

**THE BYERLY  
FOUNDATION**



# **HELPING VISIONS BECOME REALITY**

THE BYERLY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS ORGANIZATIONS  
THAT ARE SEEKING TO CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE IN THE  
HARTSVILLE COMMUNITY.



**Since** joining and becoming an active member of The Byerly Foundation Board, I have developed an even greater appreciation of how important it is to our community for all of us to connect and collaborate at every level. And that lesson has been underscored since the COVID-19 pandemic, which is forcing us to change so many ways we do life together.

To understand the impact of the pandemic on local businesses and non-profits, the Byerly Foundation proactively engaged members of the community through consistent conversations. This dialogue quickly exposed gaps in our area and gave the Foundation an opportunity to quickly respond. One of our first actions was to move from a single grant cycle to a monthly rolling grant process that allowed for quicker response to community needs. We have learned the value of ongoing communications, collaborative philanthropy, and the power of people working together for the good of all.

I also want to highlight two major examples of collaborative philanthropy: The Byerly Foundation and The Sonoco Foundation each contributed \$100,000 to the Community Foundation for a Better Hartsville to develop a grant program to serve non-profits in the Hartsville community whose missions were impacted by the results of the pandemic. This fund was highly successful in its first round, and both our organizations came through with a second round to bolster the efforts of this non-profit sector of our community.

From my position as Chair of this organization, I get to witness first-hand the creativity, positivity, and ingenuity of many who work daily to continue making our Hartsville community one of the best places anywhere. The Byerly Foundation is proud to be a partner in this can-do community. Some of the lessons we have all learned this year have been difficult, and we think they will be lessons that will prove effective and beneficial to our community for years to come.

*Linda H. Weatherford*

President, Byerly Foundation Board of Trustees.



## Historical Members Board of Directors

|                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Harris DeLoach      | (1995-2007,2013-2016)  |
| Thomas C. Coxe, III | (1995-1996)            |
| Lee Hicks           | (1995-2007)            |
| Franklin Hines      | (1995-2006)            |
| Howard Tucker       | (1995-2007)            |
| Frank Popelars      | (1995-2003)            |
| Edgar Lawton        | (1997-2002)            |
| Gloria Bell         | (1997-2005)            |
| Charles Hupfer      | (1999-2005, 2007-2013) |
| Paula Terry         | (2000-2006)            |
| Leroy Robinson      | (2001-2007)            |
| Heather Norwood     | (2002-2008)            |
| Vicki Arthur        | (2003-2009)            |
| Maureen Thomas      | (2005-2011)            |
| Ronald Holley       | (2005-2011)            |
| David McFarland     | (2006-2009)            |
| Tony Floyd          | (2006-2020)            |
| Flora Hopkins       | (2006-2012)            |
| Jerry Cheatham      | (2007-2013)            |
| Beth Blum           | (2007-2008)            |
| Steve Avant         | (2008-2014)            |
| Johnna Shirley      | (2008-2014)            |
| Rob Tiede           | (2009-2014)            |
| Monty Bell          | (2010-2016)            |
| David Blackmon      | (2007-2013)            |
| Alvin Heatley       | (2005-2011)            |
| Todd Shifflett      | (2012-2015)            |
| Brianna Douglas     | (2012-2018)            |
| Barry Saunders      | (2011-2017)            |
| Chris Frazier       | (2012 - 2017)          |
| Jerome Reyes        | (2013-2019)            |
| Nancy McGee         | (2013-2019)            |
| Rainey Knight       | (2014-2020)            |
| Bill Perry          | (2014-2020)            |
| Bob Brown           | (2014-2020)            |
| Lex West            | (2015-2021)            |
| Casey Hancock       | (2019-2021)            |

Front Cover: The Byerly Foundation lobby.  
This Page: The Byerly Foundation Board of Directors, 1999

The Byerly Foundation is a private foundation that was formed following the sale of The Byerly Hospital to a for-profit hospital company in 1995. As a hyper-local foundation, we have focused on education, social needs, and economic development in the greater Hartsville area.

The essential mission of The Byerly Foundation is to serve as a catalyst for positive change by working with public and private interests to improve educational, economic, and social outcomes for our citizens. During the past 25 years, The Foundation has helped others make significant impacts across the community. The Byerly Foundation has an 11-member Board of Trustees. Members are chosen for their strong interest in helping find ways to continue building and strengthening the dynamic Hartsville community. The Foundation is managed by an Executive Director, and at present there are no staff members.



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The Foundation seeks to be an **amplifier**, working with other organizations aimed at helping to make the greater Hartsville area one of the best places in the world to live.

