



RESOURCE GUIDE FOR YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

About the youth initiative and this resource guide:

The Resourceful Communities program helps increase and strengthen the capacity, resources and partnerships of rural community organizations across North Carolina with an emphasis on equity and community engagement.

The number of youth-serving groups in our network is trending upwards. Many offer entrepreneurship training, leadership development, education access, and/or career exposure through their current triple-bottom line programs. To support this important and growing work, Resourceful Communities created this resource guide to help build your networks and strengthen your current programs.

This guide provides links to helpful resources in the following categories: (1) Career Readiness and Future Planning; (2) College readiness; (3) Scholarship opportunities; (4) Financial Literacy; (5) Leadership and Enrichment opportunities; (6) Curricula; and (7) Funding.

For more information about the guide and our work supporting youth, contact Olivia Percoco at opercoco@conservationfund.org



Career Readiness and Future Planning Resources



- **NC Works**
 - NC works provides resources for future planning for high school students
 - Their youth resources section provides a list with links to resources for a variety of different paths, including college, trade school, and the military.
- **College Foundation of North Carolina**
 - This website has resources for exploring careers, determining one's interests, and learning more about different fields specifically in North Carolina.
- **NC Careers**
 - NC careers has tools for discovering interests, exploring and planning careers, planning for college and other education, and a job search with filters for location, education and salary.
- **Apprenticeship NC**
 - The website lists apprenticeship opportunities in North Carolina (linked here).



- **GEAR UP**, Appalachian State University
 - Resources for planning for, applying to, and paying for college linked [here](#).
- **Colleges of Distinction**
 - [Colleges of Distinction](#) is a website with resources for finding a college that is the right fit. They also provide a plethora of advice on different topics from virtual tours, to financial aid, to joining ROTC.
 - Their website has a search tool that has location and program filters, and it provides important statistics about each school
- **College Foundation of North Carolina**
 - [Resources](#) for college from information on how to apply, how to pay for college, and free SAT and ACT prep courses.
 - Have multiple regional representatives that can talk with you about what CFNC does
- **LatinxEd**
 - [LatinxEd](#) provides resources for Latinx students seeking higher education, including a summer academy and online college advising

Spotlight

Juntos is a program designed to help latinx students and families navigate education and future planning. Along with their program, only currently available to a few counties, their website has many resources, both general resources and latinx specific ones.

Learn more here: <https://juntos.dasa.ncsu.edu/youth/>



- **Accredited Schools Online**

- This resource provides information on online colleges as well as trade schools.

- **FindMyTradeSchool**

- This website provides a list of trade schools in North Carolina that you can filter by program and zip code.

- **College Advising Corps**

- Individual advisors are placed in high schools all over the state. Visit the Where We Work page of their website and select the college closest to you to find your nearest advisor.
- While they work within school districts and work school-district hours, sharing their knowledge with youth-serving organizations is a possibility! Reach out to the individual to see if they are willing to come speak with your youth!

Spotlight

TryThis NC: Start a Youth-Led Garden

<https://www.trythisnc.org/youthgarden>



Spotlight

Diversity Nurtures Achievements Community Youth Center

Diversity Nurtures Achievements provides year-round STEM educational opportunities, including summer camp and field trips to National Parks

<https://www.conservationfund.org/projects/diversity-nurtures-achievements-community-youth-center>

Scholarship Opportunities



- **College Foundation of North Carolina**
 - As well as other resources, CFNC has a search engine for scholarship opportunities with filters to narrow the search to find ones you are eligible for (linked [here](#)).
- **Scholarships.com**
 - [Scholarships.com](#) is a scholarship search engine and database that contains an array of scholarships. You can create a profile and it will match you with scholarships that you are eligible for.
 - Additionally, it has a college search that will give you information on a school such as tuition, enrollment and graduation rate.
- **Aubrey Lee Brooks scholarship**
 - This scholarship is awarded to high school seniors planning on attending NC State, UNC chapel hill, or UNC Greensboro. Only students from specific counties are eligible to apply. The scholarship can be up to \$12,000, with additional funding available. More information can be found [here](#).

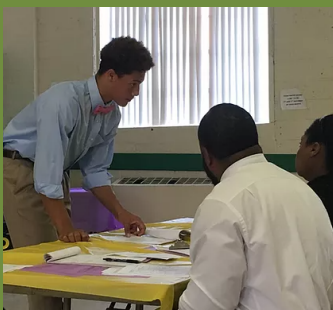


Financial Literacy Resources



- **Financial Basics Course**
 - A course from CFNC specifically designed for North Carolinian high school students to learn about the basics of financial management. Students can earn a financial basics certificate.
- **FoolProof**
 - FoolProof bases their free financial literacy course on teaching students about healthy skepticism. Their curriculum is more than financial literacy, focusing on general life skills too.
- **PwC**
 - PwC has curriculum resources for financial literacy (found here), as well as a list of other financial literacy resources (found here).
- **Coastal Credit Union**
 - CCU has lessons on various financial literacy topics, and recordings of past webinars. Tip: **reach out to your local credit union** and ask if they'll host a financial literacy session in-person. Many will!

