



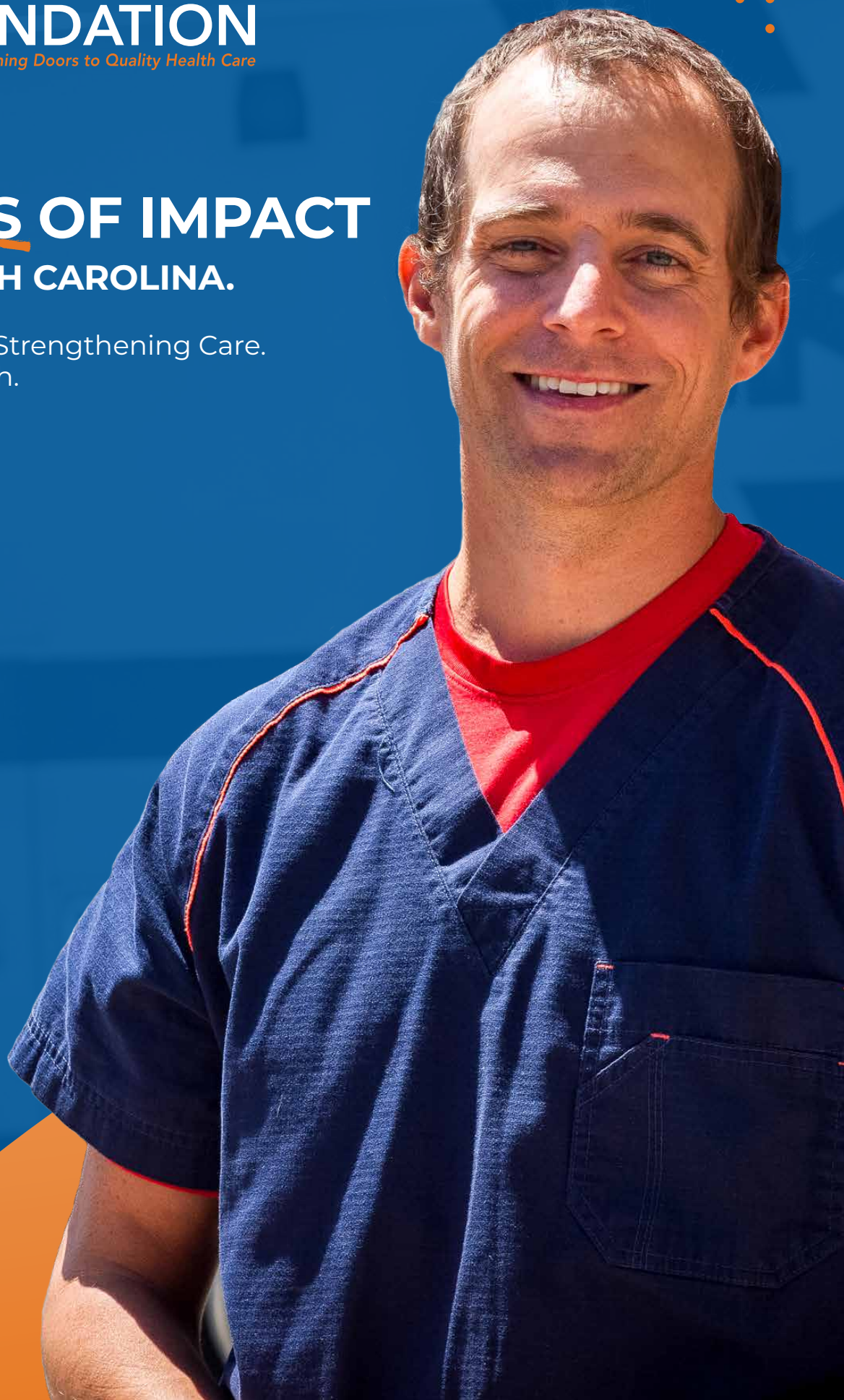
North Carolina Medical Society
FOUNDATION
Opening Doors to Quality Health Care



60 YEARS OF IMPACT

ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA.

