

THE FOUNDATION FOCUS

Image

February 2025

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Teresa Nelson
Executive Director

Dear Foundation Friends,

As 2025 unfolds, The Foundation of Brunswick Community College is already off to a strong start, thanks to the incredible generosity of donors like you and the dedication of our students. Your support has laid the groundwork for meaningful change, and we're excited to build upon it.

This past fall, donor contributions exceeded **\$334,600**, providing scholarships for over **377 students**—a remarkable testament to the power of community. Because of you, students are not only pursuing their dreams but also achieving success in ways that will positively impact their futures and our community for years to come.

Your contributions have fueled student success, strengthened programs, and opened doors to new possibilities. Together, we will continue to create opportunities to make education more accessible and life-changing for students at BCC.

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Thank you for showering our students with
your love.

Warm regards,
Teresa Nelson
Executive Director
The Foundation of BCC

Nursing Program Benefits from New Endowment



What a way to begin the new year! Thanks to the incredible generosity of Wilmington's Locale 40 & 8, Voiture 245, a \$25,000 endowment has been established to support BCC's Nursing programs. This milestone reflects Voiture 245's steadfast commitment to nurturing the next generation of healthcare heroes.

On Tuesday, January 7, representatives of Voiture 245 visited Brunswick Community College to officially present the \$25,000 check to BCC President Dr. Gene Smith and Foundation Executive Director Teresa Nelson. This endowment will provide vital resources for nursing students, empowering them to pursue their dreams of making a difference in healthcare.

This gift is the culmination of eight years of dedicated fundraising by Voiture 245 members. Under the leadership of Voyager Don Eisenman, the organization rallied the community through grassroots efforts such as selling Discount Books, hosting neighborhood charity concerts, organizing comedy shows, distributing flags, and collecting individual donations. Their unwavering dedication has made a significant impact, and now, their efforts will have a lasting legacy at BCC.

“This generous gift from Voiture 245 will have a lasting impact on our students and the healthcare community,” said Dr. Gene Smith, President of Brunswick Community College. “We are honored to partner with an organization so deeply committed to supporting nursing education.”

Voiture 245’s contribution is part of the broader mission of 40 & 8 Nationale, an organization that has long championed nursing training as a cornerstone of its philanthropic work. This endowment will ensure that BCC nursing students receive the financial assistance they need to excel in their studies and embark on meaningful careers in healthcare.

The Foundation of Brunswick Community College extends its heartfelt gratitude to Voiture 245 for their vision and generosity. Together, we’re shaping the future of healthcare and strengthening our community.

BCC Dedicates KTJ Food Pantry in Honor of the Juda Family’s Lasting Impact



A Legacy of Support and Generosity

On Tuesday, January 28th, Brunswick Community College (BCC) came together to celebrate and honor a family whose generosity has touched countless lives. The newly dedicated KTJ Food Pantry, located in Building E, now stands as a lasting tribute to Katie Juda and the Juda family’s unwavering commitment to supporting BCC’s [Brunswick Interagency Program](#) (BIP) students.

For over a decade, Wes, Diane, and Katie Juda have been a cornerstone of support for students facing challenges, providing critical aid in areas like food security, utility bills, clothing, and emergency needs. Their efforts have consistently lifted students during difficult times, leaving a lasting impact that goes far beyond the walls of the College.

A Beacon of Hope on Campus

The KTJ Food Pantry ensures that every BIP student has access to essential food resources—both on campus and at home. More than just a resource, the pantry represents hope, stability, and compassion for students navigating personal challenges. By removing the burden of food insecurity, the pantry allows students to focus on their education and personal growth, embodying BCC's mission to foster success and well-being.

Reflecting on the significance of this dedication, Teresa Nelson, Executive Director of the Foundation of BCC, shared heartfelt words: "The Juda family has exemplified what it means to make a difference. Their dedication to supporting students in need reflects the values we uphold at BCC, and we are proud to recognize their contributions through the KTJ Food Pantry."

Extending Their Reach Beyond the Pantry

The Juda family's contributions go well beyond the food pantry. Their passion for community service includes supporting initiatives like supported employment, community engagement, and the Special Olympics. Thanks to their advocacy, BCC and Brunswick County have become more inclusive and supportive spaces where students with diverse abilities can thrive.

