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## PRESS RELEASE

### Triangle Community Foundation aligns their \$6.5 million\* educational programming under new leadership for more cohesive impact in the region

**Research Triangle Park, October 22, 2018:** Triangle Community Foundation is aligning their initiatives in youth literacy, Send A Kid To Camp™, and scholarships under a cohesive education strategy to address systemic change through early childhood, summer learning loss, and post-secondary credential and degree attainment. These programs will be led by Sarah Battersby, Senior Scholarships & Education Officer, who has led the Foundation's scholarship work for the last 4 years.

"Although early childhood, summer learning loss, and post-secondary credential and degree attainment each hold separate goals, support, and solutions, we acknowledge their connection for and in the communities we serve," said Battersby. "We support systemic, long-lasting change to ensure a vibrant Triangle, and aligning these programs under one umbrella will allow for potential growth and synergy across funding strategies with greater impact for our students."

Since 2013, youth literacy has been a focus of the Foundation's programs, and since 2016 this program has supported the growing National Campaign for Grade-Level Reading initiatives in the Triangle with a three-year commitment of \$600,000 in support of this work in each of the region's counties. In total since 2013, the Foundation has funded 24 organizations focused on addressing literacy with \$1.07 million. Send A Kid To Camp™ has been a program of the Foundation since 1984, granting approximately \$3.5 million and supporting more than 12,000 children in the Triangle to combat summer learning loss through summer camp. The Foundation's scholarships programs have been a service offered by the Foundation to students through donors since its inception in 1983, and since 2013 the Foundation has awarded more than \$4.5 million to 1,005 recipients.

While the Foundation is not announcing new funding for their educational programming at this time, the alignment of these initiatives under one "umbrella" with Battersby leading the charge positions the organization to more closely define the connections in funding and critical issues from birth to higher education.

"This work builds supports for educational success to ensure that all members of the community are able to grow and learn with their peers, access their full potential as thriving members of the Triangle community, and pursue meaningful careers that lead to self-sufficiency," said Lori O'Keefe, President & CEO. "There's no one better suited to lead this work than Sarah – as a nationally recognized education programming expert, her commitment to a more holistic and longer-term focus on education in our community is outstanding, and we look forward to her future work aligning our current efforts to better serve our community."

*\*total funding in educational programming from 2013-2018*

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Triangle Community Foundation is building a brighter future for everyone in the Triangle. By working with dedicated donors and strong nonprofits, we are able to guide gifts in a strategic way to fill in gaps, reduce inequities, and solve the region's most pressing challenges. Since 1983, we have envisioned a Triangle that works together so everyone can thrive. Learn more at [www.trianglecf.org](http://www.trianglecf.org)