Expanding Access. Strengthening Care.
Transforming Health.





OUR STORY.

As I sit down to write this letter, I'm amazed that the NCMS Foundation is celebrating its 60th anniversary! What started as a vision in 1966 has grown into an innovative health care powerhouse across our state. Though the impact of the Foundation has outlived its founders, I wish these visionaries could see a glimpse of what they were creating 60 years ago.

Founded in 1966, the NC Medical Society Foundation was created to complement the work of the North Carolina Medical Society, bringing a long-term, philanthropic focus to the challenges facing health care across the state. While the NC Medical Society has focused on advocacy and support for physician and PA practices, the Foundation has worked to address broader, systemic needs. Over time, this has included building endowed funds for educational loan repayment, developing programs to support future health care leaders, and fostering partnerships across North Carolina's health ecosystem.

As new challenges have emerged, the Foundation has continued to evolve—serving as an incubator for innovative programs that respond directly to gaps in care, workforce needs, and community health. Now, 60 years later, that role is more important than ever.

As the husband of a physician, I've witnessed the challenges of North Carolina's health care system for decades. This front-row seat has helped me appreciate the work of the Foundation even more—**work that is only possible because of sustainers like you.**

Thank you for believing that health and well-being should be within reach for every North Carolinian. In the pages that follow, you'll learn about our range of programs and their impact—programs that reflect decades of investment in strengthening the health care workforce, expanding access to care, and responding to the evolving needs of our state. Your financial investment allows the Foundation to continue building on this legacy and provide critical services where they are needed most.

In my 16 years at the Society and Foundation, I've seen the power of combining advocacy and support for physician and PA practices (NC Medical Society) with a complementary funding arm to address broader, systemic needs (NCMS Foundation)—a partnership that has defined our work for the past 60 years.

Our founders would be proud! Together, we're making tremendous strides in creating lasting improvements in health outcomes across our state. And we're just getting started...

Here's to the next 60 years,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Franklin D. Walker".

Franklin Walker
Executive Director

OUR WORK.

Access to quality health care is essential to the well-being of every community, but across North Carolina, that access remains out of reach for many.

Rural areas across the state continue to experience persistent physician shortages, leaving patients with limited options for care close to home. Health disparities, including the rising cost of care, compound these challenges, affecting outcomes for vulnerable populations and creating gaps in access that impact entire communities.

At the same time, clinicians face mounting pressures. Administrative complexity, workforce shortages, and increasing demand contribute to burnout and make it more difficult to recruit and retain providers in high-need areas.

The result is a system under strain, in which patients may delay care, travel long distances for treatment, or forgo care altogether.

Without intentional investment and targeted solutions, these challenges will continue to grow.

This is where the NC Medical Society Foundation steps in as a **trusted partner in improving access to quality health care across our state**. For decades, we have worked alongside physicians, clinicians, and communities to strengthen the systems that deliver care, especially in rural and underserved areas where the need is greatest.



MISSION

To improve access to quality health care for all North Carolinians.

BELIEF

We believe health and well-being should be within reach for every North Carolinian. By supporting physicians and their health care teams through loan repayment, education, leadership, and innovation, we expand access to quality health care, strengthen communities, and advance health equity across our state.

VALUES

- + **Health Equity:** Address disparities and expand equitable access to quality health care across all communities.
- + **Access to Care:** Support initiatives that improve access to care and strengthen the health care workforce across North Carolina.
- + **Community Health:** Strengthen partnerships with public health, community organizations, and other sectors to improve health at the community level.
- + **Collaboration:** Promote teamwork across physicians, health care teams, and community partners to improve care and health outcomes.
- + **Leadership:** Invest in education and leadership development that supports physicians and their health care teams.

OUR PROGRAMS.