About the Brunswick Interagency Program (BIP)

BIP is a nationally recognized program dedicated to helping adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities integrate into campus life, achieve independence, and transition successfully into the workforce. The program provides a range of essential services, including Adult Basic Education, Employment Resources, the BIP Greenhouse and Gift Shop, and Transportation.

With its foundation built on purpose, support, friendship, and respect, BIP strives to empower students to reach their fullest potential. The KTJ Food Pantry is a perfect extension of this mission, ensuring students feel supported and valued every step of the way.

As BCC continues to prioritize student success and well-being, the KTJ Food Pantry stands as a powerful reminder of how one family's generosity can make a world of difference. Thanks to the Juda family, BIP students can pursue their dreams with fewer obstacles and greater hope for the future.

Help Keep the Food Pantry Shelves Stocked

NEWS & NOTES

Dosher Foundation Awards Scholarships to BCC Healthcare Students



Two BCC students, Danielle Black and Ashley Barkley, have been awarded scholarships from the Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation. The scholarships are funded by a \$20,000 grant from the Noren Foundation, which is dedicated to supporting BCC healthcare students and the hospital's professional development and training initiatives.

"This partnership with the Doshier Memorial Hospital Foundation directly impacts our students' futures by helping them achieve their educational and career goals in healthcare," said **Teresa Nelson**, Executive Director of The Foundation of Brunswick Community College. "We are grateful for the continued generosity of the Doshier Foundation and the many individuals who contribute to its important mission."

The scholarships demonstrate the ongoing collaboration between BCC and its community partners in preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals.

BEMC Establishes New Scholarship for Lineworker Students



Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) has established a brand-new scholarship to support BCC Lineworker students, ensuring the next generation of skilled lineworkers has the resources they need to succeed.

Pictured during the recent check presentation are (L to R) Greg Bland, VP Continuing Education Economic & Workforce Development; Teresa Nelson, Executive Director, BCC Foundation; Brookes Versaggi, BEMC Manager of Member Engagement and Communication; David Gore, BEMC Board of Directors President; Dan Strickland, BEMC Board of Directors, and Dr. Gene Smith, BCC President. Thank you, BEMC for your continued support of this program!

SECU Foundation Helps Students Succeed



Just before the holidays, SECU Foundation representatives joined a room full of excited BCC faculty, staff, and leadership to present two scholarships for \$5,000 each to students Lindsey Case and Ashley Edge. These awards are part of the SECU Foundation's "People Helping People" two-year scholarship program that assists NC Community College System students succeed academically.

In addition to awarding the scholarships, the SECU Foundation presented The Foundation of BCC with a gift of \$18,000 as part of its Bridge to Career Scholarship Program. BCC President Gene Smith and Foundation Executive Director Teresa Nelson accepted the check and thanked SECU for its steadfast support of BCC students.

Pictured are VP, SECU Ocean Isle Beach Rian Collins, BCC President Dr. Gene Smith, Foundation Executive Director Teresa Nelson, Southport SECU Advisory Board Chairperson Sharon Amrol-Davis, SVP SECU Leland Lisa Smith, VP SECU Southport Brian Parker, and VP SECU Shallotte Melanie Gregory.

BCC Honors Veterans



Brunswick Community College proudly hosted our annual Veterans Day Luncheon at the Virginia Williamson Event Center, honoring the extraordinary sacrifices of our veteran community. Veteran Mentor, TLC Specialist, and Marine Corps veteran Andrew Burgmuller welcomed guests.

Next came the Color Guard from American Legion Post 543 and the National Anthem sung by Dean of Continuing Education & Workforce Development Onya Gardner. Brigadier General (Ret.) and BCC Director of Engineering Dr. Edward Naessens delivered an inspiring keynote address, paying tribute to veterans' resilience and commitment.

The program also featured special recognition from Military Officers Association of America members who presented scholarships to BCC student veterans Joseph Qualls, Austin Tyras-Reed, and Jesse Miller (pictured above).

Every Dollar Counts



If you'd like to help further the mission of The Foundation of BCC in support of our students, please scan the QR code on the left and make a gift of any size. Every dollar counts and is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support and generosity.

For information on mentor or volunteer opportunities, please reach out to Teresa Nelson at nelsont@brunswickcc.edu.

Our Contact Information

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{{Unsubscribe}}



The FOUNDATION *of*
BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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.