



COMMUNITY BENEFIT REPORT 2017



VISION

Aiken Technical College seeks to be the first choice for higher education in the region.

MISSION

Aiken Technical College is a public, open-door, two-year, comprehensive institution of higher education established to provide citizens of greater Aiken County opportunities for educational and workforce development.

VALUES

Collaboration

Exemplified in community-centered relationships and partnerships

Commitment

Exemplified in students, businesses and community

Diversity

Exemplified in inclusiveness, respect and compassion

Excellence

Exemplified in teaching, learning, engagement and development

Innovation

Exemplified in new approaches, risk-taking, flexibility, change and leadership

Integrity

Exemplified by honesty, accountability and transparency



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



2017 was an exciting year as we began envisioning the future of Aiken Technical College—who do we want to become, how can we build upon a great past to create a bright future, and what can we do as a College to contribute to the growth and success of our community.

In July 2017, we launched our new strategic plan which will lead the College to its 50th anniversary in 2022. This strategic plan is comprehensive, ambitious, but achievable with everyone supporting the efforts.

Through this plan, everyone can see where they fit in and how they can contribute to the College's mission to provide “educational and workforce development opportunities” and help the College make its vision of being the “first choice for higher education in the region” a reality.

Our strategic plan is not a document that will sit and collect dust. We must continue to redefine what it means to go to college and create new, accessible and affordable pathways for both youth and adults to achieve their educational goals and ultimately, be successful in their chosen career field.

As a community technical college, we want to ensure that we are meeting the growing and changing needs of our local workforce. We are seeking new ways to engage with business and industry as well as the community to nurture existing partnerships while developing new connections.

As we blaze the path toward our 50th anniversary, I thank you for your continued support and look forward to serving you and this community for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Forest E. Mahan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Forest E. Mahan
President, Aiken Technical College

COLLEGE DEVELOPS ROADMAP IN PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE

Aiken Technical College launched its new five-year strategic plan, which will lead the College to its 50th anniversary in 2022.

“We are excited about this new strategic plan. The College has accomplished many great things over the years, and this plan builds on those successes to take the College to the next level,” said Dr. Forest E. Mahan, ATC President.

The College contracted with Dr. Anthony Robinson of Robinson Management Consulting to lead the institution through the strategic planning process and to engage ATC administration, employees, students, partners and community members in the development of the plan. Their input was then used to help guide the direction of the strategic plan and identify strengths, areas of improvement, and new opportunities.

The new strategic plan includes a revised mission, values, five strategic goals and four objectives under each goal. One of the most notable changes is the College’s new vision which states the College “seeks to be the first choice for higher education in the region.”

“I want to change the perception of what it means to go to college,” said Dr. Mahan. “Aiken Technical College has a lot to offer residents and business and industry in our area. When we say ‘first choice’, we want people to think of us as a place to start the journey toward their goals—whether that is to gain employable skills to go into the workforce or build the foundation for a bachelor’s degree.”

“I want to change the perception of what it means to go to college.”

- Dr. Forest E. Mahan



2017 - 2022 STRATEGIC GOALS:



I. Provide transformative, enriching and engaging academic programs and student experiences to serve the educational and workforce development needs of our students and the region.



II. Position the College as the first choice for education and workforce development through effective communication, promotion and branding.



III. Create strategic collaborations with academic, community and industry partners to develop and empower students through additional educational opportunities.



IV. Cultivate an engaging environment of excellence to attract, retain and develop a diverse campus of students, staff, faculty and administrators.



V. Expand organizational funding through regional support, student enrollment, and grants to provide innovative learning opportunities for students.

COLLEGE CONTINUES TO EXTEND PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Aiken Technical College's mission is to provide area citizens with educational and workforce development opportunities—an effort that has extended into the local schools through a partnership with the Aiken County Public School District.

In summer 2017, the College welcomed its second cohort of the Early College program at Midland Valley High School. The program provides a unique pathway for high school students to earn an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree while simultaneously earning their high school diploma. Students take two courses per term through their senior year, with fall and spring courses being offered on the Midland Valley High School campus and summer courses at Aiken Technical College.



Aiken County school counselors had an opportunity to learn more about the College, its offerings and services through a week-long School Counselor Institute in July 2017, held as part of the S.C. Technical College System's "I Made It...You Can Too!" initiative.

Counselors toured campus facilities and labs, interacted with faculty and staff, and provided input on how to build upon the partnership the College has with the district and assist students and parents with the transition to college.

In fall 2017, the College extended its partnership with the district by establishing an on-site advisor at Midland Valley High School who collaborates with school counselors to help students define their educational plans after high school and prepare for their future. The advisor serves as a point of contact for Early College and dual enrollment students and their parents or guardians.





NEW ADMISSIONS PROCESS AIMS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

At the cornerstone of a technical college is the belief that everyone should have access to affordable higher education that will prepare them for success. Aiken Technical College furthered its mission of providing opportunities for educational and workforce development by developing and refining its processes to remove barriers for those planning to enroll at the College.

In the fall 2017, the College adopted a multiple measures course placement approach for those who have graduated from high school within the last five years. This streamlined approach allows students who meet select criteria to be placed in college-level English and math courses without the need for placement testing.

SCHOLARSHIPS ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO PURSUE NUCLEAR-RELATED PROGRAMS



As the current workforce begins to retire in unprecedented numbers, it has become vital to ensure that the workforce pipeline is filled with those who have the knowledge and skills needed to fill pending vacancies.

Aiken Technical College is one of five area higher education institutions participating in the Workforce Opportunities in Regional Careers grant, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy-Office of Environmental Management and the National Nuclear Security Administration.

The grant is administered by the SRS Community Reuse Organization.

The grant has enabled the College to award more than 56 scholarships in 2017 to students enrolled in nuclear-related programs: nuclear fundamentals, industrial maintenance, radiation protection technology, electronics engineering, welding, engineering graphics, and pre-engineering.

The scholarships help remove financial barriers to pursuing education, thus encouraging program completion and full preparation for a future career in the nuclear industry.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY CLASS OF 2017

ACHIEVES 100 PERCENT PASS RATE

Aiken Technical College's radiologic technology 2017 graduates achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (ARRT) Certification Exam. All graduates passed the exam on the first attempt.

