

## **Foundation Releases 2017 Nonprofit Survey Results**

6/22/17

### **Background**

In February 2017, The Winston-Salem Foundation surveyed the Forsyth County nonprofit community to learn more about their perceptions of the Foundation's work and its grantmaking activities, and to gather additional information that could assist the Foundation in its future strategic planning. We are most appreciative of the 82 nonprofits that responded to the survey, as well as to Forsyth Futures, which executed the survey, analyzed and summarized the significant findings, and submitted the results to the Foundation in an aggregated format.

### **Topline Survey Results**

Below is what we learned from the survey based on Forsyth Futures' summary of the significant findings:

- Nonprofits are facing many challenges, with many concerns about future funding.
- Capacity-building funding continues to be important to local nonprofits and there are fewer sources available for this type of funding.
- Our community is facing many challenges; the top challenges identified were inequity, education, and poverty.
- Nonprofits find the Foundation's Community Grants application process and staff to be accessible, and it's important to them that we maintain this ease of access, as extensive applications and/or reporting can place further demands on already-limited nonprofit staff capacities.
- The Foundation can be helpful to nonprofits in ways beyond grantmaking; the most helpful ways identified were by sharing nonprofits' stories, by promoting philanthropic opportunities in the community, and by helping nonprofits network and connect with each other.

### **Next Steps**

The Foundation will utilize these survey results, along with community data and research, to focus on the ways it can most effectively and positively impact Forsyth County. We will be providing additional information this fall as to how our community investments will evolve going forward.