



Grant History

195 Grants Totaling \$1,294,716

Spring 1995 – Spring 2023

Spring 2023 (\$54,260)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina - \$2,500 to recruit volunteer mentors for a program that serves children from disadvantaged families.

Brackett Town Farms – \$1,000 to provide animal-assisted activities to local residents.

Casting for Hope – \$5,000 to help meet basic needs of low-income women with gynecological cancers.

Centro Unido Latino-Americano – \$5,000 for rent and utility assistance for primarily Latinx low-income people.

Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas – \$4,977 to support medical access and other related needs for families of children with cancer.

East Marion Pentecostal Holiness Church/Tabernacle Community Garden – \$3,350 to provide produce to low-income people.

Foothills Health District – \$4,000 to purchase medical equipment to improve care for at-risk populations.

Jason's Getaway – \$750 for events that benefit children with developmental challenges.

McDowell LFAC – \$5,000 to purchase produce for youth from local farmers.

McDowell Technical Community College - College & Career Readiness – \$5,000 for a support program that helps low-income students remain enrolled.

Mercy Fund Animal Rescue – \$4,183 to provide veterinary services to low-income families' pets.

New HOPE of McDowell – \$3,500 to provide shelter to domestic violence victims and their pets.

St. John's Episcopal Church/Food Pantry – \$5,000 to purchase food for its weekly pantry.

YMCA of Western North Carolina – \$5,000 for financial assistance to low-income families for pre-K and enrichment programs.

Spring 2022 (\$51,280)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina - \$2,500 to support ongoing volunteer mentor recruitment.

CareReach - \$5,000 for medication assistance, medical equipment and outreach materials for vulnerable residents.

Centro Unido Latino-Americano - \$5,000 for direct assistance to families negatively affected by COVID-19.

Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas - \$4,479 to provide access to treatment for children battling cancer.

Jason's Getaway - \$1,000 to support events for the special needs community.

McDowell Arts Council Association - \$4,668 to purchase theatre equipment for the Greenlee Theatre.

McDowell County EMS - \$2,100 to purchase specialized wireless routers for two paramedic vehicles.

McDowell County Government/North Carolina Cooperative Extension - \$2,500 to purchase food and supplies for a 4-H youth summer camp.

McDowell County Health Coalition - \$4,000 to educate the local industrial workforce about the long-term effects of trauma and stress on health and general well-being.

McDowell LFAC - \$5,000 to support its food distribution center.

McDowell Mission Ministries - \$5,000 to purchase supplies needed for an outreach program that serves people who are homeless.

New HOPE of McDowell - \$4,548 to purchase a refrigerator and freezer for the kitchen at its emergency shelter.

Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte - \$485 to support its residential housing programming for families of children receiving medical care.

St. John's Episcopal Church/Food Pantry - \$5,000 to purchase fresh, local produce for distribution to low-income people.

Spring 2021 (\$23,540)

Babies Need Bottoms - \$2,500 to provide diapers and baby hygiene items to low-income families.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western North Carolina - \$2,000 to recruit and train mentoring volunteers.

Brackett Town Farms - \$2,000 for a walkway to improve access to its facilities.

Brother Wolf Animal Rescue - \$1,000 to subsidize spay and neuter surgeries for low-income families who have pets.

CareReach - \$2,540 to provide dental and medical assistance to low-income people.

Centro Unido Latino-Americano - \$2,500 to provide essential basic services to primarily low-income Latinx people.

Foothills Health District - \$2,500 to purchase a bariatric exam table.

McDowell County Government/North Carolina Cooperative Extension - \$2,500 to provide local farmers with marketing support to improve sales of their produce and products.

McDowell Local Food Advisory Council (LFAC) - \$2,500 to support staff and purchase food.

Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte - \$1,000 to provide residential support to McDowell families whose children are undergoing medical treatment in the Charlotte area.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$2,500 to support an academic recovery program.

Spring 2020 (\$47,020)

Babies Need Bottoms - \$3,000 to provide diapers for low-income families.

Camp Grier - \$4,000 to complete a three-mile section of the Fonta Flora connector trail.

CareReach (formerly Community Care of Western North Carolina) - \$5,000 to support mobile health clinics that provide screenings and resources for low-income people.

