relief Fund

Atlantic Appraisal Service
E. Crouse and Juanita Gray
Daniel and Dawn Fenyak
Frye Financial
Happy to Help Homes
Island Appraisers, LLC
Kathie Nesbitt
Shelley O'Grady and Alan Willis
Outer Banks Association of Realtors
Susan Ray
Sandbar Dreams OBX, Inc.
Soundside Subs II, LLC
Soundside Subs IV, LLC
Richard Tolson

Outer Banks Road to Recovery Fund

Anonymous
Emily Kaye Knight and Nancy Parsons
Saving Lives Task Force

Outer Banks Seafood Festival Fund

Anonymous
Duke Energy Progress, Inc.
Outer Banks Seafood Festival
Piedmont Natural Gas Co.
Pungo Engineering Services

Outer Banks SPCA Fund

Clint and Nita Hepler
Anthony and Kathie Lamm
Rad and Margie Tillett
Tony Tessenear

Pam and Ray Evans Grantmaking Fund

Ray and Pam Evans

Pauline Wright Endowment for Dare County Individuals with Special Needs

Barbara Tessenear

Peregrine & Kaye White Fund

Estate of Peregrine B. White
Fran Kapinos
OBCF supporter
Kenneth and Sarah White
Maria Lumpkins
Nancy B. Birindelli
Rev. Dr. Sallye Hardy
P.E.O. Chapter CJ
Tess Judge

Perry & Kiki Kiouisis Memorial Fund

Mike and Sunny Adams
Meghan Agresto
Anonymous
Anonymous
Arline Arnold

Preston Family Fund

As a memorial gift to Nick and Dawn's mother, Kiki
Chris and Angie Aydlett
Elinor Mabel Preston Irrevocable Trust
Carolista Ann-Cabell Baum
Rear Admiral Noel Preston
Ron and Becky Bennett

Ralph & Ida Lee Saunders Scholarship Fund

In Love, The Blanchards' Scott, Toni, Michael, Katie, Sawyer and Lynleigh
Penny Leary-Smith
Joy and Dan Bressette
Robert and Angela Bruce
Sallie and Dan Cahill
Bob Chronister
James and Leckie Conners
Carl Crabtree
Blair Engelken

Rex Sample Fund for Courage and Determination

Jan & Judi Flakowicz
Jackie Ricks-Sample
Friends of Stack 'em High
Watson/Liske Family Fund
Steve and Barb Hirsch

Robert E. Rollason, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ramey and Mike Humenik
Hazel Hurdle
Sherry Rollason
In Memory of Kiki Kiouisis from Maro Bungas and Cathy Terasavage & Daughters
Bill Sport
Gary and Carole Kimmel
Nick & Dawn Kiouisis and the Stack 'em High Family

Rohe Family Fund

Kulkpow Family
Gak
Jessica Lacerte
Elizabeth Rohe
Benj Lipchak and Jessica Sands

R. Wayne Gray Memorial Scholarship Fund

John and Sally Meagher
Jamie Anderson
Paul Moseley
GG & Bonny Bonner
Victoria Nichols
Randy and Shirley O'Neal
John Power
Rheana Watts
Cheryl and Dwight Powers

Schiffman Fund for Animals

Michael Rees
Harry and Lila Schiffman
Kristine Rosenfeld
Scott & Christy Steward
Blake Wagner
Patty Waldmann
Jane Webster
William Winslow

Scott Day Family Scholarship Fund

Ann Cowper
Kristin Day

Serbousek Family Fund

Michael and Janie Serbousek

Sergeant Joshua Rimer Memorial Fund for Veterans

Betty Evans

Sgt. Earl Murray Memorial Scholarship Fund

OBX Rod & Custom Festival

Simpson-Sharp-Oakes Fund

Robert Oakes, Jr.

Smith-Cooper Scholarship Fund

Susan Smith

Spencer Family Fund

Sarah Spencer at Keller Williams
OBX

Tawan Endowment for the Outer Banks

Bruce Hilpert

Teddy and Savory Garrett Veterinary Medicine Scholarship Fund

Carole Garrett
Lynn T. Reams Revocable Trust

The Baum-Meekins Perpetual Cemetery Trust Fund

A descendant of the Baum-Meekins Family
Ruth Fleming
Renee Hudgins
Robert Parker
Lila Schiffman

The Ray White Fund for Community Leadership

White Family Fund

Vocational Opportunity Fund for Northeastern North Carolina

Robert and Cheryl Ford

Wallace H. McCown Scholarship Fund

Charlene and Greg Allen
Anonymous
Benjamin Baldwin
Zachary Forrestal
Bloodline Kulinarny
Linda McCown
Pamela Riddick
Town of Kill Devil Hills Employees and Citizens
Cheryl Woods

