



Improving Our Lives Through Conservation: 2014-15 Annual Report



TRIANGLE LAND
CONSERVANCY

- The trails of Horton Grove Nature Preserve, Durham County -

Dear friends,

The hardworking staff, board, and supporters of Triangle Land Conservancy accomplished a lot this past year:

- completed five conservation projects,
- hosted over 40 outings on TLC preserves,
- launched a dynamic new event series, *Wild Ideas*, and
- built and improved over two miles of nature trails.

All of this could not have been done without the support and involvement of you - our members, volunteers, partners, and corporate supporters. We sincerely thank you.

The tremendous growth experienced by the Triangle in the past 30 years has fostered spectacular innovation, entrepreneurship, and development; but it has also increased pressure on our region's beautiful open spaces and critical natural resources. We are grateful to donors like you who support Triangle Land Conservancy's efforts to balance growth and conservation.

TLC's successes and accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2015 remind us why your support is so important:

Land Protection and Stewardship - TLC permanently conserved an additional 400 acres of wild and working lands; the total conserved since 1983 is now over 17,000 acres. We fulfilled our stewardship obligations by visiting all our easement properties (more than 80) during the year and by actively managing more than 4,000 acres owned by TLC, including our six public nature preserves. A comprehensive management plan was completed for Brumley Forest Nature Preserve in Orange County and work began on a similar plan for Walnut Hill Nature Preserve in Wake County. We received several grants at the end of June which allowed us to begin trail building and restoration work at Brumley this summer.

Catalyzing Community Action – In October 2014, we kicked off our *Wild Ideas* series, which brings together local experts and community members for interactive and fast-paced conversations about regional conservation issues and innovative solutions. Last fiscal year, the series brought together over 300 people to talk about local farms and food as well as getting outside; and this year, we're excited to offer three new *Wild Ideas* programs. In addition to these conversations, hundreds of individuals and business groups got their hands dirty volunteering at workdays held on TLC properties. Both the workdays and the *Wild Ideas* series engaged new, diverse audiences not just in learning, but also in finding practical ways to promote conservation in their communities.

Collaboration – Partnerships are so important that they are part of our updated mission statement. This year, collaborations new and old flourished, increasing the reach of TLC's mission across the Triangle while also connecting hundreds, if not thousands, of people to nature. We were honored to partner with other conservation groups including Eno River Association, Conservation Trust of NC, Ellerbe Creek Association, EarthShare NC, and many more nonprofit groups. New grants and volunteer help from the Wells Fargo Foundation, REI, Blue Cross Blue Shield NC, Great Outdoor Provision Company, and Merck totaled over \$130,000, supporting additional programming and improvements to our preserves. With the sharp decline in state funding for conservation, these collaborative efforts are even more important. They leverage resources and allow us to maintain our strong record of land protection and stewardship while increasing outreach to urban and suburban communities.

You - our generous members and supporters - are our most important partners! Again, we thank you.

Looking ahead to FY 2016, we intend to close several new land conservation projects. We kicked off a new Johnston County Farmland Protection Initiative, generously funded by the Holding Family and First Citizens Bank. Ecological restoration and trail work have also begun at Brumley Forest Nature Preserve in preparation for a grand opening in late 2016.

You're always invited to visit our preserves or join us at an event. We hope to offer over 50 events this year, including hikes, bird walks, art workshops, volunteer days, paddle trips, and more. You may have already attended one like the BioBlitz or a Full Moon hike. We are expanding our email and social media communications to help you stay up-to-date on opportunities to explore and support local conservation. Also, look for a fully updated, mobile-friendly website soon!

While we have achieved so much for the Triangle, there is still much to do, especially given the continued growth expected in the years ahead. Your generous support inspires our staff daily as we work to ensure the Triangle remains a great place to live, work, hike and play for generations to come.