Children's Cancer Partners of the Carolinas - \$2,000 to help children with cancer from low-income families access medical treatments.

City of Marion/Historic Marion Tailgate Market - \$2,500 to support its food program and outreach for the market.

Creek Wise Park - \$1,330 to support park maintenance.

McDowell County EMS - \$1,250 to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator.

McDowell County Health Coalition - \$3,800 to purchase a storage building for its soccer equipment and materials.

McDowell LFAC - \$4,983 to help with construction needed for additional refrigerated and frozen storage.

McDowell Senior Center - \$2,682 to replace, repair, and service exercise equipment at their senior sites.

McDowell Technical Community College Foundation - \$3,600 to provide STEM Camp for 24 rising eighth-graders.

McDowell Trails Association - \$3,000 to be used toward trailhead improvements and signage for segments of the Fonta Flora State Trail.

New HOPE of McDowell - \$5,000 to help domestic violence and sexual assault victims find safe permanent housing.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$4,875 to provide meals for low-income adults.

Spring 2019 (\$44,320)

Brackett Town Farms - \$2,500 to repair and improve its petting farm that focuses on therapeutic support of people with special needs.

Camp Spring Creek Outreach - \$5,000 to offer a 50-hour Orton-Gillingham training plus year-long mentorship to three teachers at North Cove Elementary School.

Community Care of Western North Carolina - \$5,000 to support mobile health clinics through outreach, marketing, and materials.

Creek Wise Park - \$4,817 to help with park maintenance.

McDowell Agricultural Center - \$2,000 to help cover costs of registration and travel for youth attending a livestock judging camp hosted by Oklahoma State University.

McDowell County Government/Keep McDowell Beautiful - \$2,500 to support a community garden that provides produce to local people.

McDowell County Government/North Carolina Cooperative Extension - \$2,000 to purchase healthy snacks for schools and food for cooking and tasting demonstrations.

McDowell LFAC (Local Food Advisory Council) - \$5,000 to purchase shelving for storing donated food.

McDowell Technical Community College Foundation - \$5,000 to add equipment for a "makerspace" for the college's academic library.

Mercy Animal Rescue - \$5,000 for a community program that helps with pet food, outside housing for pets, and senior special needs pets.

Quilted Hugs, INC - \$3,000 to purchase fabric, batting and thread to make lap-sized quilts for emotionally and physically distressed or abused children.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$2,503 to serve free nutritious meals to 16 adults whose children are receiving meals through another program for youth.

Spring 2018 (\$10,000)

Brackett Town Farms - \$2,500 toward the purchase of portable toilets and handwashing stations for the educational petting farm with a focus on therapeutic support of those with special needs, trauma and grief.

Freedom Life Ministries - \$2,500 toward the purchase of a truck to support its pressure washing program.

Friends of Lake James State Park - \$500 for fire safety equipment.

McDowell Arts Council - \$500 for equipment for its classes and camps.

McDowell County EMS - \$500 to help purchase a defibrillator.

McDowell County Public Library - \$1,500 to train volunteers in its adult literacy program.

McDowell Mission Ministries - \$1,500 for repairs to the men's shelter.

Mercy Animal Rescue - \$500 to help dog owners keep their pets by providing food and dog houses.

Fall 2017 (\$115,000)

CareNet Counseling of Marion - \$20,000 to expand services and provide greater access to behavioral healthcare and substance abuse programs.

Community Care of Western North Carolina* - \$20,000 to support Mobile Health Clinics that bring health care outreach, screening and resources to low-income people in convenient and familiar locations, increasing effective access to care.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$20,000 to purchase custom-made equipment for the medical drapes manufacturing line to increase capacity and self-sufficiency.

Grace Community Church - \$20,000 to purchase roofing material for homes occupied by low-income residents, identified by the McDowell Housing Coalition, who are unable to pay for necessary roof replacement.

Isothermal Planning and Development Commission - Co-investment in \$35,000 CFWNC Food and Farming grant to support the development of the Community Food and Health Hub. This project is the culmination of work done over the past four years by a coalition of churches, food pantry leaders, government agencies, nonprofits and community residents, working together on three goals: 1) lower food insecurity in McDowell County and increase healthy food at food pantries; 2) build a stronger and more prosperous local food system; and 3) increase access to fresh, local, healthy food for the whole community.