"The American Registry of Radiologic Technologists requires anyone pursuing a career as a radiologic technologist to have completed an educational, ethical, and lastly, an examination component of the subject matter," said Mamie McRavin, radiologic technology program coordinator.

The graduates took the exam shortly after completing the program. To prepare for the exam, students were instructed in both classroom and clinical settings to ensure understanding and ability to apply material learned. They also participated in a mock exam.

"Passing the ARRT Radiography Certification Exam presents a title to be proud of," said McRavin. "It also unlocks the door to a world of opportunity within the healthcare industry for the graduates."



CENTER PROVIDES RESOURCES, SERVICES TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED



The Academic Success Center has served Aiken Technical College students since the late 1970s. In 2017, the center saw more than 9,800 visits and served more than 900 students.

“We understand who students are and what they need to be successful,” said Crystal Ratliff, Director of Academic Success and Retention. “Our approach of holistic tutoring and student success coaching allows us to fill the gap and be the bridge to student success.”

The center offers free tutoring assistance in nearly 20 topics ranging from math and English to radiology and electronics engineering. The center also offers student success coaching to connect students with services on campus as well as provide guidance in skills such as time management, goal setting, note taking and test prep.

The center also provides services for faculty, including visiting classes to discuss the center’s offerings with students, leading small group tutoring sessions, and assisting students with research or writing assistance. In select subjects, tutors are present within the classroom to help students as they learn concepts in real-time.

“We have a dedicated staff who truly has the best interests of our students in mind,” said Ratliff. “We help students any way we can, and one way we accomplish this is by ensuring tutors and student success coaches are not only subject area experts, but that they receive in-depth training. Additionally, we work closely with faculty to make certain that our tutors are knowledgeable of classroom activities and assignments.”



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNIZED DURING ANNUAL AWARDS NIGHT

Reflecting on his own career path to the presidency, Aiken Technical College President Dr. Forest E. Mahan shared that persistence is a key to success during annual Awards Night held in spring 2017.

The event celebrated the accomplishments of leaders of student organizations, top academic achievements, and scholarship recipients.

Dr. Mahan encouraged the students to continue on their path to success by focusing on three areas: pacing themselves, balancing their life, and persisting no matter the circumstances.

During the event, the ATC Foundation awarded over \$52,500 in scholarships to more than 60 ATC students for the 2017-18 academic year. Additional scholarships were awarded to graduating high school seniors in May 2017.



Students from each of the College's academic divisions were recognized for outstanding academic achievement. The top academic award, the Buck Grant Award, was awarded to Claudia Sewell, a May 2017 graduate of the College's radiation protection technology program. Sewell was on the Dean's List, a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and had maintained a 4.0 grade point average.

Sara Rooney, also a May 2017 graduate, received the top Student Service Award which is awarded annually to a student who has made significant contributions to the College, to the student body, and to the community. Rooney, who earned an Associate in Arts, was a Campus Ambassador, member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, and a member of the Student Leadership Council.

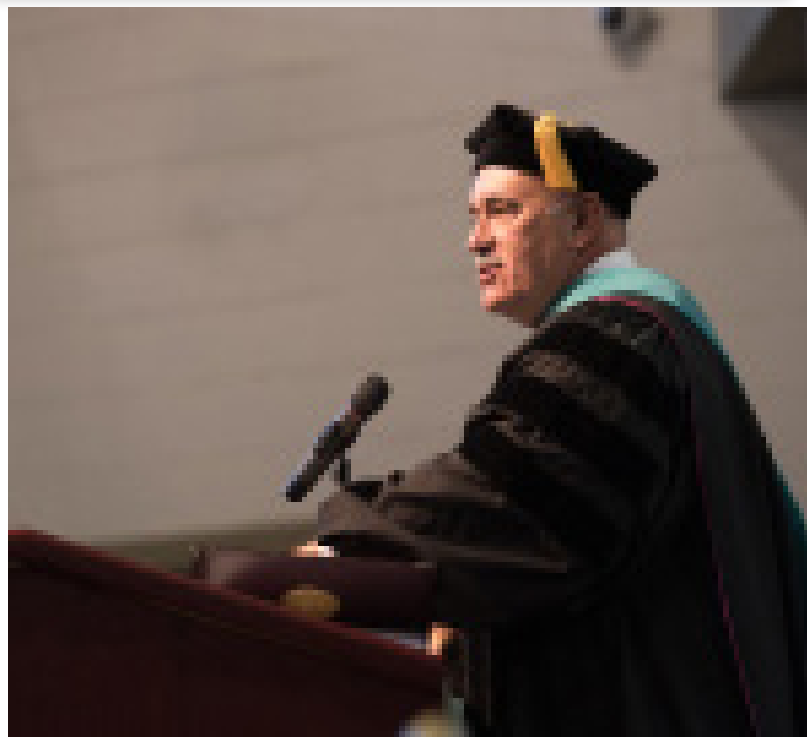


GRADUATES START NEW CHAPTER WITH ENCOURAGEMENT FROM SYSTEM PRESIDENT

Dr. Forest E. Mahan led his first Commencement ceremonies as the Aiken Technical College President in May 2017.

“This means the world to me because as you sit in front of me, it reaffirms why we—Aiken Technical College—exist in the community,” Dr. Mahan told the graduates.

“It reaffirms why I began my career in the South Carolina Technical College System two decades ago. We are here to make a difference, open doors of opportunity, provide tools for success, and, as our College mantras state, show you that you can ‘start here...succeed anywhere’ and that those dreams and goals are ‘within reach.’”





Dr. Tim Hardee, President of the S.C. Technical College System, served as the keynote speaker for the event who used lyrics from various songs to provide encouragement.

After quoting a portion of lyrics from Stevie Wonder's song, *For Once in My Life*, Hardee stated: "This day, this degree, diploma, certificate—it's yours. No one can take it away. But learning doesn't just stop here today. I know the term 'life-long learner' sounds a bit cliché, but it's actually true. You should always be learning...you learn from others, you learn from yourself and you'll find that you actually learn from your mistakes."

"Your Future is Within Reach"



NEW AGREEMENTS EASE THE TRANSITION FROM ASSOCIATE TO BACHELORS

Earning an associate degree is the first step in the higher education ladder for many as they strive to reach their career goals. In an effort to help our graduates transition into the next step of their educational journey, Aiken Technical College has formed several articulation agreements with four-year colleges and universities over the years.