Thank you so much,

John McAdams
Board Chair

Sandy Sweitzer
Executive Director

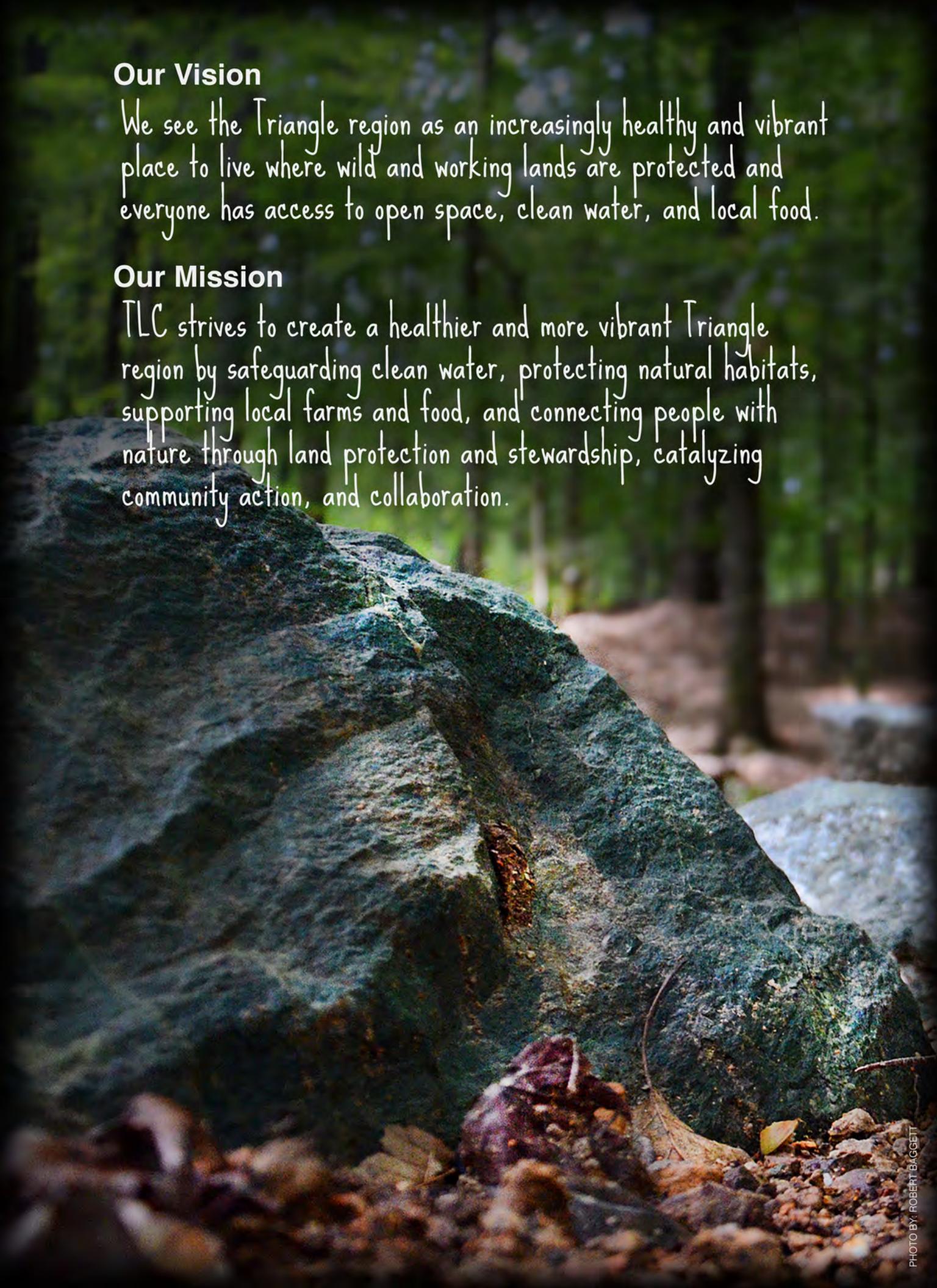


Our Vision

We see the Triangle region as an increasingly healthy and vibrant place to live where wild and working lands are protected and everyone has access to open space, clean water, and local food.

Our Mission

TLC strives to create a healthier and more vibrant Triangle region by safeguarding clean water, protecting natural habitats, supporting local farms and food, and connecting people with nature through land protection and stewardship, catalyzing community action, and collaboration.



35°43'37.9"N 78°12'28.8"W

Flower Hill Nature Preserve,

Johnston County



TLC began as a volunteer organization, and we could not have come this far without the support of our dedicated volunteers. There are numerous opportunities to help TLC save the places we love here in the Triangle.