Spring 2017 (\$9,950)

City of Marion Tailgate Market - \$800 to purchase a credit card processor that will allow the market to continue to increase market sales and EBT/SNAP transactions.

Keep McDowell Beautiful - \$500 to purchase materials for the garden at Glenwood Elementary School.

McDowell County Public Library - \$500 to purchase supplies for a garden at the Old Fort Library.

McDowell County Schools - \$750 to help provide an alternative diversion program for first-time misdemeanor offenders ages 9-17 years old in McDowell County. Funds will provide operational costs including salaries, office supplies and communications expenses.

McDowell Technical Community College Foundation - \$750 to help support Camp Opportunity for McDowell County middle school students. The camp allows 150 low-income students to explore four different possible career paths.

New HOPE of McDowell County - \$2,000 provide a portion of the salary for a Client Services Advocate to support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. New HOPE is the only Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault agency in McDowell County.

P.G. Volunteer Fire Department - \$2,150 to replace and upgrade equipment that is needed to fight forest fires and support neighboring fire departments.

Pleasant Gardens Baptist Church - \$2,000 to continue to operate a Handicap Ramp Ministry that provides handicap ramps, at no cost, to needy residents of McDowell County. There are currently eleven residents on the waiting list.

Quilted Hugs - \$500 to purchase supplies for volunteers who make quilts for traumatized children in McDowell County. The quilts are distributed by DSS, Lily's Place and the McDowell Hospital.

Fall 2016 (\$67,000)

Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity, Inc. - \$15,000 to support expansion of affordable housing services to McDowell County.

Grace Baptist Church - \$15,000 to repair at least 15 owner-occupied homes of families with children.

McDowell Mission Ministries, Inc. - \$20,000 to support the salary of a full-time case manager to help individuals at risk of chronic homelessness transition into stable housing.

McDowell Technical Community College - \$15,000 to purchase a telemedicine unit to train healthcare professionals in the use of telemedicine for healthcare delivery.

New HOPE of McDowell - \$2,000 to purchase and install an industrial washing machine and dryer for the emergency shelter that houses victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Spring 2016 (\$9,949)

Dysartsville Christian Ministries - \$1,500 to purchase protein foods for families.

Historic Carson House - \$1,500 to reduce debt associated with the construction of the Jubilee Arbor.

McDowell Arts Council Association - \$1,000 to purchase a projector for programs and meetings.

McDowell Mission Ministries - \$2,500 to purchase 22 vinyl, bug-resistant mattresses.

Partnership for Children of the Foothills - \$2,000 received \$2,000 to assist with the dental needs of children who are not eligible for Medicaid.

YMCA of McDowell County - \$1,449 to purchase food storage equipment for its youth programs.

Fall 2015 (\$59,000)

Freedom Life Ministries - \$19,000 to initiate a Former Offender Resource Project developed to address personal, transportation and technology needs of former offenders.

McDowell County Department of Social Services - \$20,000 to provide dental care to uninsured adults.

McDowell Health Coalition - \$20,000 to expand its Health Advisor for Employers Program, which will implement Obesity, Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention activities related to healthy eating and physical activity in the community, worksite and faith settings.

Spring 2015 (\$8,000)

Historic Carson House - \$2,500 to help build the Jubilee Arbor, an open air pavilion that will enable the nonprofit to offer educational and cultural opportunities including workshops, social events and family celebrations.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County, Inc. - \$2,500 to purchase a video surveillance system to protect the campus, which has experienced recent theft and vandalism.

McDowell Mission Ministries - \$2,250 to undertake extensive repairs and remodeling to improve the men's bathroom. The Mission currently has two working toilets for 23 men.

McDowell Technical Community College - \$750 to pay for testing fees for low-income students at the NC Works Career Center so they can earn a National Career Readiness Certificate, which helps graduates find better paying jobs.

Fall 2014 (\$81,500)

McDowell County Senior Center - \$20,000 to purchase a minivan to provide medical transportation for low-income veterans.

