Central Carolina Community Foundation is asking nonprofit leaders across the Midlands to share their perspective. The Midlands region includes Calhoun, Clarendon, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties.

As the executive director of your organization, your perspective is especially important. This survey is more comprehensive than those we have distributed in the past because it will help inform the Foundation's grantmaking priorities and strategic partnerships for at least the next five years, and potentially longer. This work is especially significant because we have not conducted a comprehensive community assessment in more than a decade.

We recognize that this survey requires a greater investment of your time, and we deeply value your thoughtful participation. Your insights will help us better understand the challenges, opportunities, and emerging needs facing nonprofit organizations and the communities they serve across the Midlands.

The survey should take approximately 14 minutes to complete and will close on June 3, 2026 at 11:59 PM. Participation is voluntary and will not impact your organization's ability to receive funding from the Foundation now or in the future.

Responses will be kept confidential and reported only in aggregate. While we may include illustrative quotes in reports, no identifying information will be shared. Please complete the survey only once for your organization.

As a token of appreciation, you may choose to enter a drawing at the end of the survey. Winners will receive one of 20 $50 Amazon gift cards.

Thank you for your leadership and for the vital role you play in serving our communities!

* 1. I confirm that I am the leader (Executive Director / Board Chair) of my organization, and no other organization representative will complete this survey.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 2. In which South Carolina counties does your organization have a physical location? (Select all that apply)

- [ ] Calhoun
- [ ] Clarendon
- [ ] Fairfield
- [ ] Kershaw
- [ ] Lee
- [ ] Lexington
- [ ] Newberry
- [ ] Orangeburg
- [ ] Richland
- [ ] Saluda
- [ ] Sumter
- [ ] Another county in South Carolina
- [ ] Not in South Carolina

3. Describe the communities your organization serves.

* 4. I am hopeful about the future of the communities our organization serves.

- ◯ Strongly disagree
- ◯ Disagree
- ◯ Neutral
- ◯ Agree
- ◯ Strongly agree
- ◯ Don’t know

5. What is going well in the communities you serve that should continue?

6. What are the most pressing needs for the communities you serve in the Midlands right now?

7. **Based on your experience serving residents of the Midlands**, how much do you agree with the following statements? Here the Midlands is defined as: Calhoun, Clarendon, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know
Residents can access the housing they need.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents can access the healthcare they need.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents can get to the places they need to go, including work, school, stores, and appointments.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents who care for children ages 0-18 have access to quality education.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents have enough income or resources to meet their basic needs.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Communities offer opportunities for residents from different backgrounds to come together.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents help shape decisions that affect their community.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Residents can easily find information about what is happening in their community.	○	○	○	○	○	○

8. What populations or geographic areas in the Midlands are currently experiencing the greatest unmet needs?

9. What emerging trends or concerns are you most worried about for the Midlands over the next 3–5 years?

Organizational Capacity and Sector Conditions

10. How much do you agree with the following statements **about nonprofits in the Midlands**? Here the Midlands is defined as: Calhoun, Clarendon, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lee, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg, Richland, Saluda, and Sumter counties.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know
The general public values nonprofits.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Nonprofits collaborate effectively with one another.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Local government and nonprofit organizations work well together.	○	○	○	○	○	○
Local funders understand the realities and needs facing nonprofit organizations.	○	○	○	○	○	○

11. How much do you agree with the following statements **about your nonprofit organization**?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Don't Know
Our organization has the staffing needed to meet current community needs.	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Our organization has the financial capacity needed to meet current community needs.	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Our organization has the partnerships needed to achieve our mission.	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

* 12. Compared to this time last year, how has the demand for your organization's services changed generally?

- ◯ Increased significantly
- ◯ Increased somewhat
- ◯ Stayed about the same
- ◯ Decreased somewhat
- ◯ Decreased significantly

* 13. Compared to this time last year, how has your organization's capacity to meet the demand for your services changed generally?

- ◯ Significantly increased capacity – serving many more people or offering new programs
- ◯ Somewhat increased capacity – modest increase in services or reach
- ◯ Stayed about the same
- ◯ Somewhat decreased capacity – modest decrease in services or reach
- ◯ Significantly decreased capacity – major cuts to programs, staff, or service levels

14. What types of financial support would most strengthen your organization over the next 3–5 years? (Select up to 2)

- [ ] General operating
- [ ] Capacity building
- [ ] Programs and services
- [ ] Project or initiatives specific
- [ ] Capital improvements or projects
- [ ] Other (please specify)

* 15. Where would training, technical assistance, or targeted funding most strengthen your organization over the next 3–5 years? (Select up to 3)