The College added three new articulation agreements to its list in 2017:

- **Coker College:** Associate in Applied Science (Marketing or Management) to Bachelor in Business (Marketing or Management)
- **Georgia Military College:** Associate in Applied Science (Business, Management, or Technical) to Bachelor of Applied Science (Management or Supervision)
- **Claflin University:** Associate in Applied Science Nursing to Bachelor of Science in Nursing

“A part of our mission is to provide students with opportunities for educational development and that involves encouraging graduates to further their education,” said Dr. Forest E. Mahan, President of Aiken Technical College. “This articulation agreement opens the door for graduates to continue on their path to success and helps keep their career aspirations within reach.”



COLLEGE UPGRADES STUDENT CENTER DÉCOR, SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY



The Gregg-Graniteville Student Activities Center received a facelift during summer 2017 to reflect the vibrant life and activities that take place within its walls. Colorful accent walls, artwork, and modern furniture were added to the décor.

The area formerly known as the cafeteria was renamed the Commons to encourage more activity, fellowship and engagement.

Recognizing the role technology plays in students' lives, a free charging station with cords to fit most cell phones and tablets was added to the Commons area. Info screens—large flat screen monitors—were also added to increase communication about events, important dates and campus news.

The campus bookstore, located in the Student Activities Center, also underwent updates to improve customer in-store experience, store flow and its systems. The updates were a result of recommendations provided by a bookstore task force of staff and faculty representatives.





LAND DONATION ENABLES COLLEGE TO PLAN FOR FUTURE GROWTH

When Dr. Afsar Waraich began thinking about donating 20 acres of land located in Graniteville, his first thought for the beneficiary was Aiken Technical College.

“I believe the best way to serve my community is to provide the best healthcare possible and to support educational institutions in my community,” said Dr. Waraich, who has been practicing gastroenterology in the Aiken area since 2003. “ATC provides educational opportunities close to

home and is a tremendous resource for employers, especially in healthcare. My practice has benefited from this resource.”

Dr. Waraich donated 20 acres of undeveloped land to the College, which sat adjacent to the College’s property line. The donation helps situate the College for future development and growth, said ATC President Dr. Forest E. Mahan.

“We are thankful to Dr. Waraich for his support and for his generosity,” he said. “In 2018, we will focus on creating a new master plan envisioning what the College should look like in 10 to 20 years. This donation will enable us to further develop the College campus to serve our students, employees, and community.”

“I believe the best way to serve my community is to provide the best healthcare possible and to support educational institutions in my community.”

-Dr. Afsar Waraich

NEW EQUIPMENT ENHANCES STUDENTS' EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES



Aiken Technical College programs rely on industry-standard, up-to-date equipment to prepare students for their future career field.

Much of the equipment is costly, but thanks to the support of donations from business and industry and funding from the state legislature, the College is able to provide an enriching educational environment.

In 2017, the S.C. state legislature provided \$750,000 in funding for the purchase of equipment for STEM-related programs.

Simulators, learning devices and respective upgrades were purchased for health sciences programs including SimBaby upgrades for Nursing; a crisis manikin for Emergency Medical Services; a radiology simulator and Wounded Willy phantom for Radiologic Technology; and a dialysis machine for Patient Care Assisting.



Equipment purchased for technical education programs included rigging and piping learning systems and a programmable logic controller troubleshooting system for Industrial Maintenance; a thermal imager for HVAC; and a MV saw for Welding.

COMMUNITY, BUSINESS LEADERS APPOINTED TO COLLEGE'S GOVERNING BOARD

The Aiken County Commission for Technical and Comprehensive Education welcomed four new members in 2017. The Commission is the governing board for Aiken Technical College.



Teresa Haas, ex-officio: Haas is the Director of Government and Community Relations for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. She is a member of the Aiken County Commission on Higher Education, past president of the Aiken Women's Heart

Board, member of the Child Advocacy Center's 100 Women, past chair of the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, past member of the Aiken County United Way campaign cabinet, and former board member of the Aiken Center for the Arts.



Monica Key: Key is the Senior Human Resources Section Leader and Community Relations Manager with Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations PSR Plant. She serves on several organization boards in the area including the USC Aiken Part-

nership Board, the American Red Cross, and The Family Y of Aiken. She has also served on the SC Ethics Reform Commission and as past chair of the North Augusta Chamber of Commerce and Public Education Partners organizations.



Daniel Lloyd, Jr.: Lloyd is a professional whose career included over 40 years of human resources experience in industries throughout Aiken County. His most recent employment was at the Savannah River Site where he worked for more than 25

years. The Lloyd-Kennedy Charter School/Aiken Performing Arts Academy located in Aiken was named in his honor for his commitment to education.



Stuart MacVean: MacVean is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions. He is the charter chair of the CSRA American Heart Association Board and a member of the USC Aiken Partnership Board. He has previously

served with Public Education Partners, the American Heart Association Heart Walk executive leadership team, and the United Way of Aiken County.

AIKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND AREA ORGANIZATIONS PARTNER TO BUILD REGION'S WORKFORCE

A partnership with area employers, staffing agencies, non-profits and the S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) is helping Aiken Technical College connect with South Carolina residents and provide them with tools to gain successful employment within the region's manufacturing industry.

The College received a \$100,000 Priority Populations Grant from SCDEW to provide programming for under- and unemployed persons; individuals with disabilities; and out-of-school youth. Those who meet the programs' criteria may elect to enroll in the College's material handler or ATC Manufacturing Certified continuing education courses.

"The Priority Populations Grant, provided by the Department of Employment and Workforce, is a tremendous benefit to area citizens with barriers searching for employment in the manufacturing sector. This grant provides full funding to those students who qualify," said Dr. Steven F. Simmons, Dean of Business, Computer Technology, and Training at ATC.

Organizations that have partnered with the College to connect with area residents and/or provide interviewing opportunities include: Lower Savannah Council of Governments-WIOA, S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation, and Aiken County Adult Education.



The material handler course covers topics such as warehouse operations and equipment. The ATC Manufacturing Certification course includes training in manufacturing processes and production. Both courses prepare students for entry-level positions.

Since receipt of the grant, completers have found employment with companies such as ASCO Valve, FPL Food, Hubbell Power Systems, Carlstar Group, Aiken Staffing, WSI, Aiken Personnel Services, and Owens Corning.