Grace Community Church - \$20,000 to complete building and repair projects for nine families living in substandard homes.

McDowell Technical Community College - \$20,000 for Camp Opportunity to offer a one-week summer camp for 120 low-income, middle school children.

Western Carolina Medical Society Foundation - \$14,000 to expand WIN, its interpreter network, in McDowell County to hearing-impaired and Limited English Proficiency populations.

Good Samaritan Clinic of McDowell County - \$7,500 to conduct an analysis of business models best suited to provide healthcare to underserved adults and for strategic planning to implement a chosen model of success.

Spring 2014 (\$5,000)

Historic Carson House - \$1,500 to help build the Jubilee Arbor, an open air facility.

McDowell County Arts Council - \$1,000 to replace a heat pump in the classroom used for summer camp and afterschool programs.

McDowell County DSS - \$500 for repairs and new shelving for the food pantry.

Grace Community Church - \$500 for children to attend the Upwards Sports Camps this summer.

Freedom Life Ministries - \$500 for security equipment for their new location and to purchase computer software for this prison re-entry case management program.

McDowell Technical Community College - \$500 towards childcare assistance.

McDowell Mission Ministries - \$500 toward the costs of transporting clients.

Fall 2013 (\$65,000)

Freedom Life Ministries - \$17,000 for the Case Management project.

Hospice of McDowell County, Inc. - \$20,000 to expand a Safe Harbor Child Grief program.

The McDowell Hospital, Inc. - \$12,000 for a Comprehensive Family Health program.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$16,000 for a YMCA Teen Afterschool program.

Spring 2013 (\$50,000)

McDowell Mission Ministries, Inc. - \$25,000 for the Homeless Extended Life-Support program to provide six months of extended case management and support for up to twelve homeless clients transitioning back to independence.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$25,000 to support afterschool teen programs for middle school students in McDowell and Buncombe counties and to start a summer program for teens in Buncombe County.

Fall 2012 (\$34,900)

Centro Unido Latino – Americano - \$14,900 to expand Interpretation and Translation Services program to meet a timely community need for bilingual and culturally competent communications, especially in healthcare and human services settings.

McDowell County DSS - \$20,000 to repair 15 owner-occupied homes, providing approximately 40 low income people with a safer and healthier living environment. McDowell Housing Coalition works with a large, skilled volunteer labor pool to provide home repairs, enabling MHC to spend every dollar on materials.

Spring 2012 (\$50,000)

McDowell Mission Ministries, Inc. - \$25,000 to provide six-months extended case management and support for up to 12 homeless clients transitioning to independence.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$25,000 to provide support for middle school afterschool programs in McDowell and Buncombe counties and the start of a summer program for teens in Buncombe County.

Fall 2011 (\$5,661)

Endowment Fund of the Public Schools of McDowell County - \$500 to provide educational supplies for schools.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$1,000 to purchase a heavy-duty washer and dryer for laundering uniforms that must be worn by employees in certain areas.

Good Samaritan Clinic of McDowell - \$1,661 for digital scales and insulin refrigerator and other medical supply needs.

Grace Community Church - \$500 for the housing repair fund.

McDowell County Dread Disease Association - \$500 in medication assistance.

McDowell Mission Ministry - \$1,000 toward the renovation of an upstairs room at the facility.

Old Fort Crisis Ministry - \$500 for the Emergency Food, Medical, Gas and Utility assistance fund.

Spring 2011 (\$7,000)

McDowell County Health Department - McDowell Health Coalition - \$7,000 to supplement the salary of a coordinator for the Community Health Living Index (CHLI) in McDowell County.

Fall 2010 (\$50,000)

Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina, Inc. - \$25,000 to work with public governmental, tourism, and other conservation partners to develop a regional vision for the Catawba River Headwaters near Old Fort in McDowell County as a recreation and heritage tourism “hub” tied to the preservation of natural, historic, and cultural heritage assets and natural resources.

YMCA of Western North Carolina - \$25,000 for the Teen Afterschool Program (TAP), an intensive program designed for at risk teens between the ages of 12 and 15, to expand its staff in order to serve 45 students from school dismissal to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday throughout the school year.

