



A GLIMPSE AT YOUR IMPACT





Dear Friend of Wake Tech,

We're grateful for you! On behalf of our students, faculty, staff, and the Foundation Board, **thank you for being an essential part of the Wake Tech community.** As we look back on the past three years, I hope you take pride in the incredible impact your support has made.

I am thrilled to share that the Foundation has had another incredible year and continues to drive and execute exciting initiatives and events that truly showcase our state's leading community college. To that end, we're proud to share that this has been another record-breaking year for the Foundation — with over **\$8.7 million** raised to support Wake Tech!

Whether you're an individual donor, corporate partner, employee, or friend of Wake Tech, your partnership fuels our mission to make education accessible to all. By supporting Wake Tech, you're not just investing in a college; you're investing in the future of our workforce. Your generosity empowers us to provide cutting-edge training and education, ensuring our students are well-prepared for both current industry demands and the opportunities that lie ahead.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to you for choosing Wake Tech as your community's college and for your unwavering support of our students! If you have questions or ideas to help us grow and improve, please don't hesitate to reach out to **Matt Smith**, Vice President of Development & Strategic Partnerships at mbsmith9@waketech.edu.

Again, thank you for all you do for Wake Tech, our students, and the community! Your contributions make an impact, year after year.

With gratitude,

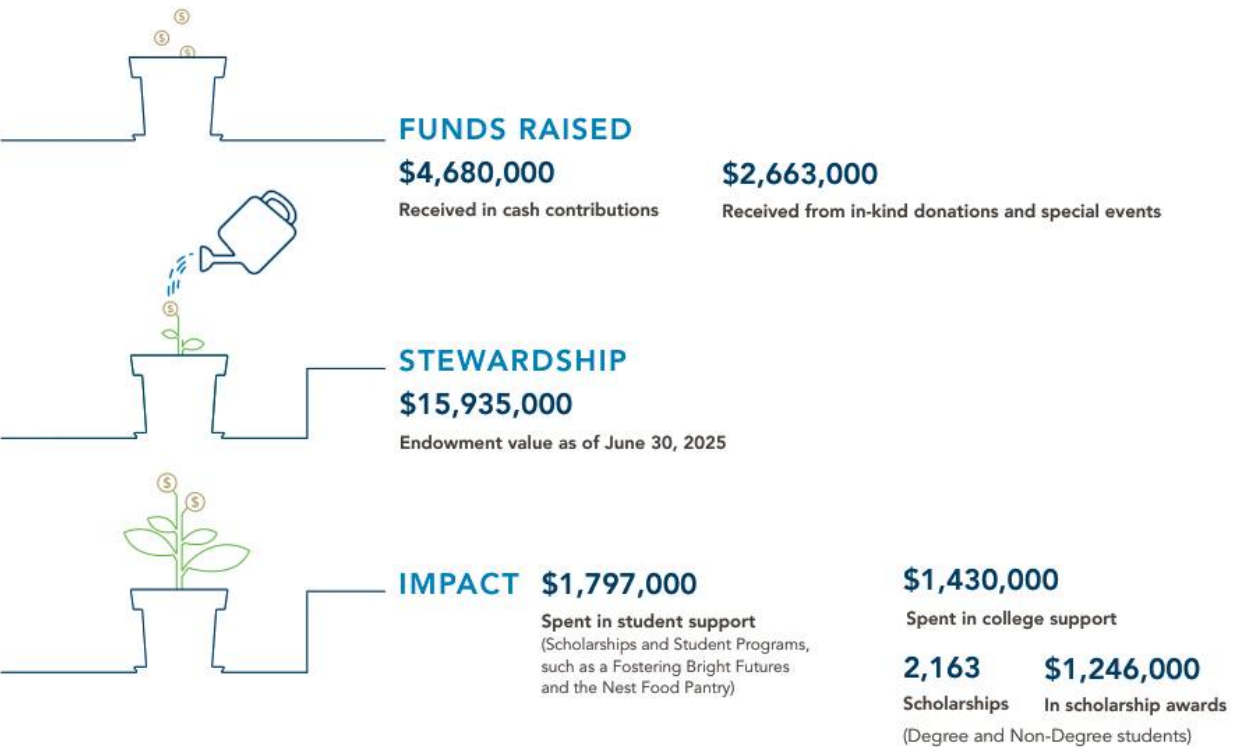
Will Smith
Chair, Wake Tech Foundation Board of Directors

WHO GIVES TO WAKE TECH?



