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NHCE Appoints New Community Advisory Council Members

WILMINGTON, N.C., July 16, 2024 – The New Hanover Community Endowment (NHCE) is proud to announce seven new [Community Advisory Council](#) (CAC) members and their pillars of focus. The CAC are liaisons between NHCE and multiple facets of the New Hanover County community, advising the Board of Directors and staff on local challenges and opportunities. The new members include:

- **Community Development**
 - Carolyn Beatty, StepUp Wilmington
 - Jeremy Hardy, Vigilant Hope
- **Community Safety**
 - Tabitha Cox, Carousel Center
 - Jamar Jenkins, Young Life NextGen Leaders
 - Andrew Richard, Rich North Digital
- **Education**
 - September Krueger, Cameron Arts Museum
 - Dr. Michael D. Priddy, retired North Carolina school superintendent

The seven new members will replace departing members LeShonda Wallace, Yasmin Tomkinson, Brandon Cagle, Natalie English, Peter Nemmers, Dawn Ferrer, and Chaz Springer.

“I can’t thank the departing members enough for helping launch the CAC,” said board chair Bill Cameron. “Their experience and insight were invaluable to our efforts to invest in the community and serve our neighbors.”

CAC members and Endowment staff reviewed nearly 50 applications and recommended 18 finalists to the board of directors, who voted on the seven finalists. A complete list of the CAC is available on our [website](#).

“There is no doubt our new members’ skills, passions, and experiences will inform our work in new and exciting ways,” said Emily Page, director of learning and capacity building. “CAC



members are invaluable in helping us connect with the greatest opportunities and concerns throughout our diverse community.”

2024 Community Advisory Council Members

Andrew Richard is a Wilmington native from the Northside. He is the owner of Rich North Digital. Embracing the ethos of applying the forces of business to creativity, he embodies a commitment to making an impact in the community through the art of filmmaking. Andrew is driven by a desire to see creativity come to life, knowing that it requires dedication, perseverance, and an unwavering love for the craft.

Carolyn Beatty, a Wilmington native, serves as the community engagement manager for StepUp Wilmington. In this role, Carolyn engages the community by developing and maintaining relationships with volunteers, churches, organizations, and businesses. Previously, Carolyn worked for Compass Group USA for 37 years, with 25 in leadership.

Jamar Jenkins was born and raised in Wilmington. He is a passionate bridge-builder between communities and generations. He has a heart for the under-resourced and a keen ability to drive toward solutions-driven conversations for the community. He is a NextGen fellow with Young Life of Wilmington in their multiethnic ministry

Jeremy Hardy is executive director of Vigilant Hope which has a mission to create avenues for people to practice living out mercy and justice. Under Jeremy’s leadership, Vigilant Hope has launched a variety of initiatives, including community outreaches designed for shared meals, a mobile shower trailer, and training programs for those interested in helping people in need. Most recently, Jeremy started The Roastery, a coffee shop that provides employment opportunities for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Dr. Michael D. Priddy served as superintendent of the Pitt County Schools and as interim superintendent for the Guilford, Bertie, Pamlico, and Wayne County school systems. He also served as chairman and interim president and CEO of the Public School Forum of North Carolina. Among his recognitions and honors are The Old North State Award and The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, both bestowed upon him by North Carolina governors for his exemplary contributions to our public schools and our state.

September Krueger is director of lifelong learning with Cameron Art Museum. She serves as an educator in the NC Community College system and has been a fellow with the A+ Schools Program since 2011. This work has shaped her ideas about arts integration, collaborative learning, and multiple intelligences. September serves with the Wilmington Juneteenth Committee and Lower Cape Fear Wildlife.



Tabitha Cox has lived in New Hanover County since 2011. Her professional career has been devoted to child welfare work in the non-profit sector. She currently serves as the clinical and forensic interviewing supervisor at the Carousel Center. As a licensed clinical social worker specializing in child trauma, she is eager to be a voice for the adolescent child victims in our community and further advocate for justice and improved safety.

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About NHCE

The New Hanover Community Endowment's (NHCE) mission is to invest and partner with the non-profit community to address the root challenges in healthcare, education, safety, and economic opportunity and develop impactful solutions for every person in the New Hanover County community. NHCE was established from the sale of the County-owned New Hanover Regional Medical Center to Novant Health in 2020. From its sale, the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners invested nearly \$1.3 billion to form the endowment to benefit the community.