Fall 2009 (\$24,866)

First Baptist Church of Marion* - \$10,000 to cover start up expenses for the new Good Samaritan Clinic of McDowell County.

McDowell Mission Ministry - \$4,940 for emergency utility assistance.

McDowell Mission Ministry* - \$5,000 for heating assistance to 20-30 families.

McDowell County Department of Social Services - \$4,926 for the Food Pantry and Community Garden Project.

Spring 2009 (\$9,869)

McDowell Mission Ministry - \$4,990 to purchase two commercial refrigeration units, increasing the capacity of two locations to accept perishable food items from Manna Food Bank, such as milk, cheese, eggs, yogurt, juice and produce.

McDowell County Department of Social Services - \$2,518 to continue the Community Garden Project

McDowell County Schools - \$2,361 to provide food assistance to families in McDowell County in conjunction with the Family Resource Centers located in Old Fort, North Cove and Glenwood elementary schools. Parents will also participate in the Circle of Parents program that provides comprehensive, self-help services.

Winter 2008 (\$20,000)

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$2,000 for client transportation.

Grace Community Church - \$2,000 for the Benevolence Ministry, such as rent and utility assistance.

McDowell County Department of Social Services - \$5,000 for the Food Pantry and Garden Initiative.

McDowell County Dread Disease Association - \$2,500 for medication assistance.

McDowell County Public Library - \$500 for unemployment and job search resources.

McDowell Mission Ministry - \$5,000 for utility and rent assistance.

Old Fort Crisis Ministries - \$3,000 to the Old Fort Recession Relief Fund for utility, rent and medication assistance.

Fall 2008 (\$8,828)

Community Health Council of Rutherford - \$1,828 for equipment, educational materials and testing supplies for this organization's work in McDowell County in Judicial District 29A.

Davidson's Fort Historic Park - \$7,000 to upgrade the fort's website for better marketing and promotions.

Spring 2008 (\$57,400)

Magical Moments Therapeutic Riding Center - \$4,000 to purchase equipment and provide therapeutic riding lessons to individuals with mild to moderate disabilities.

McDowell County Senior Center - \$25,000 to purchase food-preparation equipment for the A.C. Bud Hogan Community Building, a new center that will serve as a nutrition site for seniors in Old Fort.

KidSenses Children's InterACTIVE Museum - \$25,000 for continued support of work to bring a traveling planetarium and science-programs to elementary school students in six WNC counties.

The McDowell Hospital - \$3,400 to purchase two new microscopes, tools that will assist in making accurate diagnoses and determining appropriate treatment options for patients.

Fall 2007 (\$7,000)

Davidson's Fort Historic Park - \$7,000 toward development of a fort, museum and park, part of Old Fort's plan for heritage education and economic revitalization.

Spring 2007 (\$57,000)

Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina, Inc. - \$25,000 to initiate a working forest land conservation program that would provide homeowners in McDowell and Rutherford Counties with an economically viable alternative to the sale of large tracts of land for intensive residential development.

KidSenses, Inc. - \$25,000 to purchase a full dome theater/planetarium for a science-based educational outreach program targeted to elementary schools in McDowell, Rutherford, Polk, Henderson, Buncombe and Burke Counties.

Grace Community Church - \$7,000 to assist in funding an afterschool program for children at Old Fort Elementary School whose unstable home lives put them in jeopardy of dropping out.

Fall 2006 (\$7,000)

Altapass Foundation (The Orchard at Altapass) - \$7,000 to evaluate and purchase database software that supports their efforts to build a membership constituency and become self-sustaining.

Spring 2006 (\$81,100)

Hospice of McDowell County - \$25,000 to establish a children's grief and loss program and help furnish rooms to offer these services.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$25,000 for increased staff during a facility reorganization designed to provide more jobs through manufacturing operations.

Repay - \$25,000 to replicate an effective offender reentry program in Rutherford and McDowell counties.

Historic Carson House - \$3,500 to enhance and expand this McDowell County genealogical library and museum.

Old Fort Elementary School - \$2,600 to use the school's nature trail as a tool to teach science programs.