Learn more about meaningful volunteerism @ triangleland.org/volunteer



VOLUNTEERS

200 Volunteers Gave Over 2,000 Hours

- Conservation Corps
- Duke Students
- Durham Academy Kids
- Earthshare Workday
- Fire Bugs
- Merck
- MLK Day of Service
- Office Helpers
- Project Build
- Qualcomm
- Raleigh Charter Kids
- Site Stewards



Volunteers built 10 new benches.

Beky Branagan, MLK Day Volunteer

"Our group cut the trail into the land. It's nice to be able to see what you have created. You can come back with your family and point to the pieces that you helped build. It ties you to the land."

Read more about Beky @
annualreport.triangleland.org



PHOTO BY SAM UPHURCH

36°08'32.2"N 78°50'45.1"W
**Horton Grove Nature Preserve,
Durham County**

STEWARDSHIP

Trails:

- 2 miles of new trails at Horton Grove Nature Preserve
- 0.25 mile trail reroute at Johnston Mill Nature Preserve

Monitoring:

- 69 easement property visits
- 46 owned property visits

Ecological Restoration:

- 100 acres of prescribed burns
at Horton Grove Nature Preserve



35°43'03.1"N 78°45'11.9"W

Swift Creek Bluffs Nature Preserve, Wake County

People conserve land to preserve it for wildlife and outdoor recreation; or to ensure its availability for sustainable farming and forestry; or to prevent flooding, absorb water and air pollution, and provide other ecosystem services; or to preserve scenic views or otherwise improve the quality of life in communities. Regardless of motive, the evidence is clear that **conservation delivers real and tremendously substantial economic, environmental, health, and other benefits to people.**

Learn more about land conservation @ triangleland.org/learn

PHOTO BY ROBERT BAGGITT

Joan Curry & Pam Timmons, participants in TLC's Hiking Challenge

"Pam and I saw zillions of jack-in-the-pulpits this morning. It was a great hike, as Johnston Mill always is." - Joan Curry, Hiking Challenge participant

Read more about Joan & Pam @ annualreport.triangleland.org



Volunteers and staff installed
40 new trail and parking signs
at TLC preserves.



35°59'44.0"N 79°03'15.0"W
**Johnston Mill Nature Preserve,
Orange County**

35°33'21.6"N 79°17'07.2"W

McIver Landing on the Deep River
Chatham/Lee Counties

PHOTO BY: CHRIS WHITTED

CONSERVATION

431 Acres Conserved Through 5 Projects

4.75 Miles of Stream Protected

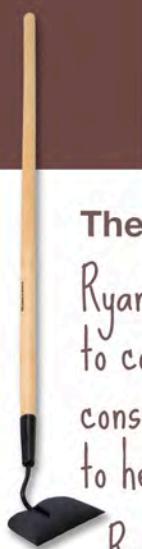


- Southview, 83 acres owned, Durham County, Neuse River Basin
- Horton Grove, 1 acre owned, Durham County, Neuse River Basin
- Bonlee-Tick Creek, 108-acre easement, Chatham County, Cape Fear River Basin
- Bonlee-Big Hill, 97-acre easement, Chatham County, Cape Fear River Basin
- Bonlee-Green Valley, 142-acre easement, Chatham County, Cape Fear River Basin

17,283 Acres Conserved Since 1983

Conserving a property is just the first step in protecting the land for future generations. **TLC is committed to upholding the land's conservation values in perpetuity - forever.** From monitoring visits to ecological restoration, caring for the land is an important part of our work each and every year.

Learn more about stewardship at triangleland.org/learn/stewardship



The Butler Family, Owners of Green Button Farm

Ryan explained, "We view this easement as a stepping stone to conserve more land. We have been trying to save money to conserve more land and it's wonderful that TLC has been able to help our smaller farm do that."

Read more about the Butlers @ annualreport.triangleland.org



Planted 2,000
Shortleaf Pine
trees and 300
native forbs.