Spotlight



TryThis NC: Teach Youth How to Start their own business

<https://www.trythisnc.org/teachyouthhowtostartbusiness>

Spotlight

4-H

4-H provides curriculum resources, at-home activities for youth, grant opportunities and much more

<https://4-h.org/about/what-is-4-h/>





- **Do Something**
 - A youth led organization (linked [here](#)) that provides ways that youth can make a difference in their community and around the world. They have a wide range of topics.
 - Opportunity for volunteer credit, as well as scholarship opportunities.
- **College Foundation of North Carolina - Student Enrichment Programs**
 - CFNC has a [search tool](#) for enrichment programs for high school students.
- **Ag-Discovery Camp**
 - [This camp](#) is located on the campus of NC State and is completely free outside of costs of transportation. The purpose of the camp is to help youth learn more about a career in agriculture and other natural sciences.
- **USDA youth and community leader resources**
 - A collection of resources, both for youth and for educators and community leaders. These resources are focused on STEM and leadership, with a particular emphasis on agriculture.
 - More information can be found [here](#).
- **North Carolina Society of Hispanic Professionals**
 - The [NCSHP](#)'s mission is to promote education of Hispanic students. They have many programs including an annual education summit geared towards keeping Hispanic students in school and encouraging higher education.



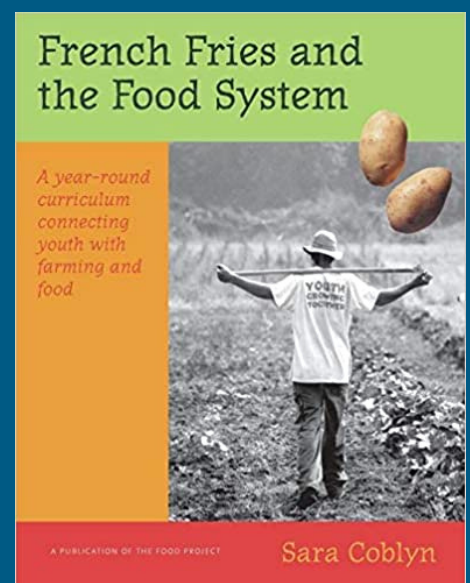
- **Khan Academy**
 - Khan Academy is a great and completely free resource. Their courses can be used as supplemental help for students taking the class, or as an entire curriculum for homeschoolers.
 - Khan Academy also has free SAT and ACT prep options.
- **American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture**
 - This website has a large array of lesson plans for all grade levels focused on agriculture and environmental issues.
- **FutureLearn**
 - FutureLearn provides free online courses in a variety of subjects. From basic life skills to new hobbies to science and math. They even have courses on climate change, the environment, and agriculture.
- **Soul Fire Farms**
 - Although their workshops are only available to urban organizations, they share their curriculum as long as credit is given. Learn more here.

Book Recommendation:

French Fries and the Food System

This book is a year-round curriculum based in teaching youth about understanding and appreciating local food systems

<https://www.amazon.com/French-Fries-Food-System-Year-Round/dp/0970353006>



Funding Opportunities



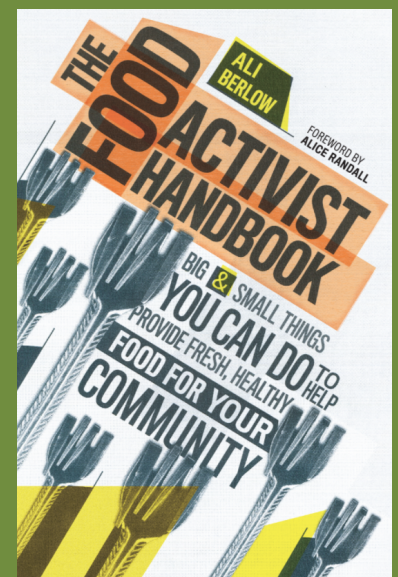
- **Harris and Frances Block Foundation**
 - The Harris and Frances Block Foundation places an emphasis on community, justice and sustainability.
 - They give grants of anywhere from a couple thousand dollars to \$25,000.
 - They review letters of inquiry on a continual basis.
- **Bank of America Charitable Foundation**
 - Applications for grants with a focus on individual and family needs are accepted in late January through mid February.
 - Applications for grants focused on community needs are accepted in June.
 - More information and the link to the application can be found here.
- **Fernandez Pave the Way Foundation**
 - This foundation provides funding to organizations focused on youth and environmental sustainability.

Book Recommendation:

The Food Activist Handbook

This book provides simple and practical ways that individuals can get involved with food justice in their community.

<https://www.amazon.com/Food-Activist-Handbook-Provide-Community/dp/1612121802>





- **Southern Partners Fund**
 - SPF is an organization focused on social justice. They fund small community organizations focused on reversing the inequities that are pervasive in the South.
 - They fund many areas related to justice, including youth leadership and environmental justice.
 - Grants range from \$5,000-15,000 and are toward general operational expenses.
- **The Glass Foundation**
 - This foundation offers a variety of grants to organizations in Western North Carolina. Their two focuses are the environment and youth development.
- **The Truliant Credit Union Charitable Program**
 - This organization provides charitable funds to organizations serving local communities. Two of their focus areas include community development and youth and education.
- **The Fund for Southern Communities**
 - The Fund for Southern Communities gives grants ranging from \$1,000-\$5,000 to small organizations making a difference in their community.
 - They focus on justice issues and give preference to groups unlikely to receive other funding.
- **The Morningstar Foundation (The Mary Ann Elliott Foundation)**
 - This foundation gives grants up to \$7,500 with a large focus on youth and the environment.