CAMPUS COMMUNITY JOIN EFFORTS TO BENEFIT LOCAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Aiken Technical College believes in supporting the community in which it serves and many of its students reside.

Each year, campaigns led by our faculty, staff and students aim to help build awareness, funding and support for local nonprofit organizations.

In 2017, the College raised more than \$3,250 for the American Heart Association through several on-campus fundraisers and participation in the annual CSRA Heart Walk.

In fall 2017, more than \$5,000 was collected for the United Way of Aiken County. The campaign was led by a committee of faculty, staff and students who hosted a variety of activities to raise funds.

Food and supply drives were also held for various organizations and natural disaster response efforts, bringing together both the College and community to help others. Water and supply drives were held for those impacted by hurricanes in Florida in September of 2017. More than 50 pounds of non-perishable food was collected along with more than 135 cases of water.



COLLEGE RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICES TO STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES



Aiken Technical College received recognitions for its services and initiatives in 2017, garnering local, state and national honors.

The College was voted the "Best Place to Further Your Education" by readers of *The Aiken Standard* in its annual Aiken's Choice contest. The College's Career Services department was the runner-up in the "Best Employment Agency" category.



The College is dedicated to serving the area's military members, veterans and their family members. Some of the services offered include a dedicated Veteran Affairs enrollment advisor, scholarships and sponsorships to help students with educational and cost-of-living expenses, opportunities to engage with area employers, and a variety of support services. The College was included among the *Military Times* Best: Colleges 2018 list (formerly known as Best for Vets). It also received the recognition for 2017.



The College was also the winner of the higher education category in the PEBA Partners program. The program recognizes agencies that participate in the S.C. Public Employee Benefit Authority who have demonstrated efforts to foster a healthier workplace. Activities have included a campus scavenger hunt; walking sessions with the College President; free health screenings; workshops on topics such as nutrition, anxiety and stress management, and exercise; and distribution of health-centric items to employees.

THREE ATC EMPLOYEES AMONG 'EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR'

Three Aiken Technical College employees were recognized among the 2016-17 S.C. Technical Education Association's (SCTEA) Educators of the Year award recipients.

Each technical college in South Carolina selects its faculty, staff and administrator of the year honorees.

Bruce McCord was recognized as the SCTEA Faculty Member of the Year for ATC. At the time of the award, he served as the department chair for history, social sciences and public service. He is currently the Director of the Teaching & Technology Department. He also received the SCTEA honor in 2009 and was recognized as the

College's Faculty Member of the Year in 2010 (an award separate from SCTEA).

McCord served as the College's Critical Thinking Quality Enhancement Plan committee lead and held the role of ATC Faculty Assembly President from 2009 to 2011 and again in 2016.

Crystal Ratliff, the Director of Academic Success and Retention, was recognized as the SCTEA Staff Member of the Year for ATC. She manages the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence and the Academic Success Center. She is also involved with the College's transitional studies program.

Ratliff served as the secretary for the South Carolina Technical College System's Tutoring Peer Group and is involved in various community efforts.

Athena Freeman was recognized as the SCTEA Administrator of the Year for ATC. Freeman, the Operations Manager for the Training & Business Development Department, also received the award in 2011.

She served as the College's 2016 United Way campaign committee chair and is involved in several community efforts.



FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR EFFORTS, DEDICATION TO COLLEGE

Aiken Technical College recognizes a faculty and staff member each year during the annual Commencement ceremonies.

The 2017 Faculty Member of the Year was Steve White, Business Instructor, who is described as someone who goes “over and beyond” for his students and thinks outside of the box. As an ATC alumnus, White is also an avid advocate for the College and opportunities it provides for students. He made an impact in the ATC Foundation’s annual Family Giving Campaign, helping it achieve 100 percent participation from employees.



The 2017 Staff Member of the Year was Standly Dicks, the Supply, Shipping & Receiving Specialist. He is a familiar face on campus and is known for being friendly and courteous to all. As a dedicated and diligent employee, he stays abreast of the latest government mailing and postal laws and guidelines and takes the initiative to find ways to increase operational efficiency.



To be considered for either award, the nominee must be employed with the College for at least three years, have not received the award within the past seven years, and actively support and promote the College’s mission and vision. The Faculty of the Year award recognizes faculty members who have provide quality instruction and are involved in College or community activities. The Staff Member of the Year award honors staff members who have demonstrated excellence in their work performance and have been instrumental in creating operational efficiencies in their department or division.



PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE

POST ChalleNGe: The POST ChalleNGe program provided a pathway to a brighter future for more than 50 youth from around South Carolina in 2017 through the POST ChalleNGe program. Cadets successfully completing the program earned certificates of applied science in one of five areas: basic tower and wireless installation, computer technology, patient care assisting, production technology, or welding. Since its inception in January 2016, nearly 100 youth have successfully completed the program.

The program is a collaborative effort led by the S.C. Army National Guard along with Aiken Technical College, Clemson University's Youth Learning Institute Camp Long facility, Lower Savannah Council of Governments' Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, and Aiken County Public School District.

Youth Forum: Aiken Technical College hosts a youth forum annually in partnership with the Lower Savannah Council of Governments, S.C. Department of Commerce, Regional Workforce Advisors South Carolina, and S.C. Works-Lower.

Graduating seniors from Aiken and Barnwell counties who have not developed a plan for after high school are invited to attend to learn about the career pathways available, to attend to learn about available career pathways and to interact with representatives from area business and industry.