PHOTO BY: CAROLINE GILMORE



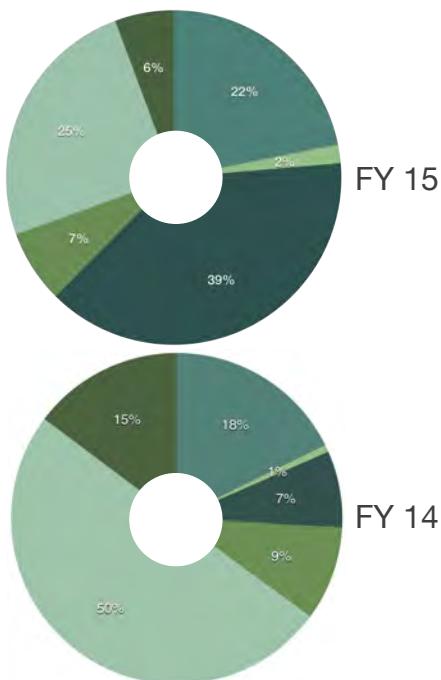
35°36'52.0"N 79°09'34.7"W

White Pines Nature Preserve,
Chatham County

2014 - 15 Annual Review of Financial Activity

Being fiscally responsible goes hand in hand with our land conservation efforts. Being good stewards of open spaces and working lands is how we give back and show our appreciation for our community and donor's generosity.

How We Are Funded



How We Are Funded		FY 2015	FY 2014
Land Acquisition Revenue*		1,768,524	5,394,219
Operating, Program, & Other Revenue			
● Individual Contributions		294,831	530,887
● Workplace Giving		24,354	21,027
● Foundation & Corporate Support		524,194	222,590
● Government Support		95,301	277,069
● Bequests (cash)**		335,837	1,505,615
● Other Income		76,733	442,202
Total Operating, Program, & Other Revenue		1,351,250	2,999,390
Total Revenues		3,119,775	8,393,608

* Includes grants for land acquisitions and gifts of land

** Restricted for the conservation, preservation, and stewardship of land

TLC receives contributions and government support for the purchase of conservation lands and easements. This restricted revenue is not available for TLC operations.

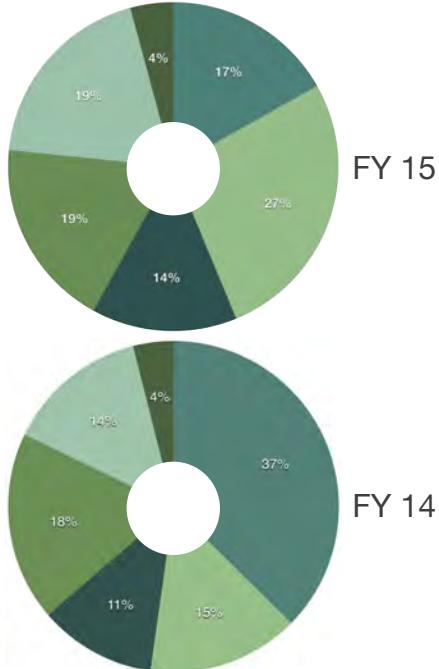
TLC's responsibility for conserved land does not end when it acquires that land, in fact, it is just the beginning.

TLC is responsible for stewarding and managing its land and easements to ensure their conservation values are protected in perpetuity.

TLC's endowed funds provide the long-term support for the stewardship of its conservation land and easements.

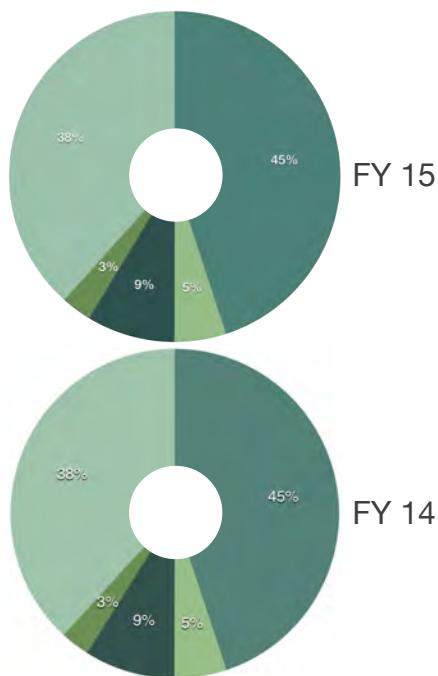
Funds held at community foundations are considered "agency funds" and are not reflected on TLC's balance sheet as an asset.