Guided by a commitment to access, equity, and innovation, our work focuses on building stronger systems of care, supporting the health care workforce, and creating lasting improvements in health outcomes statewide.

The NCMS Foundation currently supports **10 programs** that address critical needs across North Carolina's health care system. These programs are reducing health disparities, expanding access to care, and strengthening the future of medicine through education, leadership development, and workforce support.

COMMUNITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAM (CPP LEGACY)

The Community Practitioner Program supports clinicians serving in rural and underserved communities through educational loan repayment and professional development. By reducing financial barriers and strengthening retention, the program helps ensure that providers can build lasting careers where access to care is most limited.

COMMUNITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAM 2.0 (CPP 2.0)

CPP 2.0 builds on the success of the original program with a focus on long-term workforce sustainability. By supporting recruitment, retention, and community integration, the program helps create stable care environments and improve access to consistent, high-quality care.

ACADEMY FOR HEALTHCARE LEADERS

Formerly the Kanof Institute for Physical Leadership, the Academy for Healthcare Leaders prepares clinicians and health care professionals to lead in a rapidly evolving environment. Offered through Future, Advanced, and Executive tracks, the program provides education and training that strengthen leadership skills across every career stage and support better decision-making and improved care delivery.

NC CLINICIANS AND PHYSICIANS RETENTION AND WELL-BEING CONSORTIUM (NCCPRW)

The NCCPRW brings together partners across North Carolina to address clinician burnout and improve retention. Through collaboration and targeted strategies, the program supports a more sustainable workforce and helps create environments where clinicians can continue to lead and serve effectively.

ONSMS REAL TALK PARTNERSHIP

Through its partnership with the Old North State Medical Society, the Foundation supports suicide prevention workshops that promote clinician well-being and reduce stigma around seeking help. Programs like Real Talk: Navigating Life's Hard Moments Together serve as a leading example, offering evidence-based training that equips clinicians and communities to recognize warning signs, engage in meaningful conversations, and connect individuals to appropriate support.

PREFERRED VENDOR PROGRAMS

Preferred Vendor Programs create strategic collaborations that provide physicians and practices with access to essential tools, resources, and services. These partnerships support practice sustainability, improve operational efficiency, and enable providers to focus on delivering high-quality patient care.



TRANSFORMATION RESOURCE FOR ACCOUNTABLE CARE (TRAC)

TRAC is a centralized hub for tools, learning, and collaboration that supports system-wide transformation across the health care ecosystem. By translating complex concepts into practical guidance, TRAC provides resources, technical assistance, and shared learning opportunities—helping clinicians and organizations advance value-based care and deliver better, more coordinated, and more equitable outcomes.

NC PROFESSIONALS HEALTH PROGRAM (NCPHP)

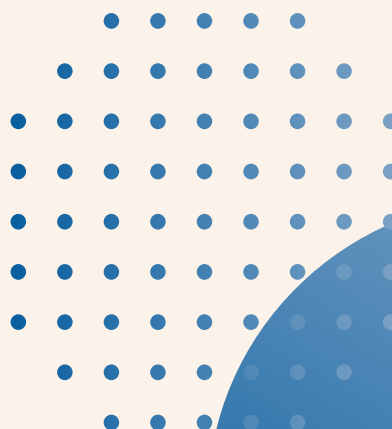
The NC Professionals Health Program provides confidential support and resources to help clinicians manage personal and professional challenges. By promoting well-being and recovery, the program plays a vital role in sustaining the health care workforce and protecting patient care.

PROJECT VIRTUAL OPIOID TREATMENT (VBOT)

Project VBOT expands access to treatment for opioid use disorder through innovative, virtual care delivery. By reaching patients in communities with limited resources, the program helps address a critical public health need and increases access to life-saving care across North Carolina.

DISASTER RELIEF & FINANCIAL RECOVERY PROGRAMS

The Foundation provides critical funding and rapid-response support to health care practices impacted by natural disasters and economic disruption. These efforts help stabilize clinics, maintain access to care, and ensure that communities continue to receive essential health services during times of crisis.