Walton Family Fund

Walton Family Fund

Wayne Fulcher Art Scholarship Fund

Conner's Cape Hatteras Supermarket
Mary Ellen Riddle
Linda Schneider
Susan Trueblood

White Family Fund

Ralph and Donna Buxton
White Family Trust

Wiegel Disaster Relief Fund

Estate of Helen K. Wiegel

William Walter Reams Memorial Fund

Lynn T. Reams Revocable Trust

Wolfinger-Jones Family Fund

Tony and Tracy Jones
Janet Wolfinger

W. R. Davis Educational Fund

Bea and Saint Basnight
Bethany Church of Wanchese

W. R. Davis Scholarship Fund

Bethany Church of Wanchese



2025 GRANTS FROM DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Anonymous Donor-Advised Funds

College of The Albemarle Foundation
Dare Arts
East Carolina University
The Elizabethan Gardens
University of North Carolina
Center for Public Media (PBS North Carolina)

12 Bars of Christmas Fund

Beach Food Pantry
Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County
Community Foundation of Western NC
Dare Education Foundation
Interfaith Community Outreach North Carolina Coastal Federation
OBX Room In The Inn
Outer Banks Hotline
Outer Banks Relief Foundation
Special Olympics North Carolina
Surfing for Autism, Inc.
Surfrider Foundation

Bingham Family Fund

Beach Food Pantry
Blair Road United Methodist Church

Birindelli Family Fund

Dare Education Foundation
Food For Thought
Outer Banks Relief Foundation

Dorothy Scott Townsend Fletcher Memorial Fund

Albemarle Commission
Colington Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc.
Food Bank of the Albemarle
Food For Thought
Holy Redeemer by the Sea Catholic Parish
Interfaith Community Outreach
Kill Devil Hills Fire Department Auxiliary
Kitty Hawk Baptist Church, Inc.
Kitty Hawk Volunteer Fire Department
Outer Banks SPCA
Ruthie's Kitchen
Southern Shores Volunteer Fire Department

Emily Fredricks Memorial Fund for Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

Outer Banks Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Coalition

Evans Family Fund

Corolla Education Foundation
Corolla Wild Horse Fund
Interfaith Community Outreach
OBX Room In The Inn
Outer Banks Conservationists

For The Love of OBX Fund

Liberty Christian Fellowship
Southern Shores Civic Association
The Outer Banks Health Development Council
University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina Foundation

General P.X. Kelley Memorial Fund

Outer Banks VFW Post 10950 Auxiliary

Gwen E. Botson Foundation

Dare Education Foundation

Harriett Mardre Woolard Memorial Fund

The Outer Banks Health Development Council

Hester Family Legacy Fund

Dare Education Foundation
Virginia S. Tillett Community Center

Instrument of Thy Peace Fund

Beach Food Pantry
Community Care Clinic of Dare
Cross Roads OBX
Dare County Detention Center
Hyde County Educational Foundation
Interfaith Community Outreach
Lower Currituck Food Pantry
Ocracoke Health Center Inc.
Outer Banks Relief Foundation
Verdant Minds

Jones | Lewis Fund

Peace Garden Project

June & John Kemble Memorial Cancer Fund

Interfaith Community Outreach



Water's Edge Village School celebrated the grand opening of the Wayne and Betty Evans Building at the K-8 charter school in July 2025. A \$300,000 grant from the Evans Family Fund, the largest single award ever made through the Outer Banks Community Foundation, was part of a \$2.4 million capital campaign to fund construction of the schoolhouse. Photo courtesy of Water's Edge Village School.

Just for Today & Tomorrow Endowment Fund, in Memory of Dorman N. Douth & Florence B. Satterwhite

Beach Food Pantry
Outer Banks Dare Challenge

Kelly Family Fund

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Albemarle
Colaborativa La Milpa
Community Care Clinic of Dare
East Carolina University Educational Foundation, Inc.
Mountain Bizcapital Inc.
Mountain True
North Carolina Community Foundation
North Carolina Lions Visually Impaired Persons Fishing Tournament, Inc.
OBX Room In The Inn
Pisgah Legal Services
WNC Bridge Foundation

MAS Fund for Ocracoke

Ocracoke Alive
Ocracoke Community Pool Association Inc.
Ocracoke Health Center Inc.
Ocracoke Preservation Society

Nourishing Hatteras Island Fund

Food For Thought

Our EPIC Project Fund

Community Care Clinic of Dare
Interfaith Community Outreach
Walk Against Addiction

