



From: Cape Fear Literacy Council
1012 S. 17th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Phone: (910) 251-0911 Fax: (910) 251-9095
Website: www.cfliteracy.org

Contact: Erin Payne, Community Outreach & Volunteer Management Coordinator
(910) 251-0911
epayne@cfliteracy.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Cape Fear Literacy Council Receives Challenge Grants for Building Renovation

Exciting news from Cape Fear Literacy Council! CFLC has received two challenge grants, totaling \$35,000, for CFLC's "Raising the Roof" building renovation project. The first is a \$25,000 challenge grant from an anonymous donor through the New Hanover County Community Foundation, an affiliate of the North Carolina Community Foundation. The second challenge grant of \$10,000 has been generously committed by Dr. George Huffmon and Atlantic Neurosurgical & Spine Specialists, P.A.

The "Raising the Roof" building renovation will expand Cape Fear Literacy Council's teaching facility by 75%, with an estimated cost of \$208,200. The two donors hope the challenges will inspire others to donate to the renovation project. Eligible gifts include donations of cash and stock from individuals, families, corporations, foundations or other charitable entities. These challenges will be in effect for one year. "These challenge grants will match \$35,000 in donations to our project, doubling the impact of every dollar raised. These challenges are tremendous and generous gifts to the Cape Fear Literacy Council's students and tutors," says Susan Pomeroy, CFLC Executive Director.

The first grant is in honor/recognition of Dick Robbins, a long-time CFLC tutor and advocate, and is called the "Dick Robbins Honorary Challenge Grant". For more than 13 years, Dick Robbins has been teaching adult students and encouraging them in their skill building. With a passion for people, Robbins began volunteering for the Cape Fear Literacy Council after he retired from engineering. Currently, he is a tutor, a trainer, a board member, Co-Chair of the Building Committee, Chair of the Program Committee, and a member of the Finance Committee. The staff of CFLC appreciates him immensely, as does the board, his fellow tutors/trainers, and CFLC students.

"Dick has given so much to the Literacy Council, most especially to our students, in his thirteen years of volunteering with us and the "Dick Robbins Honorary Challenge Grant" is a fitting way to honor his positive impact on our organization," said Erin Payne, Community Outreach and Volunteer Management Coordinator for the Literacy Council. "Because of Dick's strong belief that education is a key to providing more choices, his students are not only inspired under his tutelage, but their learning levels increase as well."

"This project will give us six additional classrooms that will let us hold more small classes, have room for more 1-on-1 tutor sessions and do more for this community," says Robbins.

Additionally, Cape Fear Literacy Council has been fortunate to receive a second challenge grant for the “Raising the Roof” building renovation project from community leader, Dr. George Huffmon and Atlantic Neurosurgical & Spine Specialists, P.A. The Huffmon family and Atlantic Neurosurgical have been long-time advocates for literacy and supporters of CFLC. According to Dr. Huffmon, they presented this \$10,000 challenge grant, “because we wanted to raise awareness of how illiteracy is a community challenge with a solution that lies solely in our community. We offered this challenge grant to encourage others to become involved in a vital cause that builds strong futures for our fellow citizens.”

CFLC’s vision for the Cape Fear area is a community in which illiteracy has been eradicated. Instruction for adults includes free and confidential, individualized, 1-to-1 and small group instruction to (1) native-born adults working to improve their reading, writing, spelling, and math skills; and (2) international adults working to improve their English communication skills. CFLC offers free educational services to more than 500 adult students annually, thanks to over 200 volunteers who serve as one-on-one tutors and small class instructors.

###