



INFORMATION SHEET

The Housing Opportunity Foundation is the charitable arm of the Charlotte Regional Realtor® Association. The foundation has four focus areas: funding, education, advocacy and leadership. The foundation's programs concentrate on fair and affordable housing and workforce-housing initiatives and serves to empower Realtors® as leaders and advocates who affect a better quality of life in the region.

FUNDING

The foundation conducts two grant programs that provide funding to local nonprofit organizations that address critical housing needs. The foundation's Habitat Support Program awards eight Habitat for Humanity organizations a total of \$20,000 each year to support and continue their programs. The foundation's Community Grants Program gives \$10,000 each year to organizations addressing unmet housing needs in Mecklenburg and Iredell counties. To date, the foundation and its assistance programs have returned more than \$800,000 to the community.

EDUCATION

The foundation administers a Workforce Housing Certificate Program designed to educate Realtors® about the needs of first-time homebuyers and consumers seeking financial assistance. Special initiatives within the certificate program include a community-wide Workforce Housing Fair and a Workforce Housing Forum. Since its inception, hundreds of Realtors® have earned the local designation of Workforce Housing Specialist and more than 300 Realtors® are currently enrolled in the program.

ADVOCACY

The foundation works in concert with the association's Government Affairs Department to recognize, promote and advocate for fair and affordable housing standards and practices. Programs of the foundation include public-policy and advocacy-training workshops for members. The foundation also works to address a range of existing housing issues in the Charlotte region.

LEADERSHIP

The foundation fosters leadership opportunities by empowering Realtors® as leaders and volunteers in the community through the annual Realtors® Care Day. The foundation also sponsors a participant in the association's Leadership Development Program each year, utilizing graduates of the certificate program. And the foundation also annually presents the Humanitarian Award to recognize outstanding volunteer efforts. The recipient receives a minimum of \$1,750 to distribute to the charity of his or her choice.

VISION
Realtors® affecting a better quality of life in the region.

MISSION
Position and educate Realtors® as leaders, promote homeownership and provide funding to create housing opportunities.