



## CareFirst Carolina Foundation Responds to Pandemic Needs

2020 was a challenging year for everyone and finding the best ways to be of assistance to the communities we serve at CareFIRST Foundation was a priority for our board and had to reflect our mission. From personal protective equipment (PPE) from Harbor Freight and Dillon Long Term Recovery group as well as, food from Harvest Hope and Vantage Point, funding a MOBY testing and vaccine mobile unit along with emergency transportation services with PDRTA.

We completed these efforts while also continuing our core mission of emergency medications, patient assistance and finding specialty care for our most vulnerable patients. We were working beside our partners shoulder to shoulder to make a difference in the region. Grants from such varied sources as SC ONE Foundation, Harbor Freight Foundation, CW and Dorothy Love Foundation, Xylem Watermark/Chesterfield County Rural Water,



PPE/Food Distribution



MOBY Funding



New Freezer for Food Storage

Malloy Foundation as well as Hartsville/Chesterfield County United way, Duke Energy, Vantage Point to name a few. Local business and industry supported our mission to supply emergency foods and PPE to so many in the region. It was both a time when everyone pulled together and worked the problems one by one and add-

ed their skills where needed. The statewide non-profit group, Together SC pointed out that we all need to take a moment and reflect on our last 18 months and to celebrate our successes. As non-profits we tend to look to the next crisis or emergency need and may not take time to appreciate our collective efforts.



CareFIRST Carolina is the supporting foundation of CareSouth Carolina Inc. and is dedicated to financially supporting the mission of CareSouth Carolina and its patients. Together, the organizations provide and improve access to health and support services to those who need them most. It is the first regional foundation to focus on improving the access and the quality of primary health care in the Pee Dee region of South Carolina.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**President**  
Charles H. Gray, III  
**Vice President**  
Mary Mack  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Karen Currin, CPA

**Chesterfield County**  
Charles H. Gray, III

**Darlington County**  
Karen Currin, CPA  
Leon Johnson

**Dillon County**  
Dr. Flossie Jackson  
Matt Moody

**Lee County**  
Mary Mack  
Ennis Bryant

**Marlboro County**  
Janice Rozier  
Dr. Naida L. Singleton

ADVISORY MEMBERS:

**Chesterfield County**  
M.B. Godbold, Jr., CLU  
Dr. William "Bill" Laney, DMD

**Darlington County**  
Jerry Ellison  
Goz Segars

**Dillon County**  
William Shipp Daniel, III  
James E. Lockemy

**Florence County**  
Gary Crawford

**Lee County**  
Linda Butters  
Ruby Gibbs

**Marlboro County**  
R. L. "Bobby" Brock  
Tim Brown

FOUNDATION STAFF:

**Director**  
Mark H. Sobiski

**Administrative Assistant**  
Jennifer Thomas

## Foundation Funds Second Dental Mobile Unit

With the combining of so many schools, pandemic social distancing along with student population growth at local schools our Dental teams needed a second mobile unit to serve the 43 regional schools they now work with. CareFIRST Carolina Foundation was asked to help make this dream a reality. We are looking for community partners to help fund this for the long term however the Foundation board has approved short term funding to purchase this unit so it can begin services for the 2022 school year.

With almost 3,000 children now in the MILES OF SMILES



school based program extending into five counties and over 40 schools there is always a need for dental services. The addition of this new mobile dental center will allow CSC teams to go to the smaller schools that were not able to share space for the portable dental units and make the teams even more flexible when providing quali-

ty comprehensive dental services in the Five Counties served by CareFIRST Carolina Foundation.

You can make a donation to assist us by visiting our webpage: [www.carefirst-carolina.org](http://www.carefirst-carolina.org). Call and ask how you or your organization might help us continue funding this much needed service.

## Foundation Golf Tournament Slated for October 20



**The Doug Jennings team from Bennettsville won the 2019 CareFIRST Foundation Golf Tournament.**

Coming up on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, will be our 15th CareFIRST Foundation golf tournament! It will be a four-person/captain's choice format, fun event with a 1 PM tee time. The tournament will be held at the beautiful Cheraw State Park Golf Course. Entry donation is only \$280 per four-person team!

