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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SPRING BRINGS FUNDRAISING EVENT NEWS AND GRANT AWARDS FOR CFLC

Cape Fear Literacy Council (CFLC) is enjoying the success of its 7th Annual Literacy Luncheon, an event that raised over \$50,000, and is looking forward to its popular annual Spelling Bee for Literacy in September. Additionally, CFLC celebrates the receipt of eight grants totaling over \$40,000 since January 2016. Over forty percent of CFLC's operating budget is funded through grants.

Fundraising Event News – A Successful Literacy Luncheon and the 29th Annual Spelling Bee for Literacy is Announced

CFLC celebrates the success of its 7th Annual Literacy Luncheon on June 2nd – an event that raised over \$50,000 for the organization while educating nearly 300 community members about the importance of the non-profit's mission: *to provide personalized education so adults can transform their lives and contribute to a stronger local community.*

At the Luncheon, the Literacy Council was also successful in meeting a **\$25,000 Challenge Grant presented by Live Oak Bank**. CFLC Board President Craig Snow stated, "We are overjoyed by the positive response we've gotten from this community and for their investment in the Literacy Council. Live Oak Bank made it possible for us to raise more than \$50,000 at this event! All of our presenters were fantastic – Tom Morris, New Hanover County Commission Vice-Chairman Jonathan Barfield, our students and tutors. It was a great day for raising awareness and much-needed funding for this great non-profit."

Continuing on the organization's success of hosting fundraising events that are both educational and entertaining, Cape Fear Literacy Council proudly announces the 29th Annual Spelling Bee for Literacy on Thursday, September 15, 2016 at 7 PM at The Terraces on Sir Tyler (1826 Sir Tyler Drive – across from Mayfaire). CFLC invites the community to share in this fun evening devoted to words! Admission is FREE and all guests will enjoy light refreshments, a cash bar, and team and audience prizes.

Not the traditional spelling bee, this friendly competition fields teams of up to four adults who work together to spell words that are increasingly difficult in each round. The grand prize - in addition to bragging rights – is the coveted engraved, traveling Championship Trophy. Other team prizes include "Best Team Name," "Best Costume" and "Best Cheering Section". Registration for this fun event will open in July and community members are invited to gather their best spellers, alert their wildest supporters, and prepare their funniest costumes and visit www.cfliteracy.org to become a Bee Sponsor or register their Bee Team.

Grant and Foundation Awards

2016 is a banner year for grant funding for Cape Fear Literacy Council – they have received \$37,25 in awards in the first half of the year. Below is a synopsis of funding awards from all sectors of the grant-making community:

- CFLC received three grant awards from national bank foundations that have a local presence in southeastern North Carolina - **a \$3,000 award from The Bank of America Charitable Foundation, a \$3,000 award from the SunTrust Foundation, and a \$5,000 grant from the PNC Foundation.** All awards will fund program expenses for CFLC's Adult Literacy and English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.
- CFLC received a **\$1,500 grant award from the Catherine Kennedy Home Foundation** for instructional skill books for CFLC's learners who are 60+ years old.
- CFLC enjoyed generous support from local and regional foundations and civic groups – the **Joseph and Elsa Flowers Davies Fund, through the North Carolina Community Foundation, contributed \$10,000** for operating expenses. The **Newcomers Club of Wilmington gifted the Literacy Council \$2,500** for upgrades to its lending library.
- Additionally, the organization received an award of **\$2,245 in books from the National Book Scholarship Fund** for materials to prepare CFLC students for the GED and job-readiness.
- The Council received a **\$10,000 grant award from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation** for program materials and equipment.

With a total annual budget of about \$475,000 - grant funding accounts for over 41% of CFLC's annual income. The Literacy Council serves about 500 students each year – with the support of a staff of 8 employees (3 full-time, 5 part-time) and over 340 volunteers (191 tutors and 150+ non-instructional volunteers).

JOIN IN ON THE FUN OF THE AREA'S MOST POPULAR BEE!



The image features a cheerful cartoon bee character on the left, pointing towards a sign on the right. The sign is framed and contains the following text:

Celebrating its 29th year!
Spelling Bee for Literacy
CFLC is a-buzz with excitement and we invite you to be a part of the fun!
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 at 7 PM
THE TERRACES ON SIR TYLER
SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!
(910)251-0911 or cfliteracy.org
SPONSOR SPELL
SUPPORT

There are three small bee icons at the bottom of the sign, one under each of the words SPONSOR, SPELL, and SUPPORT.