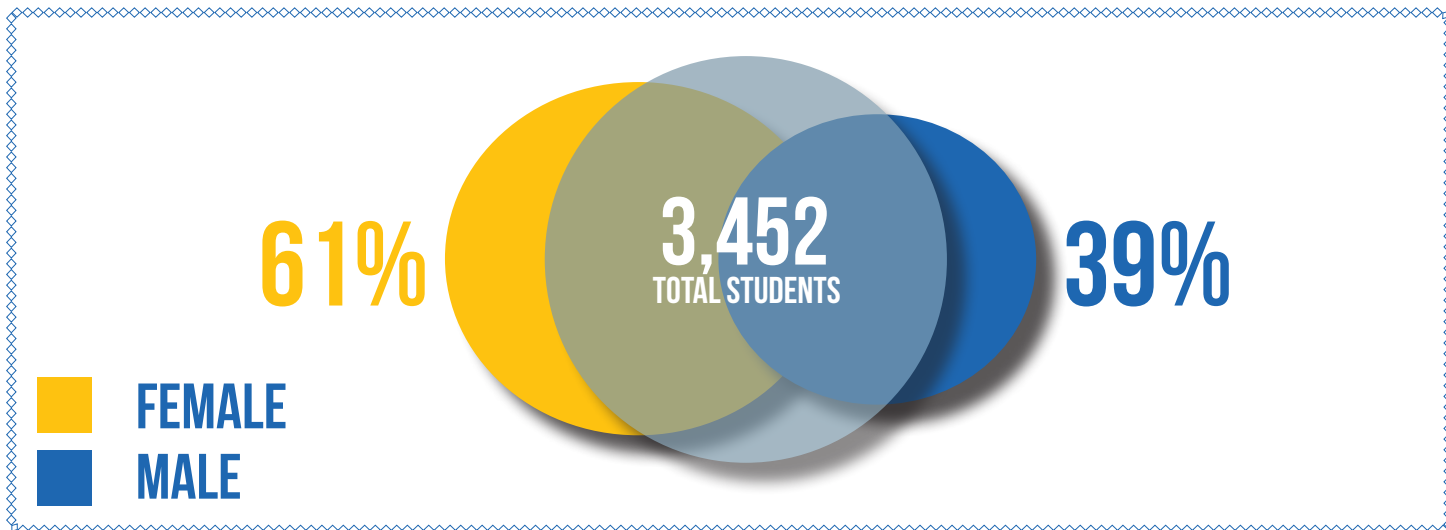


COLLEGE DATA

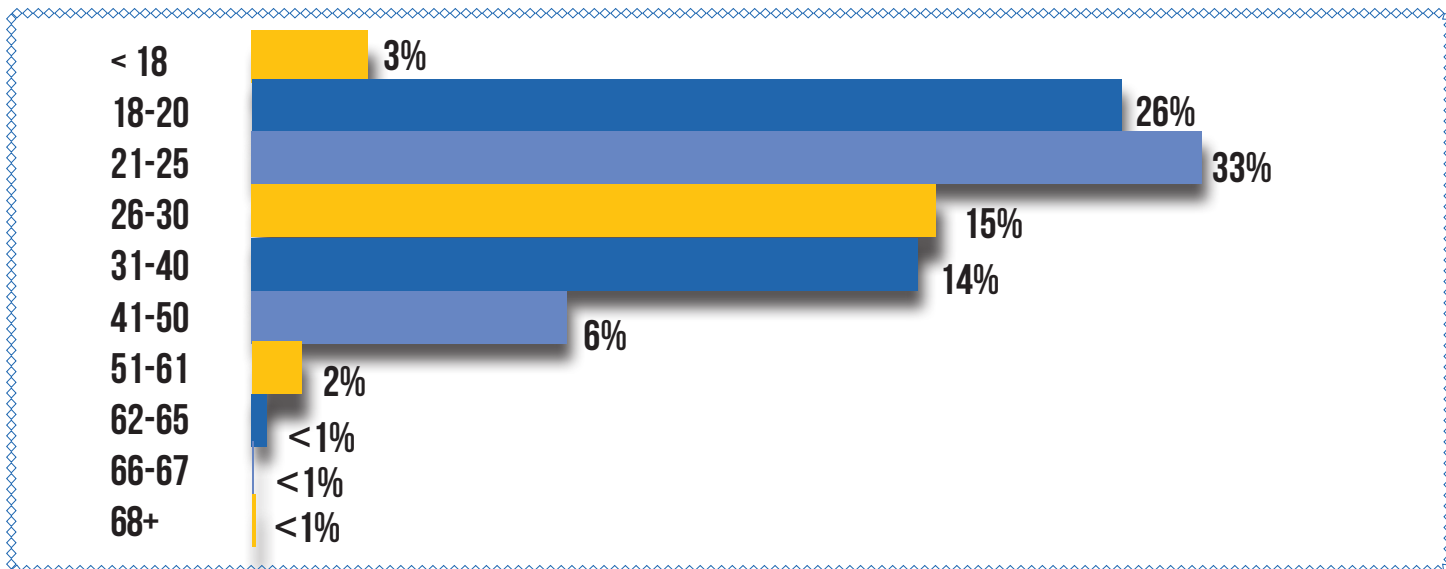
STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS*

*INFORMATION PRESENTED ON THESE PAGES IS BASED ON FALL 2016 THROUGH SUMMER 2017 ENROLLMENT

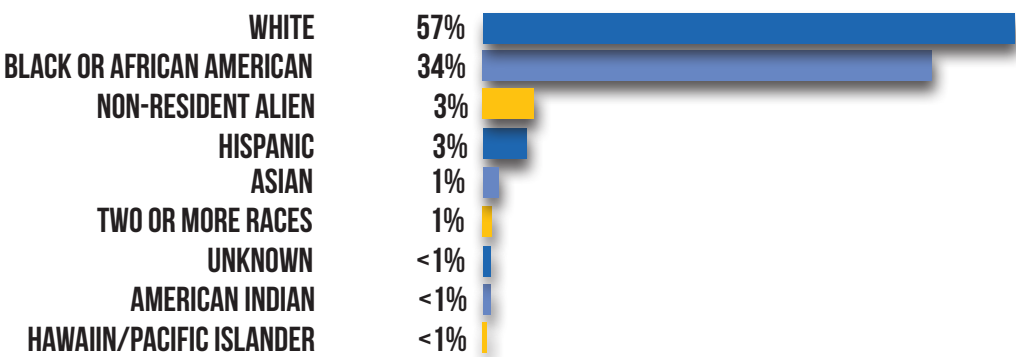
STUDENT GENDER



AGE RANGE



RACE/ETHNICITY



GRADUATES



232 DEGREES

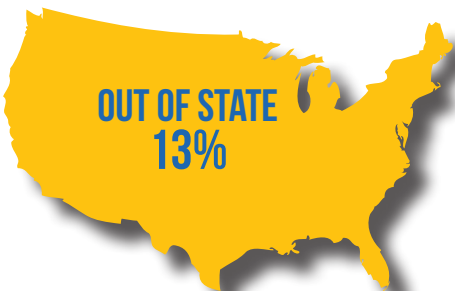
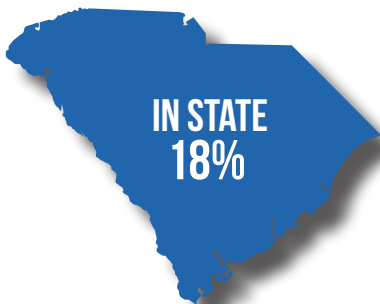
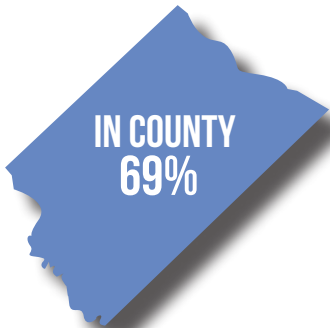


