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Two Community Foundations Team Up to Establish Countywide Education Network

Guilford County, NC –The Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro and the High Point Community Foundation announce the creation of a countywide education network to provide both financial and leadership resources for all educational programs in Guilford County.

The two community foundations have convened local business and civic leaders for several months to develop a vision for this education network and to create an organizing structure. The network is based on the local education fund (LEF) model that emphasizes community dialogue and engagement to raise the quality of education.

This education network is an independent charitable organization, governed by a 30-member Board of Directors representing Greensboro, High Point and Guilford County. The Board of Directors will choose an official name for the organization at one of its first few meetings. The mission of the education network is to: *“Promote and support the programs, policies and initiatives necessary for each citizen of Guilford County to reach his or her potential.”*

VISION STATEMENT

To ensure that all of our citizens can reach their maximum potential through:

- Measurable, superior academic achievement; and
- Broad-based community support and involvement, and family involvement; and
- An educated, quality local workforce to drive economic growth.

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“We are very proud to be part of this effort,” said Jim Morgan, chairman of the High Point Community Foundation. “The education network will insure that all of our citizens have an equal opportunity to learn and improve their quality of life. The success of our community depends upon our providing support for lifelong learning for both young people and adults.”

“By working together and combining the assets of both High Point and Greensboro we are creating a stronger, more vibrant vision for the future of education in Guilford County,” said Van King, chair of the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro. “We’re very excited about the partnership between the two foundations in this project.”

The new organization follows a local education fund model promoted by the Public Education Network (PEN) as communities across the United States strive to support, improve and own their educational destiny. The Public Education Network is a national constituency of local education funds and individuals that stand for quality public education.

“On my recent visit to Guilford County I was impressed with the assets and resources in the community,” said Wendy Puriefoy, PEN President. “There is great potential for an LEF to serve as a catalyst for all children to have the support they need to learn at high levels.”

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