HERE'S WHAT YOU HELPED US ACCOMPLISH DURING 2024-25!

Together, YOU helped raise **\$8.7 MILLION** toward scholarships, student support, faculty and staff innovation, and technology!



GABRIELA ADAME-GACHUZ
2024–25 Scholarship Recipient

Every year, I worry about how I am going to pay for my academic expenses. Currently, I've had to lean on my family to help cover all my costs, which has led to my father working two jobs to be able to support me in my academic journey. This scholarship is a blessing because it will help lighten my financial burden and alleviate some of my financial stress allowing me to focus on excelling at school. I will be forever grateful!



CHRIS BARBER
2024–25 Scholarship Recipient

After graduating from high school, I served in the Army for four years. Once my enlistment ended, I earned a bachelor's degree in biology and worked in the biotechnology industry for 10 years. I then decided to change careers because I want a career that will give me an opportunity to start my own business, and I chose to attend Wake Tech because it's the only technical school in NC that offers an associate degree in Building Automation Technology. Receiving this scholarship means I can borrow less money, and the money that I do borrow, I can use to pay living expenses. For that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIPS 2024–25

OVER \$1,246,000 awarded in scholarships!

1,718 Non-Degree + 445 Degree
= 2,163 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



DEGREE
SCHOLARSHIPS

748 applicants identified as FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE

171 WERE AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

198 RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES applied

29 WERE AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

245 SINGLE PARENTS applied

52 WERE AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

256 VETERANS and/or parents and children of veterans applied

101 WERE AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

The average GPA of applicants was 2.99 and the average GPA of recipients was 3.48.

Over 1,000 applicants missed out on scholarship funds. Want to help support more students?

Students submit Foundation scholarship applications online March 1 through April 30.

Contact
Stephanie Lake 919-866-5927
sslake@waketech.edu

EMPLOYEE GIVING

BEVERLY HOUSE, Project and Administrative Services Coordinator



"When I started working at the college 20 years ago, I heard about the Wake Tech Foundation and the support it provides for students and employees. So, one of the first things I did was donate and I've continued to donate to this day! The support the Foundation provides for students and employees is tangible. I see it every day — on any campus and throughout the community. When I look around, I can see someone that has been touched personally by the support the Foundation provides — the support YOU provide! When you give to the Foundation, regardless of the amount, it shows you believe in Wake Tech, its students, and the community."

GREGORY POOLE PARTNERSHIP ON APPRENTICESHIPS

Wake Tech and Gregory Poole Equipment Co. teamed up to offer in-demand apprenticeship opportunities for students who want to work on construction equipment. Apprentices attend classes on campus two days a week as students in Wake Tech's Construction Equipment Systems Technology one-year diploma program. The remainder of the week is spent at one of Gregory Poole's locations for on-site training that covers how to troubleshoot and repair diesel engines, power trains, transmissions, braking systems and hydraulics on heavy equipment. All tuition, fees and books are paid for through the WakeWorks Apprenticeship initiative.



GENEROUS GIFT SUPPORTS FOOD PANTRY AT WAKE TECH

Dr. Lavanya Nagaraj, a board-certified dermatologist with Blue Ridge Dermatology, and Sharat Nagaraj, a member of the Wake Tech Board of Trustees and founder of Raleigh technology firm Celito, established the Nagaraj Family Nest Endowment. The endowment will provide a permanent and recurring source of funds for The Nest, Wake Tech's food pantry and the funds will be used to purchase bulk food items. The Nest seeks to alleviate food insecurity by providing free, accessible food pantries on Wake Tech campuses that offer monthly shopping opportunities and nutrition education.



[Learn More](#)



WHEN YOU INVEST IN WAKE TECH,
YOU CHANGE LIVES.

NOW HERE'S AN OVERVIEW OF THE LAST THREE YEARS!