*First Shot at the renovated Butler High Gym*

# CURRENT BOARD- 2021/2022



Linda Weatherford  
President  
(2017)



Susan Henderson  
Secretary  
(2017)



Pat Youngblood  
Treasurer  
(2017)



Chris Shirley  
(2017)



Roger Schrum  
(2016)



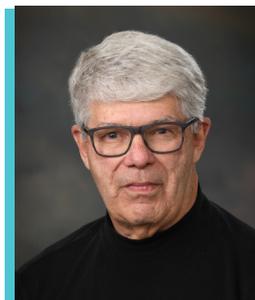
Brandy Johnson  
(2020)



Dr. Orville Dyce  
(2019)



Lunella Williams  
(2020)



Terrence Hassler  
(2020)



Corey Lewis  
(2021)



Hartsville, South Carolina, is one of the most dynamic small towns in the South. A two-time All-America City award winner, it is a place where business and industry thrive. We are one of the smallest cities in America to be the headquarters of a Fortune 500 company. Our businesses compete and thrive on a state level and a global stage. From multi-national corporations to locally-owned upstarts, we have nurtured a culture that fuels ingenuity and innovation throughout our community. Hartsville is also a college town, a place where a tradition of educational leadership is alive and well.

### **Educational Leadership**

Hartsville is home to the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics and some of the state's brightest students. From the halls of Coker University to the stands cheering on the Hartsville High School Red Foxes, from our classrooms to the preserved tales from the heritage of Butler High, education is ingrained in the fabric of our community. Hartsville High is also the site of one of the few International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs in South Carolina.

### **We are People who Work Together**

We are a place where people work together to make our community stronger. We give our time, resources, and talents to support those things that fuel the passions of our friends and neighbors. We are a place where gardens bloom, theaters come to life, and around every corner awaits an undiscovered experience. Together, we are preserving our stories, sharing our talents, and forging partnerships that make Hartsville a truly connected community. Hartsville is a place of visionary leaders in industry, education, and the arts. We are an exceptional Southern community working together towards a bright future.

### **About the Byerly Foundation**

The Byerly Foundation is a private foundation based in Hartsville, South Carolina, that was formed following the sale of Byerly Hospital to a for-profit hospital company in 1995. The Foundation has been awarding grants since 1998. In the last 23 years, it has provided more than \$22 million to projects aimed at making the greater Hartsville area one of the best places in the world to live. This hyper-local foundation has focused on education, social needs, and economic development through its history. The essential mission of the Byerly Foundation is to serve as a catalyst for positive change by working with public and private interests to improve educational, economic, and social outcomes for our citizens.

## How the Foundation Grows Over Time

The Foundation began with about \$22 million in assets as a result of the sale of Byerly Hospital. The funds were invested at the time of the sale, and the Board of Trustees has been using those funds in its grant-making endeavors. In 2021, the bulk of the investments were in Vanguard funds, with a \$1.5 million invested in the city of Hartsville for a major project. This is one example of a high-impact investment directly affecting the community.

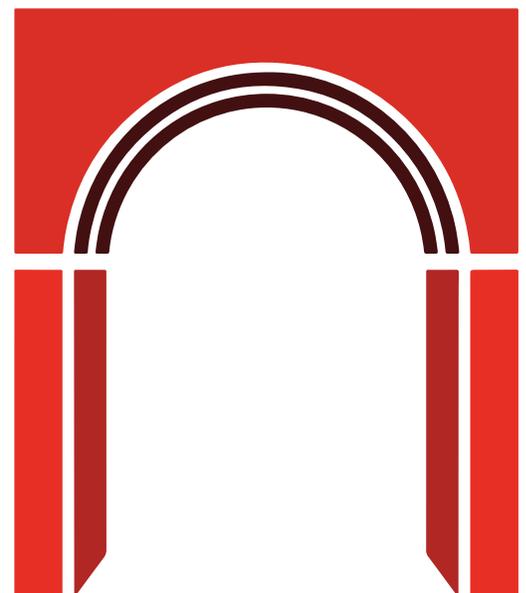
## Noteworthy Grant-Making

During the past 25 years, the Foundation has funded a combination of large and small projects to help others make significant impacts in the community. Early in the Foundation's history, it invested in **Working on the Work**, a project aimed at helping teachers across Darlington County find ways to make their classes more engaging and exciting for their students. The Foundation and the school district also collaborated on the Foxy Leaders program. This endeavor focused on students who might have difficulties transitioning from elementary to middle school, and it aimed to set them up for success at the middle-school level. One primary goal of the project was to determine if focused interventions like the ones provided by Foxy Leaders could help the local high school increase its graduation and retention rates.