OUR IMPACT.



For six decades, the Foundation has invested in North Carolina's healthcare future. Through proven programs and statewide results, we are addressing North Carolina's most pressing health challenges—expanding access to care, supporting the next generation of providers, and driving meaningful improvements in community health.



600+

physicians, PAs and NPs from 161 different professional schools at 296 unique practice locations in NC in 96/100 North Carolina counties placed through CPP



900+

clinicians and healthcare managers trained



GREATER AWARENESS

of warning signs, resources, and life-saving intervention strategies



120+

hospitals and care facilities verified that their credentialing applications exclude intrusive mental health questions, benefiting 51,000 credentialed health workers



\$18M+

dollars provided in educational loan repayment grants resulting in over \$780 million dollars in free and reduced care



\$25M

dollars distributed to 638 medical practices-maintained solvency during the COVID-19 pandemic



5,900+

healthcare professionals provided with direct assistance and indirect assistance to thousands more through educational and advisory programs



TREATMENT FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER

provided to patients in 83 of North Carolina's 100 counties. (90.9% 30-day retention during the highest-risk dropout window)

OUR FUTURE.

As we look ahead, the need for accessible, high-quality health care in North Carolina continues to grow, and so does the opportunity to build on the progress we've made together.

The North Carolina Medical Society Foundation is focused on expanding the programs that are already making a meaningful difference—strengthening the physician workforce, supporting clinician well-being, and increasing access to care in communities where it is needed most.

In the years ahead, we will continue to invest in solutions that are proven, scalable, and responsive to the evolving needs of our state. This includes growing the pipeline of clinicians serving rural and underserved communities, advancing innovative approaches to care delivery, and strengthening the systems that support both providers and patients.

At the same time, we remain committed to being flexible and responsive, ready to meet emerging challenges and support communities when they need it most. **The Sustainers Fund** plays an important role in making this possible, providing **the stability needed to sustain and grow our impact over time.**

With continued support, we can reach more communities, support more clinicians, and improve health outcomes across North Carolina.



“During the COVID-19 pandemic, the NC Medical Society Foundation provided funds that allowed us to purchase personal protective equipment to keep our staff safe, IT equipment that allowed us to provide curbside service to patients, and funding for additional payroll costs. Without this assistance, the practice would not have survived. We greatly appreciate the Foundation's help.”

— **Challie Minton, M.D.**, *Financial Recovery Program Participant*

“Through the CPP and Academy for Healthcare Leaders Program, I gained leadership skills that shaped my career and enhanced the care I provide directly to patients.”

— **Quinnette Jones, M.D.**, *CPP and Academy for Healthcare Leaders Program Participant*

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Palmer Edwards, MD, DFAPA

President

Lacy C. Hobgood, MD, MACP, FAAP

President-Elect & Board Development Chair

Pascal O. Udekwa, MD

Finance Chair

Steve Keene, JD, MBA

*Chief Executive Officer & Executive Vice President,
North Carolina Medical Society, Raleigh, NC*

Michelle Jones, MD

Trustee

Christopher Grubb, MD, MBA

Trustee

Roy E. Strowd, III, MD

Trustee, Gifts & Grants Chair

Venkat Prasad, MD, MBA, MHA, CPE, FAAFP

Trustee

Vinay P. Saranga, MD

Board Member

Karen L. Smith, MD, FAAFP

Ex-Officio Member, NCMS President-Elect

Carl Westcott, MD

Ex-Officio Member, NCMS President

Grant Irons, MS4

Trustee



North Carolina Medical Society
FOUNDATION
Opening Doors to Quality Health Care

222 N PERSON STREET, SUITE 101, RALEIGH, NC 27601
NCMSFOUNDATION@NCMEDSOCIETY.ORG | (919) 833-3836
NCMSFOUNDATION.ORG