

Spring Sale Event

Odds, Ends & Leftovers

Deadline extended for endowment grant

The deadline for the Hoke County Unrestricted Endowment funds application has been extended to April 14.

Up to \$500 is available for community projects. Funds are available for organizations addressing issues of health, education, arts, environment, human services, or general charitable needs.

The Unrestricted Endowment falls under the Hoke County Community Foundation (HCCF), an affiliate of the N.C. Community Foundation.

The Unrestricted Endowment was established to help support local charitable needs in Hoke County, and grants are made from this endowment each year.

Grant applications are available at the Hoke County Public Library or one may write to: NCCF, 333 Fayetteville St. Mall, Suite 1410, Raleigh, NC 27601 (Attention: Hoke Application) for a copy of a grant application.

HCCF board members are William C. Fields, James Baker, Harry Hodges, Jean H. Hodges, Thomas P. Howell, Randy Jones, John Leandro, Joseph C. Poole, Jan D. Smith and Wyatt Upchurch.

For more information about the HCCF, contact a board member or call Anne L. Steele, Eastern Associate, at (919) 828-4387.

Housing loans for Native Americans

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development have announced the continuation of a partnership that should help provide affordable home ownership loans to American Indian families living in rural North Carolina.

An agreement was signed recently by representatives of USDA Rural Development, the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs and the N.C. Indian Housing Authority. It calls for Rural Development to set aside \$1 million exclusively for the use of American Indians who meet the qualifications of its existing 502 Home Ownership Loan Program. The Indian agencies are to ensure that rural families are aware of this opportunity and will assist in pre qualification determinations and referrals. This marks the second consecutive year that the participants have partnered to help American Indians in rural North Carolina become homeowners.

Representatives of the Coharie, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Meherin and Waccamaw-Siouan Indian tribes were present and witnessed the agreement.

North Carolina has the largest Indian population east of the Mississippi and is home to seven recognized tribes — Coharie, Eastern Band of the Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi, Indians of Person County, Lumbee, Meherin and Waccamaw-Siouan — and to three urban Indian organizations — in Charlotte, in Greensboro and in Fayetteville.

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, housed in the N.C. Department of Administration, is charged with the responsibility of advocating the needs and concerns of the state's American Indian population. The N.C. Indian Housing Authority is authorized by N.C. General Statute to provide housing and address housing needs of American Indians with low income. Rural Development is the USDA's lending arm that provides services to rural areas.

If you are an American Indian and are interested in learning more about affordable home ownership loans, contact the Indian Housing Authority by calling (919) 733-5998 or writing Mail Service Center 1317, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1317.



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