40 DIPLOMAS

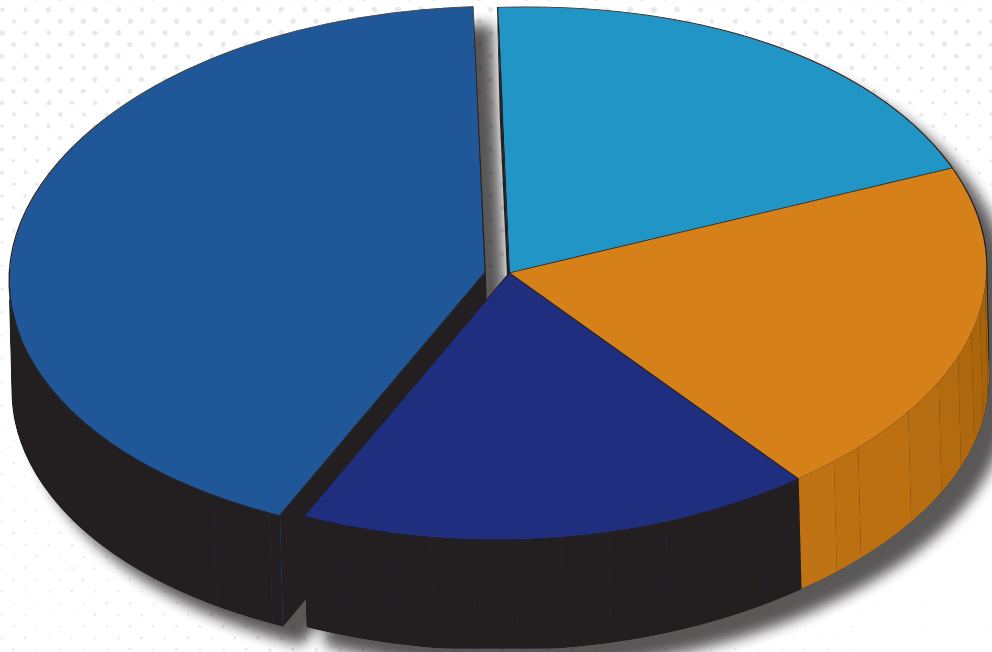


183 CERTIFICATES

RESIDENCY



COLLEGE FINANCIALS



- Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows \$19,838,990
- Total Expenses \$22,418,469
- Total Revenues \$23,553,951
- Total Assets and Deferred Outflows \$48,333,927



ATC FOUNDATION

LETTER FROM THE FOUNDATION DIRECTOR



On November 10, 1977, seven men had the foresight to see how Aiken Technical College would make a difference to individuals and the community by establishing and incorporating the Aiken Technical College Foundation. As the articles of incorporation state, “the purpose of the said proposed Corporation is to establish a foundation for the benefit and support of education at Aiken Technical College and to provide financial assistance to Aiken Technical College (or) any of its students.”

We owe a debt of gratitude to those men. Little did they know that their vision would become a vital part of the College to this day. This year, the Foundation assisted more than 166 students with scholarships totaling over \$120,000. The Foundation allocates \$25,000 each year for professional development for faculty and staff. From 2000 to 2015, the Foundation assisted in funding four new buildings and purchasing state-of-the-art equipment for those buildings.

Thank you to: Charles R. Merritt, Art L. Jones, F. Wheeler Caney, George S. Pardue, Ron F. Slandak, Joe W. DeVore, and Ashley J. Little.

Now, 40 years later, I cannot believe that I have spent the last 18 years as the Director of the Aiken Technical College Foundation. I remember the day I started here and how excited I was to learn about the College, to join the community and to make a difference in the lives of students at ATC.

It all starts with building relationships and nurturing those relationships. It requires honesty, caring and listening. Sharing stories that come from the heart can lead to great things for our students. From the loss of a loved one and wanting to keep their memory alive by establishing a scholarship or endowment to manufacturing companies looking to ATC to help build their workforce, we are making connections and an impact in the Central Savannah River Area.

Your donation to the ATC Foundation means you are making an investment in our students and the College. Remember, the best investment you can make is in education.

For ATC,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Commons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" being more prominent than the last name "Commons".

Mary Commons,
Director, ATC Foundation

STUDENTS, COLLEGE BENEFIT FROM BUSINESS & INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS

The Fluor Foundation – Fluor Military Support Coalition contributed \$25,000 to the ATC Foundation in support of student veterans, military students and National Guard personnel pursuing an education at ATC. These funds will build upon the success of the Fluor Foundation’s 2016 contribution, which helped fund 22 student veteran scholarships. These scholarships are vital to help fund living expenses not covered by federal education benefits. Fluor has played a critical role in our veteran students being able to remain in college through their scholarship program.



Through AT&T Aspire, AT&T is investing in our students today to prepare them for success tomorrow. AT&T donated \$7,500 to the Aiken Early College Program at Midland Valley High School. This program enables rising sophomore high school students to start taking college courses so they can graduate with their high school diploma and an associate degree from Aiken Technical College at the same time.

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation invested \$5,000 in the College’s Transitional Studies courses. These classes are for students who are underprepared for the rigors of college study and must complete transitional courses to enhance their math, reading and writing skills. These classes are offered in advance of their actual program of study and have proven most helpful in bolstering students’ overall academic performance.

Savannah River Remediation donated \$5,000 to the ATC Foundation for equipment and supplies for the Radiation Protection Technology Program at ATC. This equipment will enhance the teaching and learning environment of the program.

