

# The North Carolina Foundation for Public School Children and Its Programs

The North Carolina foundation for Public School Children (501(c)3), an initiative of the North Carolina Association of Educators, was founded as a result of recognizing a need for assisting public school children.

Educators tell us that more and more children are coming to school without basic necessities. The Foundation can help minimize the effect that poverty has on our children and their education.

## **Student Support Program**

The Student Support Program was established to provide basic necessities that would enable public school children to be successful in school. Educators or individuals who are employed by the school system are able to access funds quickly to meet the immediate needs of the children they serve. The Student Support Program provides clothing, shoes, eyeglasses (no eye exams), some dental expenses, prescriptions, school supplies, surgeries, hearing aids, field trips, application fees to take the SAT, travel money to visit a college, or any other item that educators believe would enhance the educational opportunity for a public school student in need.

The Student Support Program also has the potential to be a stabilizing force in curbing the negative impact that poverty has on the education of a child. Poverty is one of the most handicapping conditions that children encounter. Sometimes, the community needs a stable organization to contribute resources that will reach this particular area of need.

Any public school child (K-12) who is in need of assistance need only have an individual who is employed by the public school system make a request on the child's behalf. The applications are available by telephone to NCAE members and other school personnel **only** (public school employees, personnel contracted by the state). NCAE members and other school personnel must work in the school attended by the child in order for the child to receive assistance. Parents and/or legal guardians or other family members cannot apply. There are no income or citizenship criteria.

Students must be enrolled and attending public school at least 30 days of the school year in order to receive services. Assistance will not be given to students 10 days prior to the end of the school year. Applications must be on file before any assistance can be provided to the students (K-12). Checks will be processed as long as money is available.

## **The Parent Academy**

No one can question the importance of strong parenting when it comes to educating a child. Yet, there are very few programs that teach people how to be good parents. The Parent Academy is a program that supports quality research, public information, curriculum, and innovative instructional programs that prepare parents for the most important role of their Academy is a program that supports quality research, public information, curriculum, and

innovative instructional programs that prepare parents for the most important role of their lives. The Parent Academy will not only provide direct services but will fund other projects being implemented at a school or in the community.

The Parent Academy provides parental involvement grants to educators who are willing to work with the parent community in this capacity. Some parents need help in dealing with their children in today's society. Support systems are few, but The Parent Academy is available to assist.

The Parent Academy also provides numerous examples of quality research and information on good parenting skills and practices. Parents and educators are able to access this information online or through telephone/mail requests. Publications and presentations to parent groups are available.

### **Center for Excellence in Teaching**

The Center for Excellence in Teaching provides grants, scholarships, and direct funding for individual and locally designed professional development activities.

### **North Carolina Teacher Cadet Program**

The Teacher Cadet Program is considered an introduction or orientation to the teaching profession. Its main purpose is to encourage students who possess a high level of academic achievement and the personality traits found in good teachers to consider teaching as a career. An important secondary goal of the program is to provide these talented future community leaders with insights about schools. Although the course may be taught at the college freshman level, the curriculum includes simulations and other "hands-on" activities designed to excite students about teaching. Students are exposed to the education system in a variety of methods.

NCAE holds a site license and has contracted with the South Carolina Center for Teacher Recruitment to allow our organization to modify the curriculum to better meet the needs of students in North Carolina. The Teacher Cadet Program receives funding from the NC General Assembly and its trainer cadre is certified to teach the curriculum. The impact of the program has statistically shown an increase in SAT scores, a larger number of students seeking teaching as a profession, and a networking of teachers, students and colleges.

Grant requests may be mailed to Kelvin Spragley at NCFPSC, Post Office Box 27347, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611, faxed to Kelvin at 919-829-1626, or emailed to Kelvin at [kelvin.spragley@ncae.org](mailto:kelvin.spragley@ncae.org).