TOTAL INVESTMENTS

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$8M	\$8.1M	\$8.7M



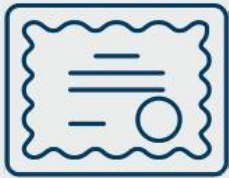
EMPLOYEE TUITION ASSISTANCE

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$90,200	\$88,418	\$95,000
Recruitment, Retention and Recognition: Programs such as Employee Tuition Assistance allow employees to stay ahead of the curve.		



ENDOWMENT (Permanently Restricted)

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$13,452,000	\$14,150,000	\$15,935,000



EXCELLENCE AWARDS

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$43,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
The Foundation is pleased to cover the expenses for our annual celebration of the top faculty, staff, adjuncts and students of the year.		



TOTAL ASSETS

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$27,950,000	\$31,226,000	\$34,074,000



EMPLOYEE GIVING

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$103,056 56%	\$151,031 51%	\$106,805 55%
The Employee Campaign is active throughout the fiscal year with a special kick-off each August.		



OUR PERFORMANCE (ROI)

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
\$8	\$8	\$8
Operating expenses for the Foundation are covered by the college so that every dollar donated goes to our mission.		



DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS

FY-2023	FY-2024	FY-2025
364	340	445
The numbers above are for Fall 2024–Spring 2025 Curriculum/Degree scholarships. Non-degree scholarships are not included.		

MEAL TO HEAL

Months after Hurricane Helene devastated western North Carolina, many hotels and restaurants in the mountains still had not reopened — and some never will. The Wake Tech Baking & Pastry Arts program, in partnership with the Foundation, raised \$13,300 for hospitality workers in western North Carolina affected by the hurricane. The “Meal to Heal” featured gourmet appetizers and a special dinner prepared and served by the college’s culinary and baking faculty. The funds raised were donated to the NC Hospitality Workers Relief Fund, organized by the North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association.

Scan QR code
to learn more



DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION SUPPORTS COLLEGE RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Duke Energy Foundation announced a \$50,000 grant to enhance Wake Tech’s unique undergraduate research program. Specifically, the funding will help pay student interns and faculty mentors in the STEM Academic Research & Training (START) program as well as provide supplies needed for their research projects.

“We are so grateful to the Duke Energy Foundation for this grant award,” said Wake Tech President Dr. Scott Ralls. “This funding will allow Wake Tech to expand resources in key educational program areas, such as undergraduate research and other high-impact practices resulting in increased student success.”



DONOR RETENTION

FY 2023



71%

FY 2024



76%

FY 2025



71%

The average donor retention rate in the nonprofit sector is 45%.

RUN WITH WAKE TECH

Scan QR code
to learn more



In February, over 400 runners and walkers took part in the 7th annual Fostering Footsteps Run/Walk, presented by Rodgers Builders. This event, which raised a record \$30,000, supports the Fostering Bright Futures program (FBF). FBF is a student success program that helps create a comprehensive support structure to assist Wake Tech students in making the transition from foster care to independent young adulthood.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The race is back in 2026! We have a new name, **Reach, Rally, & Run**, as well as a new mission — running to support student success with no barriers! Join us on Saturday, April 18. If you’re interested in being a sponsor or creating a running team, please contact **Kim Raynor**: kbraynor@waketech.edu



Wake Tech
Reach, Rally & Run!
Fit & Able Productions



BUILD A FUTURE. LEAVE A LEGACY.

Have you ever thought about the lasting impact you can make? By combining your annual donations with a planned gift, you can make a significant difference now and pave the way for a brighter future for our students.

The most common planned gifts are bequests to the college made in a will or living trust, or naming the college as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. If you've already made this generous commitment, please let us know! We'd love to hear from you and ensure your gift reflects your wishes.

For more information, contact **Kim Raynor** at kbraynor@waketech.edu.

THANK YOU AGAIN!

You're truly changing lives! Your partnership makes education a reality for so many in our community, and we're grateful. While we can measure your generosity in dollars, the real impact — the dreams you're fueling and the futures you're shaping — is beyond measure. You're empowering talented students to seize opportunities and become the leaders of tomorrow.



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