



**November/December 2023**



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## **Happy Holiday Wishes**

Dear Foundation Community,

As the year draws to a close, I extend my heartfelt wishes and thanks to all. Our community has always shown resilience and unity, making The Foundation of BCC a beacon of hope for our students. Your unwavering commitment has fueled scholarships, launched programs, and forged partnerships, impacting our shared journey.

As we celebrate this holiday season, let's reflect on and embrace the joy of giving, whether through a small act of kindness or a more significant philanthropic gesture. Let's continue making a difference, advancing our vision for student opportunities and success

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through increased access to high-quality education and workforce training.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Foundation family and welcoming Stephanie, Craig, and me. Your passion, dedication, and generosity inspire us, and we look forward to a brand new year of unlimited possibilities for our students and community.

Warm regards,  
Teresa Nelson  
Executive Director  
The Foundation of BCC



Warm holiday wishes from The Foundation of BCC staff and Student Ambassadors.

## Ambassador Spotlight: Dimitry Williamson



Student Ambassador Dimitry Williamson is driven to succeed and credits his dad for constantly pushing him to go after what he wants and do his best. Dimitry is an Iowa native and from a farming family. He moved to North Carolina when he was six. Dimitry attended South Brunswick High School and admits he was a bit of a procrastinator when applying to colleges.

"My mom and dad live in two different households, but we're all close," said Dimitry, who has an older sister and younger brother. "I decided to stay near home for college, at least to start. In high school, I took Advanced Placement (AP) courses and participated in Career and College Promise (CCP), which introduced me to BCC. I enjoyed my courses here and realized that starting college at BCC was an excellent option."

While Dimitry is in his first year at BCC, he expects to graduate with his Associate in Science degree in the summer of 2024. "I was able to get ahead because of the AP courses and CCP program," said Dimitry. The extra work is paying off now."

Dimitry was encouraged to apply as a Student Ambassador when working with his BCC Success Coach, Tyler Horvath. "I decided to try it and got an interview," said Dimitry. "I was at work when I received the email message that I was selected. It was exciting, and I'm enjoying it a lot. I especially like attending and speaking at events and meeting new people."

Dimitry also applied for and received a scholarship through the Foundation of BCC. "My parents are both teachers, and we come from a farming background, so I knew getting a scholarship would

be a huge help." Dimitry is among over 200 students who received scholarships through the Foundation this year. In addition to attending school, Dimitry works part-time as a dock hand on Bald Head Island.

After graduating from BCC, Dimitry plans to continue his education and earn a Bachelor's and Doctorate in Psychology. We believe in him and know he will achieve whatever he sets out to do. Good luck, and thank you, Dimitry!

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## We're Registered!



BCC's food pantries, serving students and staff in need, see over 950 visits annually across two locations. The first pantry, established 17 years ago in Building A, provides ready-to-eat and non-perishable items, feminine hygiene products, and toiletries. A second pantry operates in the Brunswick Interagency Program building.

Visitors can access the pantries by contacting Brooke Goff or another OneStop Student Services staff member. You can stop in anytime or arrange a special delivery by reaching out to Brooke at [goffb@brunswickcc.edu](mailto:goffb@brunswickcc.edu) or (910) 755-7366. The system operates on the honor code, with sign-ins to track and enhance offerings.

### How you can help

You can help keep the pantries full and running smoothly through a new, hassle-free way of making donations via our new AMAZON Gift Registry. Visit the registry by clicking on the button below to

see what and how many of each item is needed— no more heavy lifting or shipping fees. Simply select items, pay with a credit or debit card, and select the Food Pantry delivery address.

That's all there is to it. Please check out this new system and place an order today.

P.S. - Donations may also be dropped off in a collection box located in OneStop Student Services.

[SHOP HERE](#)

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**Donor Spotlight: Assistance League of Greater Wilmington**



# assistance league Thrift Shop

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If you've ever visited the Thrift Shop run by the [Assistance League of Greater Wilmington](#) (AL), you know it is a busy place run by volunteers fueled by the desire to help others. Of particular interest to the organization is supporting nursing students at BCC.

