



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CHARLOTTESVILLE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CONTINUES SUPPORTING AREA NONPROFITS THROUGH UNCERTAIN TIMES

Charlottesville, VA, November 2021 – The Community Foundation continues to partner with and support area nonprofits as they navigate the pandemic and deliver critical programs and services to individuals and families throughout our region.

**Fall 2021 Enriching Communities Grant Awards** – we are pleased to announce our Fall 2021 Enriching Communities grant funding decisions, totaling more than \$800,000 and supporting 116 nonprofits. This round of grants is part of the Community Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking program and supports a wide range of activities that keep our communities vibrant and strong, while supporting nonprofits recovery from COVID-19 and furthering community-based initiatives that help build a more accessible, equitable, and sustainable region.

Awards supported a wide range of impact areas this cycle including racial equity, food and housing insecurity, environmental initiatives, the arts, and programming for youth and marginalized communities. As always, funding priority was given to organizations impacting lives in the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Nelson, and Orange. Click [here](#) for a full list of Fall 2021 grant recipients.

In 2020 and as part of the Community Foundation’s COVID response, Enriching Communities was temporarily incorporated into our Community Recovery & Catalyst grants, which combined several donors and grant programs to provide more than \$3 million to 148 nonprofit organizations to support community recovery from the pandemic and to help address continued racial injustice. Established in 2015, the Enriching Communities grant program has now awarded 458 grants totaling \$3,612,770.

**Catchafire Capacity-Building Support** – we have recently launched the second year of our partnership with Catchafire to connect community-based organizations with highly skilled volunteers. Catchafire provides critical capacity and expertise in areas including COVID-19 essentials, finance and operations, fundraising, human resources, marketing and communications, program management, and technology.

The foundation’s investment allows participating organizations to utilize this resource at no cost and ensures access to resources critical for stability, growth, and success. Catchafire helps level the playing field. Many highly effective nonprofit organizations, often led by people of color, experience inequitable access to resources to do their important work. We have prioritized these, along with rural and small organizations, for Catchafire eligibility.

Highlights of the Catchafire partnership since inception in November of 2020 include:

- More than 180 organizations registered, with 118 having matched on projects
- More than 775 projects and calls completed
- Over 12,300 skilled volunteer hours contributed to area nonprofits
- \$2,532,104 of savings for nonprofits, resulting in 16x return on the community foundation's investment

“While we remain deeply committed to partnering with nonprofits in their continued recovery from the pandemic, says Director of Programs Eboni Bugg, “we are thrilled to reactivate this core component of our discretionary grant making as it provides critical resources to 116 nonprofits working across a variety of impact areas, all with the goal of ensuring that our region is a place in which everyone can belong, participate, contribute, and thrive.”

Learn more about the Community Foundation's work and impact from January 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 by visiting our new digital impact report at [www.cacfimpact.org](http://www.cacfimpact.org).

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The Charlottesville Area Community Foundation was established in 1967 as an engine for positive change in Charlottesville and the surrounding counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Nelson, and Orange. The Community Foundation works with local residents, nonprofits, and public and private organizations to facilitate philanthropy and create an equitable region where everybody can thrive. For more information, visit [www.cacfonline.org](http://www.cacfonline.org).