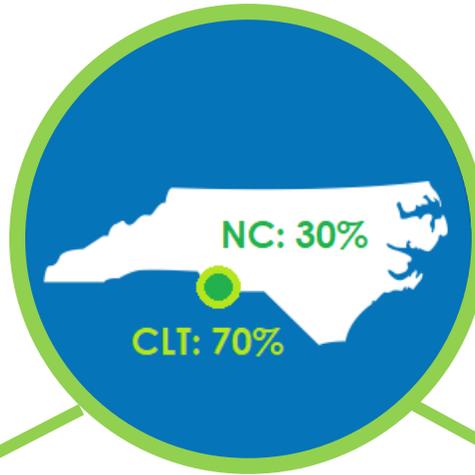


## MISSION

The Belk Foundation believes that education is a basis for successful society and that a quality education is the right of all children and youth. Our mission is to invest in schools and organizations that work aggressively to ensure all students graduate from high school and continue on an intentional path toward college, career and life.



## GEOGRAPHY

Charlotte-Mecklenburg is our home. While CMS often influences policies, it is also impacted greatly by decisions made at the state level. On average, the Foundation strives to devote 70% of grant funds to Charlotte and 30% to state-level investments.

40%

### Direct Service

Programs and interventions that directly support students and educators

30%

### System Improvement

Building capacity within a larger system to meet the needs of students and educators

30%

### Reform Environment

Informing and advocating for smart decisions that affect students and educators

## FOCUS AREAS

### K-3 Core Achievement

50%

Investing in strategies that ensure students perform on or above grade level in core subjects by third grade, beginning with the kindergarten year.

### Great Teachers and Leaders

50%

Investing in high performing, outcomes-oriented, sustainable programs and strategies that recruit, develop and retain effective teachers and leaders.

## STRATEGIC ISSUES

A subset of our two focus areas, these strategic issues are where the Board dedicates time and energy "beyond grantmaking". A portion of the Focus Area dollars are dedicated to aligned grants.

Third Grade Reading Proficiency



Equitable Access to Effective Teachers