For the **Vista Project**, the Foundation facilitated cooperation among the City of Hartsville, the Governor's School for Science and Mathematics, and Coker University to enhance a portion of the neighborhood that was to become the home of the GSSM campus. As part of this initiative, the Foundation and other groups found a way to move a local railroad staging operation out of the eastern edge of Hartsville's downtown in order to pave the way for a smooth transition to the new GSSM campus.

**Byerly Park** is another major asset in the Hartsville community. This recreational complex consists of a series of baseball and soccer fields, tracks for walking or running, a dog park, multiple playgrounds, and ample open space. In addition to the recreation and health benefits provided by these amenities, the park is an economic boon due to the number of tournaments hosted on the athletic fields every year. The Byerly Foundation provided integral funding for the development of Byerly Park, which was organized by the City of Hartsville.

A major investment, Byerly Park sparked other large- and small-scale improvements. One such smaller Foundation-funded project, **Garrison's Place**, provided play spaces in Byerly Park with adaptive equipment suited for children with special needs. These play spaces are situated alongside the other playground equipment so that all children can play together. At the time of its development, Garrison's Place was the first playground in the community to provide handicapable play facilities for those who needed them. This project has also set the precedent for all newer play areas across the community.





## GRANT-MAKING IS THE CORE OF THE BYERLY FOUNDATION'S BUSINESS



### **The Butler Heritage Foundation**

Careful consideration of education, economic development, and social needs is evident in Foundation funding. The Butler Heritage Foundation formed sometime after Butler High School closed. This group worked with the Byerly Foundation for grant funding to renovate the administrative offices of the former school and transform them into a dynamic community center. The Byerly Foundation provided a grant that the Butler Heritage Foundation combined with other funds to complete the project, which is now a bustling site for many Hartsville community functions. In 2020, the Butler Heritage Foundation undertook the major task of renovating the Butler High gym, which had been previously used by the Boys and Girls Club of Hartsville. The Byerly Foundation endowed a sizable grant to help with that project, thus affording another gathering place on the Butler campus.

*At left, The Butler Heritage Foundation has created the Butler Heritage Community Center in Hartsville.*

## Turning Visions Into Action

The Byerly Foundation's investment history contains project after project aimed at making Hartsville an increasingly better community in which to live, work, and grow. The Byerly Foundation Board of Trustees plans to ensure that the precedent of collaboration and connection continues long into our community's future. An example of this commitment to collaboration is the most recent \$500,000 grant to the Center Theater, an investment paired with matching state funding to begin a major renewal of this versatile, valuable theater property that has been serving Hartsvillians since the 1930s.

Since 1998, the Byerly Foundation has been helping change-agents in Hartsville turn visions into action. Its commitment to community development ensures that the Foundation will leave a legacy that will continue to be enjoyed for generations to come.

The Byerly Foundation makes its difference in the Greater Hartsville Community by finding ways to work with the many other individuals and groups who are working to make Hartsville a great place to live. In that role, the Byerly Foundation is a grant-maker. As of October 2021, the Foundation has granted more than **\$22 million** for a wide variety of Hartsville projects and programs.



*Cypress Adventures Students at Kalemia Gardens*

THE BYERLY FOUNDATION  
WORKS WITH OTHER  
LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS  
TO ENABLE COMMUNITY  
PROJECTS TO BECOME  
REALITY.

## Strong Steward of Byerly Foundation Funds

First, the Foundation Board has agreed they would like to see the Foundation in position to be making a difference in Hartsville both today and in the future. The Board considers it a duty to be strong stewards of The Byerly Foundation investment corpus. And, by IRS guidelines, as a private foundation, Byerly must distribute five percent of its assets annually.

Second, the Board regularly assesses the direction it wants to take in its grant-making. The first three points of focus were public education, economic development and quality of life. Today the major points of focus are education, economic development and social needs. All our grant-making decisions are considered with these areas in mind.

The Byerly Foundation also worked closely with the City of Hartdville to identify needs during the COVID Pandemic. With these ideals as our guide, The Byerly Foundation has awarded grants to organizations in the Hartsville community. Recent grants include:

EDUCATION,

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,

SOCIAL NEEDS.