Pam and Ray Evans Family Fund

Mount Olivet United Methodist Church
OBX Storm, Inc.
Roanoke Island Historical Association/The Lost Colony
The Elizabethan Gardens

Peregrine & Kaye White Fund

Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men
Community Care Clinic of Dare

Preston Family Fund

Cape Hatteras United Methodist Men
Community Care Clinic of Dare
Interfaith Community Outreach
Outer Banks Dementia Friendly Coalition

Simpson-Sharp-Oakes Fund

Don and Catharine Bryan Cultural Series
Hatteras Sailing

The Hope Fund

Beaver Creek Christian Church
Dare Wildlife Rehab, Inc.
Interfaith Community Outreach
Samaritan's Purse

William & JoAnn Small Family Fund

St. Mary's School

Wolfinger-Jones Family Fund

Beach Food Pantry
Community Care Clinic of Dare



Book of Honor

The Outer Banks Community Foundation gratefully acknowledges contributions and grants made in honor of:

Albert (Bert) Austin
Tracey Beard
Gray Berryman
Ben Birindelli
Dr. Christina Bowen
The amazing CYP Staff
Lenny & Jane Frieden
Shaena Hollomon
Colleen Hummel
June and John Kemble Family
Emerson Mann
Ray Meiggs
Tess Judge
My Family
Patrick Nickeson
Bobbi Jo Payne
Linda Porter
David Rostetter
Carrie Sanders
Chris Sawin
Susan Smith
Teachers and Students residing in Kitty Hawk Landing
Stephanie Walker
Rom and Elaine Whitaker
Jo Whitehead

Book of Memory

The Outer Banks Community Foundation gratefully acknowledges contributions and grants made in memory of:

Marilyn Alsbrooks
Michael Andreasen
Brenda Armstrong
Albert (Bert) Austin
Les Austin
Marc Basnight
Betsy Bennett
William B. (Bill) Bennett
Gary Berard
Ben Birindelli
David Blackstock
Bruce Matthew Bortz
Alice Brouillard
Charlie
Boo Chavoustie
Catherine Carrington Clawson
Joan Doxey Cooper
Senator Melvin R. Daniels, Jr. and Gladys T. Daniels
William Thomas Dark
Walter Davis
Paul Dougherty
Elwood Dunston
Mary Baum Fleming, Ralph Fleming, and Ralph Fleming Jr.

Michael F. Flock
Emily Claire Fredricks
Robert Givens, Jr.
Douglas Wayne Glecker and Derek Wayne Gleckler
Terry Gray
Angelina Gregory
Andy Griffith
Lucian Griffin
Christopher Neil Hagedon
Newt, Mae and Judy Hamblet
Joseph "Adam" Harmon
Fredrick Hutchins
Melvin Jerals
Christina Jones
Kim Potter Kendrick
Chris Kidder
Vasiliki "Kiki" G. Kiouis
Elizabeth Kindelberger
Lisa Kovacs-Breuer
Joe Lamb, Jr.
Carl Lilieberg
Denise (Neese) Lindeman
Martha
Kimberly McCarty
Richard Lauder McEwan
William Miller
Valerie Morgan
Samuel Nashold
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Burnice (Buddy) Payne, Jr
Katrina Meekins Payne
Paul Payton

Richard Peabody
Norman Peek
Rev. Frances C. Peel
Donn Pokorny
Pop
Boni Poplin
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Marjalene M. Thomas
Maxine Scarborough Thomasson
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Mary Frances Williamson
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Ben Wood-Lewis
Dr. Joseph Zoll



GRANTS FROM ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER DESIGNATED ENDOWMENTS



A grant to the Outer Banks Dare Challenge to support their Women's Center Gardens will help them grow produce for sale, enhance the financial sustainability of their nonprofit, and provide students with opportunities to develop new skills. Photo courtesy of Dare Challenge.