Wells Fargo provided the ATC Foundation with \$3,000 to purchase equipment for job training in the Patient Care Assisting program. This program provides students with the knowledge and skills to prepare them for a position as a Patient Care Assistant in assisted living and nursing homes throughout the CSRA.

ATC FOUNDATION REACHES GIVING MILESTONE



The Aiken Technical College Foundation reached a new milestone in its annual Family Giving Campaign in 2017, garnering 100 percent participation from full-time faculty and staff.

The ATC Foundation goal for Family Giving was 90 percent participation. Because employees met that goal, the Foundation hosted a pizza party for ATC employees April 13 in the campus gym. During the celebration, ATC Foundation Director Mary Commons announced – with confetti and streamers – that the final total was 100 percent participation.

“This is the first time we’ve reached 100 percent participation since I started working with the college in 1999,” Commons said. “I’ve researched previous Foundation history, and I believe this is the first time in college history that we’ve achieved that number.”





The ATC Foundation celebrated another milestone in 2017. "This is the Foundation's 40th anniversary, so this is a great year for us to reach 100 percent participation," Commons said.

While the goal was to have all faculty and staff participate, the Family Giving Campaign also increased its giving over the previous year. Employees donated \$12,059 in 2017, surpassing the 2016 total of \$8,840 by 36 percent.

All money raised in the Family Giving Campaign goes to student scholarships. Since 1999, faculty and staff have contributed more than \$250,000 to the Foundation and its scholarship programs.

During the 2016-2017 academic year, the Foundation awarded 166 scholarships worth \$120,000.

The 2017 Family Giving Campaign theme was "Planting Seeds for Student Success." In keeping with that theme, colorful paper flowers around campus showed faculty and staff names as they made donations.



"This is the first time in college history that we've achieved that number."

-Mary Commons

NEW FUNDRAISER RAISES \$14,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS



The Aiken Technical College Foundation hosted The Giving Gala on October 6 at The Reserve Club at Woodside Plantation. Proceeds of more than \$14,000 went to student scholarships.

The theme for the evening was “Celebrating 40 Years of Friend and Fund Raising.” The ATC Foundation was formed in 1977 to acquire and manage resources to benefit the mission and goals of the College and to strengthen community relationships.

The inaugural event drew nearly 200 guests for cocktails, heavy hors d’oeuvres, desserts, a silent auction and entertainment by Transit, a four-member a cappella group.

Sponsors for The Giving Gala included Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (Presenting Sponsor); CB&I AREVA MOX Services (Entertainment Sponsor); Savannah River Remediation (Festive Fare Sponsor); SCE&G (Reception Sponsor); Economic Development Partnership (Dessert and Coffee Bar Sponsor); Aiken Standard (Media Sponsor); and Hampton Inn Aiken (Accommodations Sponsor). There were also five decades sponsors – Stewart and Associates (1970s); Aiken Regional Medical Centers (1980s); Security Federal Bank (1990s); Woodside Aiken Realty, Pat Cuning President (2000s); and Aiken Electric Cooperative (2010s).

The Giving Gala replaced “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner,” which ended a successful 10-year run in 2016.



IMPACT OF GIVING

**Name:**

Samantha Langley

Major/Program of Study:

Nursing

Scholarship:

Ashley J. Little Endowment Scholarship

Expected Graduation Date:

December 2018

Why did you decide to attend ATC?

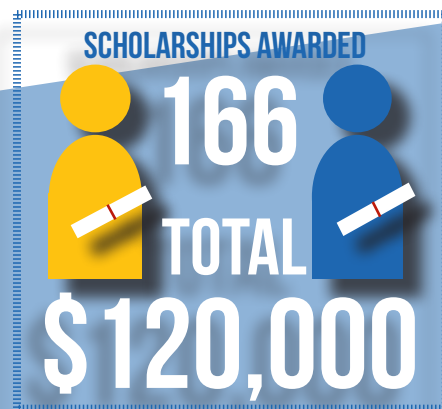
"It's closer to home and more affordable. Plus, I knew people who had been through the nursing program at ATC and enjoyed it. They said the technical college program was more hands-on, and I wanted to get that hands-on experience."

What does it mean to you to be awarded this scholarship?

"I cannot begin to express my gratitude for this amazing scholarship. I am in the nursing program and even though I have two jobs, I still would have struggled financially without this scholarship. We all know how expensive just books can get. Especially in the nursing program, where you need at least ten different books. I will only have to pay a couple hundred instead of a couple thousand now. I am very thankful."

What are your future career goals?

"I want to be a NICU nurse."



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Ashley J. Little Endowment Scholarship: Samantha Langley

ATC Presidential Scholarships: Jewanda Blacks, Elena Gallegos, Earnest Key, Timothy Pennington, Jennifer Ross, Raynee Spires and Steven Walling

ATC Within Reach Scholarship Sponsored by Aiken Electric Cooperative: Haven Huckabee

ATC Within Reach Scholarships Sponsored by ASCO Numatics: Kayla Rikard and Timothy Toole

ATC Within Reach Scholarship Sponsored by BAE Systems: Karson King and Lizbeth Zambrano

ATC Within Reach Scholarships Sponsored by BWX Technologies: Quenton Washington, Kimberly White and Kaycee Williams

ATC Within Reach Scholarship Sponsored by Dan Peterman: Allyssa McGregor

ATC Within Reach Scholarships Sponsored by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions: Caleb Ashley, Breanna Burgess, Caroline Canady, Ridge Cantrell, Anthony Chiera, Madelyn Cooper, Payton Craig, Sara Emerson, Yomalli Gaona and Lanndyn Greene

ATC Within Reach Scholarships Sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank: Wyatt Morris and Morgan Morton

Aiken County Home Builders Association Scholarship in Memory of Maurice Williams: Abel Elvira

Aiken Early College at Midland Valley High School (2016 Cohort): Kelly Berry, Kayla Hart, Clint Humphreys, Francesca Johnson, Trinity Kirby, Irvon Malcolm, Summerlin Morris, Christopher Randall, Carly Rivers, Abigail Ruff, Lauren Shoup, Michael Trock, William Walker, Jade Whitfield, Victorian Williams and Adriana Wood

