

# Local Impact in Forsyth County Funding Opportunity

## Reconnecting Youth to Economic and Educational Opportunities

The Trust is working in Forsyth County to foster an inclusive economy and ensure every resident has the opportunity to thrive. This funding opportunity advances economic equity and support for Forsyth County youth ages 16 – 24, who have been disconnected from school and work, by increasing the number of youth who move into living-wage jobs. Research indicates that about 14 percent of the county’s youth are considered “disconnected.” We know that these youth—particularly youth of color—are impacted by systemic barriers and institutional racism—and need our active support to secure living wage jobs and find the path to economic and educational success. It will take organizations, adults, and youth in our community to listen, learn and develop inclusive solutions together, putting ideas into action for a more equitable future. This funding opportunity is designed to engage community groups and residents to begin the process of finding solutions and developing an action plan.

### **Goal**

Grow support for youth in Forsyth County, who have been disconnected from school and work, and increase the percentage who move into living wage jobs.

### **Strategy**

Convene, facilitate, and coordinate stakeholders to collectively address goals. This could include better coordination within and across systems and regularly convening community partners.

Build community, organizational, and individual capacity in areas with low incomes so that historically marginalized populations can participate in economic, education, and health improvement efforts.

### **Timeframe**

Call-by date: **September 25, 2020**

Application deadline: **October 8, 2020**

### **Geographic Focus**

Forsyth County

### **Opportunity Details**

Research indicates that about 14 percent of Forsyth County's youth ages 16-24 are considered "disconnected," meaning they are not currently engaged in the education system or economic opportunities. The Trust is interested in hearing from and building the capacity of grassroots organizations and institutions that can identify and convene conversations with community leaders and youth, to address this issue and develop an action plan. Through this work, the grantee will create an action plan to reconnect youth to educational opportunities, including career and technical training that leads to employment; decrease the number of youth who drop out of school between the ages of 16-18; and develop solutions for support. The process should be designed to assess what's working in Forsyth County and identify opportunities and gaps for what is needed, review the success of local and national programs and relevant data; consider racial equity and social justice issues that impact educational and employment opportunities; address social determinants of health, and include ways to impact systems to effect lasting change in Forsyth County. It's essential that the plan include metrics to track outcomes.

### **Contact**

To schedule a conversation about this opportunity, please contact Program Coordinator Alison Duncan for an initial consultation at [alison@kbr.org](mailto:alison@kbr.org) or 336-397-5521.