

J. MARION SIMS  
*Foundation*

# PERSPECTIVES

## Board of Trustees

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## Foundation Awards \$1.5 Million in Grants

The J. Marion Sims Foundation, Inc. has made awards totaling approximately \$1.5 million to 10 different community organizations in its Adult Literacy and Responsive Grants programs.

The foundation awarded the following grants in its Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Initiative:

- **Brooklyn Springs Elementary School**, \$61,237 two-year challenge grant for its "Home Literacy Trail" family literacy program.
- **Christian Services of Lancaster**, \$47,246 two-year challenge grant for its "Lit-up: Up With Literacy and Basic Skills" workplace literacy program.
- **Housing Authority of Lancaster**, \$101,208

Responsive grant awards were made to:

- **Chester County School District**, \$40,830 for one year for its "Save our Students (SOS)" program at Great Falls Middle School and Great Falls High School.
- **HOPE in Lancaster**, \$465,000 for one year for its "Helping Those in Crisis" program.
- **KARE (Kershaw Area Resource Exchange)**, \$138,000 for one year for its "Crisis Assistance 2011-2012" program.
- **Lancaster County School District**, \$67,000 for one year for its "Swimming and Water Safety" program.
- **University of South Carolina Lancaster**, \$64,660 for one year for its "Project Access"

Robert T. Hobley, R.N.M.

Marvin L. Starks

### Staff

James T. Morton  
*President*

E. Brown Crenshaw, Jr., CPA  
*Vice President,  
Finance & Administration*

Mary D. Henderson, Ph. D.  
*Program Officer for  
Special Initiatives*

Holly C. Furr  
*Program Officer for  
Responsive Grants*

Karen W. Ormand  
*Administrative Assistant*

J. Marion Sims Foundation, Inc.  
PO Box 818  
800 N. White Street  
Lancaster, SC 29721

Phone: 803.286.8772

Fax: 803.286.8774

- literacy program.
- **Housing Authority of Lancaster**, \$101,208 two-year challenge grant for its “Map to Success” family literacy program.
- **Carolinas Literacy Network** (formerly Lancaster Area Literacy Cooperative), \$536,391 for two years for its program of services to member area literacy programs and raising awareness of literacy in the community.

\$64,660 for one year for its “Project Access” program.

- **Winthrop University**, \$9,519 for one year for its “Non-Profit Management Course” for managers of area non-profit organizations.

The J. Marion Sims Foundation supports programs of prevention and education that enhance health and wellness in Lancaster County, SC and the communities of Great Falls and Fort Lawn.

## Teachers’ Pet Grant Program Gears Up for the New School Year

**During the 2010-11 school year, 183 teachers in Lancaster County, Great Falls and Fort Lawn won a total of \$84,606 for their classrooms!**

The Teachers’ Pet Grant Program was initiated in 2000 to encourage creative concepts that have the potential for enhancing community life through the education of local youth. Classroom teachers, media specialists, guidance counselors and other certified support staff (exclusive of after-school programs) serving students in Lancaster County, Fort Lawn and Great Falls are invited to apply. Awarding of grants will be based on merit, innovation, completeness, the enhancement of existing curriculum, and the availability of funding. Applicants may request **up to \$500 per project and are limited to one grant per school year.**



**Please visit our website [www.jmsims.org](http://www.jmsims.org) for more detailed information**

## A Word from the President

- James T. Morton, President



Hard as it is for me to believe, November marks the conclusion of 11 years as president of the foundation. It hardly seems anywhere near that long. Time flies when you're having fun, which I most assuredly have, and continue to do.

During that time it's been my privilege to work with a host of selfless and dedicated people, both paid and unpaid, who labor tirelessly to meet critical needs, address social ills, and improve the quality of life for the people of Lancaster County, Great Falls and Fort Lawn.

Over the course of those years I've also been afforded opportunities to observe a large number of non-for-profit organizations – some that run smoothly, some that are dysfunctional, and some that struggle to survive. The longer I do this job and the more I observe, the more convinced I become that the single most critical factor in the success or failure of an organization is the quality of its governance.

Good governance, of course, starts with the board. In the management course offered by Winthrop University for managers of not-for-profit organizations in our area, Winthrop professor Keith Benson and I lead the session on governance. As part of that session we ask class participants to name the five attributes of a quality board. They're offered here as a checklist to see how your organization measures up:

### Five Attributes of a Quality Board

- *Board members have a basic understanding of the organization's vision, mission, operations, and history.*
- *The board has a clear understanding of the organization's primary beneficiaries and the board's responsibility to them as moral owners of the organization.*
- *Board members ensure adequate resources for the long term.*
- *The work of the board is well organized and managed.*
- *The role of the board is clear and distinct from the role of staff. Board = Governance. Staff = Management.*

A good exercise for boards to engage in periodically is to review and assess their performance in these areas, discuss it, celebrate its successes and identify areas for improvement. An organization that gets governance right will find that most everything else will fall into place.

## Four Trustees Re-Elected to J. Marion Sims Foundation Board

Four community leaders from Lancaster and Chester counties have been re-elected to the Board of Trustees of the J. Marion Sims Foundation for terms of service beginning October 1.

**Phyllis B. Bunkley, Dr. R. Malcolm Edwards, Polly C. Jackson, and Pamela Y. Temple** were re-elected by the board to three-year terms.

**Mrs. Bunkley** is senior vice-president of human resources/training for Founders Federal Credit Union and is a graduate of Kings College and the Credit Union National Association's Human Resource Management School. Bunkley has served as chair of the board of directors for Communities in Schools of Lancaster County and has served on the board of directors of the Lancaster County Chamber of Commerce, and the Lancaster Educational Assistance Program (LEAP). She currently serves on the advisory board for Springs Memorial Hospital.

**Dr. Edwards, is** a Lancaster native who graduated from the University of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency training at Emory University in Atlanta and is a partner with The Eye and Laser Center. Edwards has served as both chief of staff and chief of surgery at Springs Memorial Hospital. A past president of the Lancaster Rotary Club, Edwards also has served in volunteer leadership capacities with CareNet and the Pregnancy Care Center in Lancaster.

**Mrs. Jackson,** a Lancaster native, earned a B.S. degree from Winston-Salem State University, an M.Ed degree from

the University of Hartford, and an M.Ed Specialist degree From Winthrop University. A retired educator, Mrs. Jackson's varied community activities include service as a member of the Lancaster County Council, including a term as its chair, and as chair of the board of directors of the South Carolina Association of Counties. She currently serves as a member of the Springs Memorial Hospital Advisory Board, as a member of the board of trustees for the Foundation for the Carolinas, the Lancaster County FEMA board and the board of the Catawba Regional Council of Governments..

**Mrs. Temple,** a native and current resident of Great Falls, graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. Employed with Springs Memorial Hospital for 19 years, she worked in various positions, including Director of Home Care and Hospice, and Director of Quality and Risk Management. She served on the Lancaster County Health and Wellness Commission and the Catawba Area Council on Aging's Advisory Council. She has actively volunteered for the Boy Scouts of America for a number of years and is currently serving as a volunteer for the Chester County School District.

### Foundation Officers

In addition to being re-elected as a trustee, Mrs. Bunkley also was re-elected to a second two-year term as treasurer of the foundation. Other officers continuing in their respective roles are Dr. Edwards, chairman, Robert K. Folks, vice chairman, and Mrs. Temple, secretary.

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