Fall 2005 (\$8,500)

McDowell Arts and Crafts Association - \$1,500 to support "Music in the Mountains," a new, one week course in mountain blues music for adults.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$7,000 to purchase a thermo sealer and water chiller, which will allow the organization to reduce the cost of outsourcing and allow them to expand into new product lines.

Fall 2004 (\$11,385)

NC Cooperative Extension Service McDowell County Center - \$4,385 for “Families Under Construction,” a series of parenting classes and seminars for parents and their school-age children to help them cope with issues such as discipline, communication, blended families and self-esteem.

McPals (Endowment Fund of the Public Schools of McDowell County) - \$7,000 to expand “Parent and Child Konnection” (PACK), a collaborative prevention and parent involvement program in Old Fort designed to address alcohol and drug abuse, violence, delinquency, and school dropouts.

Fall 2003 (\$32,346)

McPals (Endowment Fund of the Public Schools of McDowell County) - \$11,346 toward a family literacy project for Latino families at Eastfield Elementary School.

Foothills Industries of McDowell County - \$15,000 for a marketing director to increase support of employment and training programs for adults with disabilities.

Foothills Community Theatre - \$6,000 to start a performing arts school for teenage youth.

Spring 2003 (\$20,000)

Keep McDowell Beautiful - \$10,000 to staff the “Eco Van” and provide environmental education activities to local elementary school students.

McDowell County United Way - \$10,000 to begin a 2-1-1 calling service for McDowell County, providing improved access to non-emergency health and human service information as well as volunteer opportunities.

Fall 2002 (\$10,000)

McDowell County Health Department - \$10,000 to support a character building curriculum to be used in the “Let’s Talk” program for teenagers and their parents.

Spring 2002 (\$30,130)

Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina - \$10,500 to complete a biological inventory and conduct outreach to private landowners as a strategy for preserving important natural areas in southern McDowell and western Burke counties.

McDowell County Partnership for Children and Families - \$12,630 to offer the Positive Parenting programs for families referred by the courts and social service agencies.

McDowell County Schools - \$7,000 for the start-up of a summer and after-school program for youth at Nebo Elementary School.

Spring 2001 (\$14,083)

KEY Players - \$6,654 for this children’s theater company to teach young school audiences in eleven WNC counties to practice respectful behaviors while attending arts events.

East McDowell Junior High School - \$7,429 to purchase equipment and create a video production unit for teachers and students.

Fall 2000 (\$3,000)

NC Mental Health Association* - \$3,000 for planning and start-up of a daytime drop-in center for people with mental illness in McDowell County.

Spring 2000 (\$22,500)

MANNA Food Bank - \$15,000 to extend services to rural counties providing them access to food, support services and education.

McDowell Arts and Crafts Association - \$2,300 to refurbish a façade at this local arts organization located on Main Street in Marion.

Old Fort Crisis Ministries - \$2,500 for start-up costs.

Old Fort Elementary School - \$2,700 to fund its summer enrichment program entitled, "Walking Through an Old Fort Century."

Spring 1999 (\$2,000)

McDowell County Habitat for Humanity - \$2,000 for appliances for a newly built home designated for low-income residents.

Spring 1998 (\$5,329)

Carson Home Restoration - \$4,650 for repairs and restoration of porches at this historic house museum in McDowell County.

Hospice of McDowell County - \$679 for a bereavement counseling program in the McDowell public schools.

Fall 1997 (\$1,500)

Institute of Marine & Agricultural Research - \$1,500 to undertake a public awareness program and outreach to school children at its McDowell County wetlands research site.

Spring 1997 (\$1,500)

McDowell County Schools - \$1,500 toward the purchase of a Wings Library of educational games and exercises for children with mental, physical and/or emotional handicaps.

Fall 1996 (\$6,000)

Old Fort Crisis Ministries - \$6,000 toward start-up costs for the organization

Spring 1996 (\$1,500)

Hospice of McDowell County - \$1,500 to support hospice education.

Spring 1995 (\$3,500)

Hospice of McDowell County* - \$3,500 for the organization's start-up phase.

**The McDowell Endowment did not have funds to allocate to these projects but advised CFWNC grantmaking decisions on these grants and served an important leadership role.*