

The Tassel: November 2013/Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund

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To: sjohnston@tueforumdt.org

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November 2013



The Tassel

30 years celebrated during
Annual Founder's Breakfast
Duke Foundation awards CHASF \$30,000

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Mr. & Mrs. John and Gayle Crawford (center) with CHASF Alumni during Annual Founder's Breakfast.

Christopher Davis has fond memories of his mentor and friend, John T. Crawford, founder of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund (CHASF). The 27-year old couldn't think of a better way to honor him

than by helping to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the fund during the recent Annual Founder's Breakfast. Davis, a banker and burgeoning sports agent, tearfully shared his story to a packed ballroom at the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church of how Crawford influenced his life and helped him to earn a college education.

Davis was followed by Retired Bank of America CEO Hugh McColl, a long-time friend of Crawford and the keynote speaker. McColl talked about the impact education and the military had on the direction of his

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education and the military had on the direction of his life. He emphasized that the scholarship fund was critical to ensuring the future success of its recipients and the eventual benefits to the community from the educational investment in these young people. To thank him for his involvement with the fund, CHASF Alumni AB Blake presented McColl with an American flag flown in Iraq.

One of the many highlights of the celebration was a \$30,000 check presentation by Duke Energy's Richard "Stick" Williams as part of their matching gift challenge that raised over \$100,000. Duke Energy and their employees are also long-time supporters and volunteers.

Several surprises caught Founder John Crawford off guard. The Mayor's office proclaimed October 17 as Dr. John T. Crawford Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund Annual Founder's Day in Charlotte. And, the CHASF Alumni Association brought tears to his eyes when they recognized him for starting the fund. Crawford received an engraved Callaway golf-bag and a GPS range-finder so that when he's not out sharing the CHASF story, he can enjoy his other favorite past-time: golf!

Crawford is looking forward to the next 30 years and is on a mission to double the number of annual recipients and the endowment. The fund has grown to \$4.1 million.



Duke Energy's "Stick" Williams presents Dr. Crawford a \$30,000 donation to the fund.





Retired Bank of America CEO Hugh McColl accepts American Flag from CHASF Alumni AB Blake as Founder John Crawford looks on.

CHASF Spotlight: The Culbertsons

Bob Culbertson and his wife, Peggy, are long-time supporters of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund and enjoy giving back to the community by supporting education. 30 years ago, Bob Culbertson read a newspaper article about Founder John T. Crawford raising money for Charlotte area children living in public housing to attend college. He jumped at the chance to help Crawford in his endeavors and picked up the phone to call him, offering advice on what his next steps should be. Culbertson encouraged Crawford to call Foundation For The Carolinas and tell them his ideas. "John said that was the best advice he ever had to come at the right time," Culbertson noted.



Bob & Peggy Culbertson

Bob Culbertson's favorite aspect of the scholarship is learning about the kids and their accomplishments. "Knowing that they're trying to be the first in their families to go to college, graduate and be successful is great," he said. The Culbertsons' feel good about helping children be all they can be. "These kids are not in the best of circumstances but this scholarship is giving concern and opportunity to the children in public housing who want to have a chance at success," he added.

Over the years, the Culbertsons have continued to offer sound advice to benefit the fund and its recipients while remaining active throughout the community. In his spare time, Bob likes to mentor kids at the Performance Learning Center. He spends quality time with Peggy, plays golf, makes pottery and exercises. He even attends Central Piedmont Community College taking courses in World Religion and Music Appreciation.

On behalf of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund, we thank the Culbertsons for their continued service to the community and for being a part of the CHASF family from the very beginning!

Article by CHASF Intern Jasmyn Mack.

CHASF Scholar Profile: Jasmyn Mack



Name: Jasmyn Mack

CHASF class of: 2016

College or vocational institution: UNC-Charlotte, Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice expected in 2016. (Freshman year attended UNC-Pembroke and currently completing courses at Central Piedmont Community College before transferring to UNC-Charlotte in 2014.)

Job/Career: After graduation, I will pursue a career as a Criminal Profiler with the FBI.

Favorite CHASF memory: 2013 Annual Founder's Breakfast celebrating the 30th Anniversary.

Who do you admire most and why? My Mother, Yolanda Wells for her drive to never give up; my Grandmother, Lorraine Wells who loves to help people and my Aunt, Erika Wells who finds the kindness in people even when they don't deserve it.

What's your favorite food? Anything spicy!

What type of music do you like? I like all kinds of music!

What's your favorite movie or TV show? The "Fast and Furious" movies and the "Scandal" television drama.

What's the last good book you read? Celia, A Slave - true story by Melton A. McLaurin.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Greece, Brazil and South Africa.

Where do you volunteer? "Panther" Stadium and I intern with the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund.

What are your favorite hobbies? Hanging out with family and friends; and sleep!

What do you hope to achieve over the next 5 - 10 years? To have graduated from college and serve either in the military or the Peace Corps.

What's the nicest thing that someone has said about you that made you smile? That I have an amazing light about me.

What's the best advice you ever received? "Don't ever say you can't do something. Can't should not be in your vocabulary."

Favorite quote and who said it?

"If they seem to you to care for money or anything else more than for virtue, and if they think they amount to something when they do not, rebuke them as I have rebuked you because they do not care for what they ought, and think they amount to something when they are worth nothing." - Socrates (excerpt from Plato's Apology).

Speakers' Bureau

The Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund changes lives and if you have an event where you'd like to hear from our Founder, students or alumni, please contact us and we'd be glad to have someone come out to address your group.

For more information please contact:
Faith Triggs, Director of Development:
704-572-7987 or [email](#).

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