### **Grants paid during the 2020/2021 fiscal year**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Butler Heritage Foundation Butler Gym Renovation   | \$207,500 |
| • Coker University Nursing Program                   | \$200,000 |
| • Butler Academy Charter School                      | \$275,000 |
| • Better Hartsville Foundation Non-Profit Boost Fund | \$100,000 |
| • S. C. Red Cross Fire Victim Relief                 | \$15,000  |
| • Pee Dee Coalition Durant Children's Center         | \$50,000  |
| • Trees for Tomorrow Tree Planting – Hartsville      | \$20,000  |
| • S.C. GSSM Hydroponic Lab Project                   | \$25,000  |
| • Free Medical Clinic Nurse Practitioner Addition    | \$17,500  |

### **Grants Paid During the 2019/2020 fiscal year**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| • City of Hartsville Business Comeback Campaign             | \$150,000 |
| • Butler Academy Charter School                             | \$300,000 |
| • Coker University Nursing Program                          | \$100,000 |
| • Cypress Adventures Operations Support                     | \$100,000 |
| • Main Street Program Facade Improvements                   | \$10,000  |
| • City of Hartsville Mask Distribution Program              | \$10,000  |
| • Hartsville YMCA Establish E-Learning Lab                  | \$10,000  |
| • Hartsville Interfaith Ministries Basic Needs Assistance   | \$18,000  |
| • McLeod Foundation Food Needs for Cancer Patients          | \$5,000   |
| • Man2Man Fatherhood Initiative- Hartsville                 | \$102,000 |
| • Center Theater Orchestra Pit Renovation                   | \$19,000  |
| • Black Creek Arts New Air Conditioning Unit                | \$7,000   |
| • Friends of the Library Summer Reading Program Enhancement | \$980     |
| • Trees for Tomorrow Pruning Trees and Purchasing Trees     | \$10,000  |



*The YMCA used a Byerly Foundation grant to establish e-learning centers during the pandemic when students were not able to be in schools.*

## NEXT

# STEPS

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If you feel that your organization is a good fit for Byerly Foundation funding, the best first step in applying for a grant is to contact the Byerly Foundation office.

The Foundation staff looks forward to speaking with people who have ideas for helping to make Hartsville an even greater community. Very often, these conversations can save you a great deal of time, especially if you begin the conversations in the idea stages. How? Due to their experience with grant-making and the Hartsville community, staff members may help you connect with potential collaborators that could make your grant even more attractive to the Byerly Board.

# THE BOARD FOCUSES ON FIVE QUESTIONS FOR THOSE SEEKING GRANT FUNDING.

Those interested in working with The Byerly Foundation to acquire project funding will be asked to develop answers to these questions as part of their grant-request package:

# 1

**Who is your organization?** The grant will require proof that you are eligible for obtaining grant funds under the guidelines of 501-C-3 charitable or other organizations. This information is usually in your EIN Tax Number. The Byerly Board also wants to know the background of the organization leaders and have a list of the Board of Directors. The grant request should list a primary contact for the grant discussion. The Byerly Foundation only gives grants to organizations covered by the IRS charitable giving requirements.

# 2

**What is the nature of your project?** The next part of the grant proposal will discuss that nature of the project or program and how the program will make a difference in Greater Hartsville, South Carolina. The Byerly Board is particularly interested in the **impact** on Hartsville. Included in this question are how much grant funding is the organization requesting and the tactics that are planned for making this impact.

# 3

**What are the organization's capabilities for making the project happen?** What are the organization's capabilities for making the project happen and delivering results? Does your organization have a record of success? What is the theory of change that shows how this project or program is supposed to work? Generally, this question includes the information on the length of the project and how the organization plans to sustain the work after the grant funding has been used.

# 4

**How will you know if the program or project has been successful?** The Foundation will be asking for reports and updates if your organization is awarded a grant. What will you be showing the Foundation to explain how your program is working? These measurements will differ depending on the project or program, and the Board is particularly interested in your ideas of how to measure success.

# 5

**Is your organization seeking additional funding for this program?** The fifth question in your grant proposal is how much this program or project is going to cost and how your budget is going to be structured. In some cases, you will be combining your own operation's funding with grant funding. The Board needs information on the funding and how the Byerly grant will fit into the overall budget and operations..



*Downtown Hartsville, SC*

*Where can we go, together?*

## CONTACT US

The Foundation staff is here to help you learn about the process for having your grant reviewed.

The Foundation office can also discuss with you the specifics of the grant application that will include timing considerations. All of the Byerly Grants are made by the Board, and this grant-making is part of a Foundation process that could possibly change based on current circumstances.

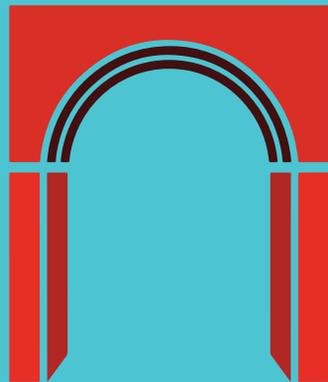
P.O. Box 1925  
101 North Second Street  
Hartsville, South Carolina  
29551

Email – [byerlyfdn@yahoo.com](mailto:byerlyfdn@yahoo.com)  
Phone – 843-383-2400

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Downtown Block Party



**THE BYERLY  
FOUNDATION**