How We Use Those Funds



How We Use Those Funds		FY 2015	FY 2014
Operating, Program, & Other Expenses			
Conservation Strategies		223,520	621,594
Stewardship of Land		358,029	247,090
Communications & Public Outreach		189,207	190,210
Management & General		247,294	307,174
Fundraising & Development		255,164	231,457
Depreciation Expense		55,507	65,405
Total Expenses		1,328,721	1,662,930
Net Activity		1,791,054	6,730,678

Financial Position



Financial Position		FY 2015	FY 2014
Assets			
Conserved Land & Easements		89,957,128	88,187,128
Other Assets		10,082,093	10,118,093
Total Assets		100,040,054	98,305,221
Net Assets			
Unrestricted		17,270,222	17,541,419
Temporary Restricted		5,929,502	5,622,439
Permanently Restricted		76,755,958	75,000,771
Total Net Assets		99,955,682	98,164,629
Total Liabilities		84,372	140,592
Total Net Assets & Liabilities		100,040,054	98,305,221
Restricted Stewardship & Legal Defense Funds			
Total		2,404,346	2,254,358



tlc

TRIANGLE LAND CONSERVANCY

Land & Easement Donors

Elizabeth & Bobby Branch
Trust for Public Land

Bequests Received

Ruby Diane Burke
Melinda Meade

\$50,000+

Duke Energy Water Resources Fund of NC
Community Fund
Wells Fargo Foundation

River Society—White Pine Circle

\$25,000-\$49,999

Anonymous (1)
Pam & Brad Hemminger
Robert P. Holding Foundation
F.M. Kirby Foundation
Merck & Co., Inc.
REI (Recreational Equipment, Inc.)

River Society—Oak Circle

\$10,000-\$24,999

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of NC Foundation**
Earth Share NC Donors
Park Foundation, Inc.
Jana & Jason Scislowicz
Wind Point Foundation

River Society—Heron Circle

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Marcia & Frank Bennett
Dianne Bertsch
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Brenda & H. Keith Brodie
Mary & Jack Clayton
Clayton Family Charitable Fund of TCF*
Caroline & Danny Kadis
Ann C. & C. Hamilton Sloan Foundation
United Way of the Greater Triangle Donors

River Society—Kingfisher Circle

\$2,500-\$4,999

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CKay Briggs & Chris Hitt
Bonnie & James D. Cox
William C. Ethridge Foundation (Martha W. Dunnagan)
Adele & Willard Gidwitz Family Foundation
Great Outdoor Provision Company**
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SEPI Engineering & Construction, Inc.
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River Society

\$1,000-\$2,499

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Lois Ballen
Blanche and Zach Bacon
Becton Tannenbaum Fund of TCF*
Rachel & Alec Bethune
Gail Boyarsky & Walter Fowler
Deanne & Kirk Bradley
Leigh & William Brian
Irene & Alan Briggaman

We are grateful for everyone who gives time, land and money to support TLC. The following list recognizes contributions made during the last fiscal year (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015). This includes donors of restricted gifts and members who give unrestricted support. It does not include payments on pledges made and recognized in previous fiscal years. We have worked hard to ensure that names and gift levels are correct, but please contact the TLC Development office if you find an error or have a question or comment: 919-908-0050 or advancement@triangleland.org. (Please note that TLC does not get names of all workplace giving donors. Please let us know if you are giving this way so that we can thank you!)

Patty Briguglio

May & Cotton Bryan
Fran & D.R. Bryan
Libby & Lee Buck
Stacey & John Burkert
Julia & Andrew Burns
Kelley Carpenter & Alexander Massengale
Jeanne & Robert Chamberlin
Jennifer & Doug Daniels
Lisa Davenport & John Terborgh
David Davis
Josephine & Stuart Dorsett
Shirley Drechsel & Wayne Vaughn
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Francine & Don Stephenson

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Sandra Sweetzer & Rob Lamme

Hayden & Bud Taylor

Julian Tenney & Bill Reppy

Nancy & Larry Tombaugh

Trapani Family Charitable Fund of TCF*

Margaret & Dean Urban

Denise & J. Stephen Vanderwoude

Wellspring Fund of TCF*

Ashley & John Wilson

R. Peyton Woodson III

\$1,000-\$2,499

(Organizations)

Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.
Benefivity Community Impact Fund
Centrex Properties, Inc.

Clay Foundation - East

IBM Matching Grants Program
It's Your Turn, Inc
Rob Lamme & Associates
Lonerider Brewing Company**
Moving Box Entertainment
Prentice Foundation
Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC
Graces Jones Richardson Trust
S & C Harvest Foundation, Inc.
Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

\$500-\$999

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\$500-\$999
(Organizations)

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Just Give
Lockridge Community Association
Schwab Charitable Fund

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