Aiken Early College at Midland Valley High School (2017 Cohort): Casey Baker, Allison Bryant, Brandon Christmas, Liam Culp, Carson Evans, Danny Granade, Cole Grice, Courtney Holmes, Lakaila Johnson, Justen Judge, Amanda Khakee, Alexa Knight, Bobby Lin, Samantha Odom, Manshi Patel, Lilin Phillips, Zeke Proctor, Adrienne Prupis, Nalany Richardson, Tiffani Rowe, Sydney Saunders, Anna Regan Scott, Hannah Sloan, Mary Swygert, Trenton Taylor, Caroline Thompson, Parker Welsh, Megan Willing and Brian Wright

Aiken High School PTSO Scholarship: Tamei Hammond

Aiken Lions Club Scholarships: Brittany Bolin and Caroline Foss

Amelia Grace Mottel Memorial Nursing Scholarship: Hannah Henshaw

American Association of University Women Scholarships: Bryanna Baynham, Shirley Blume, Abigahil Camacho, Lauren Friday, Cinthia Gallegos, Makayla Goff, Maggie Hightower, Caroline Johnson, Caroline Phelps, Elizabeth Pittman, D'Lisha Scott and Daisylee Torres

ATC Book Scholarships: Juan Aquino, Alexandra Holland, Heather Meyer and Victoria Shekasteiband

Bridgestone Americas Scholarships: William Epperson, Bryon Herron and Shayn Price

Centerra-SRS Criminal Justice Scholarship: Alex Crawford

CNTA Scholarship: Christopher Bruce
D.A. Norton Endowment Scholarship: Matthew Golden
Donald Bleasdale Memorial Book Scholarship: Earl Bryant
Energy Solutions Engineering Technology Scholarships: Kevin Blystone, Seth Gfeller and Tony Hunt
Expanded Duty Dental Assisting Book Scholarships: Mercedes Dupeire and Kaley Googe
Fluor Military Coalition Grants: Dreshonda Burton, Robert Connelly, Vanessa Kelly, Sara Ladue, Zack Livingston, Andrew McCarty, James Priester, Mack Rutland, Imani Taylor and Derrick Wilson
George Dickey Endowment Scholarship: Manu Ganesh
Henry Pickens Cato II Endowment Scholarship: Stephanie Stewart
Hospital Auxiliary of Aiken County Dental Assisting Scholarship: Allison Oxendine
Hospital Auxiliary of Aiken County Nursing Scholarship: Rebecca Paschal
Indian Grove Baptist Church Scholarship: Mikaela Love
Industrial Maintenance Scholarship: Gage McIntosh
James Geer/Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship: Emily Perez
John D. Bryan Criminal Justice Scholarship: Billy Creech
Kimberly Canada Scholarships: Sierra Smith-Day and Carmelita Diaz Videtto
Marlin L. Knight Memorial Nursing Endowment Scholarship: Sara Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. William Kolosvary Scholarship: Shaniah Johnson
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Nuclear Suppliers Association Scholarships: Brandon Able, Hanna Barton and Cassandra Jennings
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Roland and Peggy Smith Scholarships: Kara Blackwell, Dylan Boyette, Adilene Elvira, Calista Justice, Makenzie Martin, Patrick Murphy, Cameron Paradise, Krista Paschall, Diego Villalobos and Matthew Wright
Ryberg Pre-Engineering Scholarships: Joseph Johnson and Joseph Alex Johnson
Sand River Woman's Club Scholarships: Buffy Duncan
Thomas Truitt Memorial Scholarship for Expanded Duty Dental Assisting: Margareth Rivas
Travis Miller Memorial Basic EMT Scholarship: Richard Roe
Vernon R. Ford High School Scholarships: RaShonda Bryant, Jaclyne Daniele Fulmer, Shanara Houston, Josephine Grace Tinkey, Sarah Wilkerson and Cecelia Williams
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Weldon Computer Technology Book Scholarship: Andrew Martin
Women of Woodside Scholarship: Carolyn Chester

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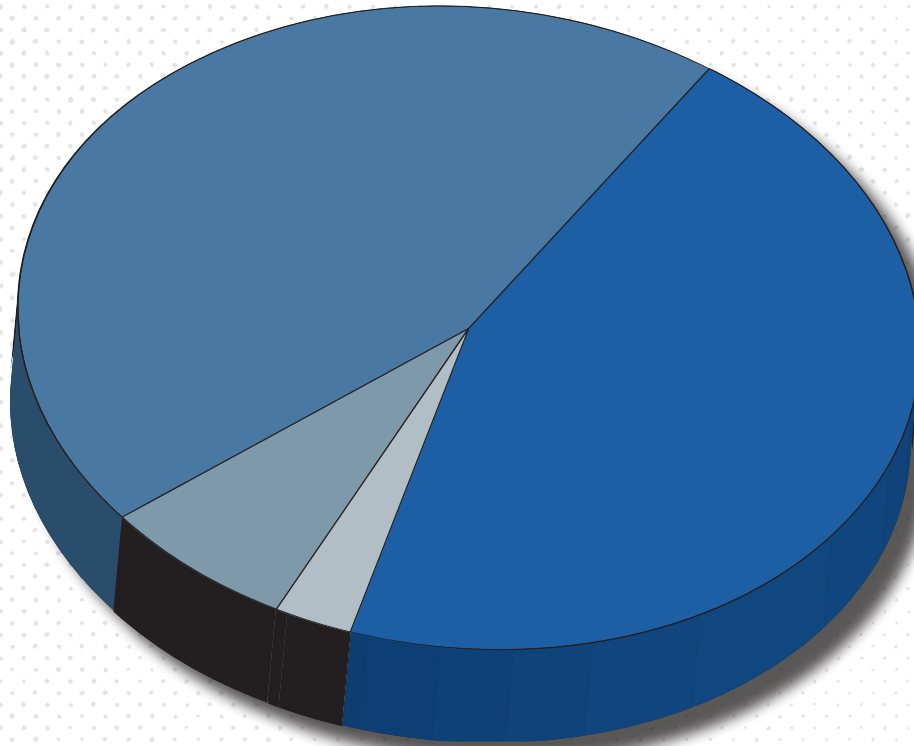
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Woodside Plantation Country Club

***“It all starts
with building
relationships
and nurturing
those relation-
ships.”***

-Mary Commons

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- Total Expenditures & Other Deductions \$355,064
- Total Revenue, Support and Reclassifications \$842,042
- Total Liabilities & Equity \$5,522,177
- Total Assets \$5,529,767



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