The AL funded its first nursing scholarships in November 2015 as part of its Operation Scholar Support program. The AL recently presented a \$30,000 check to BCC President Gene Smith and Foundation of BCC Executive Director Teresa Nelson, bringing their total support to nearly \$144,000 over the last eight years.

The organization's generosity has helped 61 BCC students further their education. First-year nursing student Ingrid Swanepoel is one of those students. To her, support from the AL means so

much more than earning her degree. It's enabling her to pursue a new journey she started after nearly 20 years as a teacher.

"In my last year as a teacher, I had the honor of working with special needs children," said Ingrid. "One of them had cerebral palsy and affected me deeply. While I connected with her as a teacher, she made me want to do more to help on a different level. I decided to return to school to become a nurse."

Ingrid began by earning her Certified Nursing Assistant license and securing a position at the [Brunswick Medical Center](#) while attending nursing school at BCC. "While I'm still working, I had to cut back to put my schooling first," said Ingrid. "That would not have been possible without the support I received from the AL. I also use the scholarship to purchase textbooks and buy uniforms. It means the world and motivates me to keep going no matter what. They are helping me live my dream."

AL is a national all-volunteer nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonsectarian organization with 120 chapters nationwide that is transforming lives and strengthening community through local philanthropic programs. Operation Scholar Support is one of nine charitable efforts funded by the AL. Managed by a volunteer Board of Directors led by President Marsha Olender, the AL depends on the success of its [Thrift Shop](#), community support, and annual fundraisers to keep the good they do growing.

## WPLB Reunite, Raise \$11,000 in Single Night



The Women in Philanthropy and Leadership of Brunswick County (WPLB) enjoyed their first Annual Dinner in nearly three years and are more excited than ever about making a difference in the lives of students at Brunswick Community College (BCC) and county wide. Existing and new members attended, bringing along friends interested in learning more. The WPLB supports and helps shape future leaders through education, mentoring, fundraising, and advocacy.

"We are delighted to see this fantastic group of caring women back in full swing," said The Foundation of BCC Executive Director Teresa Nelson. "Their energy and enthusiasm are contagious. I'm blessed to know them and grateful for all they do. Tonight alone, they raised over

\$11,000 in scholarships that will have life-changing effects. They are a shining example of what's possible when people unite for the good of students and the community."

The evening's program included remarks from BCC President Gene Smith, Teresa Nelson, and Foundation Board Vice President Ann Landis. Guests also heard from BCC Student Ambassadors Dimitry Williamson and Terissa Jordan. Thanks to Foundation Board President Teresa Carroll, Board Vice President Ann Landis, and Foundation Board Members Connie Johnson, Lucinda Arnold, Jan Allen, and Brooke Rudd Gaglie for spearheading the event and fundraising efforts.

To learn more about the WPLB and how you can join them or the Men in Philanthropy, contact Teresa Nelson at [nelsont@brunswickcc.edu](mailto:nelsont@brunswickcc.edu). Ready to take the leap now? Complete and submit the membership form below.

Women in Philanthropy

Men in Philanthropy

02.03.2024

SAVE  
*the*  
DATE



St. James Community Center  
4136 Southport-Supply Rd.  
St. James, NC 28461  
6 PM-10 PM

*The* FOUNDATION *of*  
BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE





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**Our Contact Information**  
**Brunswick Community College**  
**P.O. Box 30**  
**Supply, NC 28462**  
**910-755-7473**



The Brunswick Community College Foundation, organized in 1982, is a charitable organization 501(c)(3) instituted to enhance BCC's mission to a level of excellence and purpose for students and the community. The Foundation is a vital resource for the acceptance and solicitation of all gifts for the support of education and the continued growth and progress of BCC. Brunswick Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, political affiliation, genetic information, sexual orientation or disability.