- [ ] Strategic planning
- [ ] Board development
- [ ] Fundraising
- [ ] Human resources
- [ ] Volunteers
- [ ] Technology
- [ ] AI
- [ ] Data and evaluation
- [ ] Communications and marketing
- [ ] Partnerships
- [ ] Leadership development
- [ ] Advocacy
- [ ] Other (please specify)

16. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Governance and Leadership**
Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Board governance, oversight, and engagement	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Strategic planning and organizational goal setting	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Leadership and organizational decision-making	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

17. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Staff, Volunteers, and Organizational Culture**

Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Human resources and personnel practices	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Organizational culture and workplace environment	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Volunteer recruitment, training, and support	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Volunteer capacity to support programs and services	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

18. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Financial Management and Fund Development**

Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Financial management and oversight	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Long-term financial sustainability	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Fundraising strategy and planning	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Fund development staffing, systems, and expertise	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Relationships with donors, funders, and supporters	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Revenue diversification	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

19. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Programs and Learning**

Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Alignment between programs and community needs	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Alignment with best practices or evidence-based approaches	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Use of data to design and/or implement programs	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Community engagement and inclusion in program design and/or implementation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Program evaluation and outcomes measurement	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Use of data and feedback to improve programs and services	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

20. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Communications and External Engagement**

Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Communication with the communities we serve	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Communication of organizational impact and outcomes	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Communications capacity or expertise	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Community visibility, trust, and reputation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

21. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Technology Infrastructure**
Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Hardware (i.e., physical devices)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Software or cloud-based tools	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
People and knowledge to support implementation	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

22. **Organizational Capacity and Best Practices: Facilities**

Please rate your organization’s current level of strength for the following practices.

	Significant Challenge	Area Needing Improvement	Mixed / Uneven	Moderate Strength	Major Strength	N/A
Physical space to meet our organization’s mission and needs	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Physical space that is acceptable to the communities we serve	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

23. Please use this space to share any additional comments about the Midlands, your organization, or how Central Carolina Community Foundation can best support you.

Organizational and Leader Profile

* 24. Organization’s primary service category

- ◯ Animal Welfare
- ◯ Arts & Culture
- ◯ Community Improvement
- ◯ Economic Development
- ◯ Education & Scholarships
- ◯ Environment
- ◯ Faith-based
- ◯ Health & Wellbeing
- ◯ Human Services
- ◯ Veterans & Military
- ◯ Youth Development

25. I am the founder of this organization.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

26. When was the organization founded?

- ◯ Less than 2 years ago
- ◯ 2–5 years ago
- ◯ 6–10 years ago
- ◯ More than 10 years ago

27. Organization’s annual operating budget

- ◯ Under $55K
- ◯ $55,000 - $499,999
- ◯ $500,000 or more

28. Organization’s number of full-time equivalent staff

- ◯ 0
- ◯ 1–3
- ◯ 4–10
- ◯ 11–25
- ◯ 26+

29. Years in current leadership role

- ◯ Less than 2 years
- ◯ 2–5 years
- ◯ 6–10 years
- ◯ More than 10 years

* 30. Does your organization have a nonprofit fund at Central Carolina Community Foundation?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 31. Would you be interested in learning more about nonprofit funds at Central Carolina Community Foundation?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

* 32. Your organization name

This will not be tied to your other responses. It will be shared with our Advancement Team to follow up with you about your interest in learning more about nonprofit funds.

* 33. Your organization name

This will not be tied to your other responses. It will be shared with our Advancement Team to tailor your fundholder experience.

34. What types of engagement from the Foundation would be most valuable to your organization? (Select all that apply)

- [ ] Targeted training opportunities with other nonprofit fundholders
- [ ] Networking with other nonprofits
- [ ] One-on-one check-ins between my organization and Foundation leadership
- [ ] Check-in with the Foundation’s investment firm
- [ ] Community insights / updates
- [ ] Other (please specify)

35. Please use this space to share how Central Carolina Community Foundation can support or engage with your organization as a nonprofit fundholder?

* 36. Would you like to enter a drawing for one of 20 $50 Amazon gift cards?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Provide your contact information to enter the drawing for one of 100 $25 Amazon gift cards. This contact information will only be used for the purposes of sending the incentive. It will not be tied to your previous responses.

* 37. Your name

First name

Last name

* 38. Your email address

Email address

* 39. Would you be interested in participating in a follow-up focus group to dig deeper into the survey results? People who take part in the focus group will be paid for their time and will be notified in early June if they have been invited to participate.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Provide your contact information, so we can follow up with you about participating in a focus group. This contact information will only be tied to the optional demographic information for purposes of focus group invitations from our facilitator, GOODSTOCK Consulting.

* 40. Your name

First name

Last name

* 41. Your email address

Email address

* 42. Your phone number

Country code

Phone number +1

43. Preferred method of contact (select one)

If you select text message, you consent to us contacting you this way. Message and data rates may apply.

- ◯ Email
- ◯ Text message
- ◯ Phone call