Burwell A. Evans Charitable Fund

Roanoke Island Volunteer
Fire Department \$1,598
Mount Olivet United
Methodist Church \$1,598

Dare Community Crime Line Fund

Dare Community Crime Line \$1,517

Dare County Arts Council Endowment Fund

Dare Arts \$1,669

Dare County Library Fund

Dare County Library Foundation \$1,722

Dare Education Foundation Endowment Fund

Dare Education Foundation Scholarship
Program \$4,560

Don & Catharine Bryan Cultural Series Endowment Fund

Don and Catharine Bryan
Cultural Series \$83,916

Everyone's Playground Fund

Everyone's Outer Banks Inc. \$176,725

First Flight Society Fund

First Flight Society \$2,950

First Flight Track Club Pass-Through Fund

First Flight Track Club \$35,000

Flat Top Preservation Fund

Town of Southern Shores \$2,791

Food For Thought Fund

Food For Thought Pass-Through Fund \$3,251

Frank Stick Memorial Fund

Friends of the Outer Banks
History Center \$11,120

Frank Tate Memorial Fund for the Manteo High School Band

Manteo High School \$966

Fred Murray Memorial Fund

Outer Banks Relief Foundation \$1,937

Helen Britt Van Cleef Petty Fund

Mount Olivet United Methodist
Church \$19,075

Jim Wood Endowment for Children's Arts

Dare Arts \$270

Milton A. Jewell Internship Fund

Operating Fund \$2,520

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Bethany Methodist Church

Bethany Church of Wanchese \$2,567

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Gideons International

Gideons International \$2,478

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Mount Olivet Methodist Church

Mount Olivet United Methodist
Church \$2,698

Moncie L. Daniels & Belva Midgett Daniels Memorial Fund for Town of Manteo

Town of Manteo \$3,214

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Bethany Methodist Church

Bethany Church of Wanchese \$2,053

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for First Assembly of God

Manteo First Assembly of God \$2,643

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Manteo Baptist Church

Manteo Baptist Church \$2,091

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Mount Olivet Methodist Church

Mount Olivet United Methodist
Church \$2,156

Moncie L. Daniels Jr. and Muriel Green Daniels Memorial Fund for Wanchese Assembly of God

Wanchese Assembly of God \$2,501

Monument to a Century of Flight Fund

Town of Kitty Hawk \$30,639

Outer Banks Family YMCA Fund

YMCA of South Hampton Roads \$260

Outer Banks SPCA Fund

Outer Banks SPCA \$8,747

Pauline Wright Endowment for the Currituck Animal Shelter

Currituck Animal Shelter \$2,784

Pauline Wright Endowment for the Currituck Public Libraries

Currituck County Library Foundation \$2,469

Pauline Wright Endowment for the Dare County Arts Council

Dare Arts \$4,137

Sergeant Joshua Rimer Memorial Fund for Veterans

Interfaith Community Outreach 10,000
Outer Banks VFW Post 10950
Auxiliary \$4,500

Thomas and Rachel McLaurin Endowment

Heritage Bible College \$532

Warren Cameron Judge III Endowment Fund for the Outer Banks Relief Foundation

Outer Banks Relief Foundation \$2,752



Supported by a Community Enrichment Grant to the Outer Banks Forum for the Lively Arts, EarthBeat!'s May 2025 performance took audiences on a whirlwind journey around the globe through dance and music. Photo courtesy of Biff Jennings.



LEADERSHIP

2026 Board of Directors and Staff



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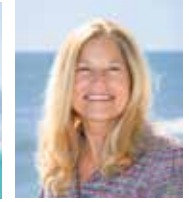
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Special thanks

For their volunteer time and talent, we thank Lynne Alterman, Christy McAnallay, Carrie Bateman, Scott Brown, Robert Chestnut, Lori Clark, Jeff Deringer, Jeff Dippold, Doug Doughtie, Tricia Driscoll, Dr. Sheila Davies, Nancy Beach Gray, Barbara Hanft, Dorothy Hester, Nancy Hennessy, Norma Houston, Gail Hutchingson, Eddie Ingram, Suzanne Jennette, Biff Jennings, Karla Jarvis, Bettie Kellogg, Shea LaFountaine, Eileen Lowery, Michelle Lewis, Myra Ladd, Matt Melvin, Mary McKnight, Ali Minns, Maureen Montgomery, Bob Muller, Lee Nettles, Shawn Nason, Shelly O'Grady, Tam Oros, Wendy Parks, Elizabeth Morey, Rob Rollason, Diane Rohan, Jackie Sample, Peggy Saporito, Lila Schiffman, Jane Simpson, Susan Smith, Sara Hester Smith, Billy Simmonds, Cristina Stuart, Di Small, Tim Sweeney, Ginger Stalheber, Charles Temple, Wes Stepp, Jeff Schwartzberg, Donnie Varnell, Kelly Wallberg, Barbara White, Bobbi Veon White, Jennifer Wilson, Greg Wilson, Jane Webster, Lisa Wheless, and Shea Youell.



St. Andrews By-The-Sea Episcopal Church received a grant to support the launch and initial programming of the Outer Banks Youth Choir, open to youth ages 9-19 in Dare County, directed by John Buford. Photo courtesy of Biff Jennings.

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