Our last winning team was the Doug Jennings team from Bennettsville! His team has also been the recipient of the CareFIRST Challenge trophy for winning 3 times!

The CARING Connection



Proud Partner of United Way in Chesterfield County & Hartsville



**The foundation's annual Clay Shoot will be held December 2 at Moree's Sportsman Preserve in Society Hill.**

## Foundation Plans Second Annual Clay Shoot

The CareFIRST Foundation will hold our second annual Clay Shoot on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at Moree's Sportsman Preserve in Society Hill. A fifty-shot fun afternoon with lots of challenges is planned as well as raffles and goodie bags. Your participation helps support the foundation's mission and organizational expenses. The entry donation is only \$280 per three-person team!

### Message From Board President...

*As the Covid-19 pandemic hopefully winds down, the magnitude of community support and cooperation during these trying times has been nothing short of overwhelming. God has truly blessed us to live in an area where folks and businesses genuinely care about the well-being of each other and are willing to get involved to make a positive difference. A special heartfelt thanks goes out to all of those who volunteer and devote their time and resources to assist those in need - not only during the pandemic, but at other times as well. These unsung heroes work tirelessly behind the scenes and are generally unnoticed and unacknowledged. Thank you for what you do and for making our communities a better place for us all.*

—Charlie Gray

## Thank You Harbor Freight Tools!

When the pandemic began in March of 2020 supplies for rural medical clinic staff were nearly impossible to find. CareSouth Carolina had over 300 front line medical staff and not enough masks, gloves or face shields to go around.

The Harbor Freight Tools Foundation through their Dillon Distribution Center became a vital partner in our battle against the COVID -19 virus early on. They were able to find thousands of gloves, surgical masks as well as some N95 masks (for doctors and front line staff) to augment what little we were able to find.

With the CareFIRST Carolina Foundation's food distribution efforts we needed ways to move food by the pallet load. Again, Harbor Freight came to the rescue and donated pallet jacks to improve our efficiency.

This has been and continues to be a valued partnership. Harbor Freight Tools is now assisting with support of the Dillon bus system funding.

**Thank You Harbor Freight for your community minded spirit!**



**Harbor Freight Tools donated much needed PPE to CareSouth Carolina during the pandemic.**

## We Worked Together to Get It Done!

During the pandemic food events have been hosted from town halls to community centers, CareSouth locations as well as churches. Events in Chesterfield, Pageland, Cheraw, Society Hill, McColl, Bennettsville, Clio, Dillon, Latta, Lake View, Riverdale, Wallace, Bishoville, Lynchburg, Hartsville, Darlington, Lamar and Ruby — all sponsored by the CareFIRST Carolina Foundation. Making sure residents would not struggle to eat or be fearful due to lack of masks, sanitizer or other personal protective needs.

Through local donations as well as a partnership grant with the Central Carolina Community Foundation/ SC ONE CareFIRST was able to assist communities in our region with food and PPE distribution during the pandemic. With our small staff (of two) and a many-sided hat these events can only be done with the help of our partners and community volunteers.

**We want to take a moment and say "thanks so much" to our volunteers and everyone that helped and supported our efforts this past year!**



**With Covid 19 keeping everyone indoors or sheltering in place food distribution was a major need in our area. CareFIRST Carolina Foundation Director Mark Sobiski presented Harvest Hope Administrator Nicole Echols the first donation for Covid relief food distributed in Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Lee and Marlboro counties. The donation represented over 43,000 meals taken into the communities we serve. Thanks to the SC ONE Grant through Central Carolina Community Foundation as well as other philanthropic partners to make this happen.**



Cheraw Pathfinders

Palmetto Furniture Assistance



Lee Co. Council on Aging

Bennettsville Comm. Center

## CareFIRST Prescription Assistance

January—May, 2021  
\$9,280.92

County	Prescriptions
Chesterfield	54
Darlington	196
Dillon	164
Lee	40
Marlboro	123
Other	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>677</b>