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***The Duke Endowment Awards \$18 million in Grants***

May 5, 2016 – Trustees of The Duke Endowment in Charlotte have approved more than \$18.2 million in 30 new grants to organizations in North Carolina and South Carolina.

The Duke Endowment is one of the largest private foundations in the Southeast. Its work in North Carolina and South Carolina focuses on four program areas: Child Care, Health Care, Higher Education and rural United Methodist churches.

The grants approved at the Trustees’ May meeting came through the Health Care program area. They include:

- \$979,000 to Mission Hospital in Asheville to expand dental care for children in western North Carolina
- \$425,000 to University of South Carolina Educational Foundation to support PASOs, a statewide health program for Latino families
- \$200,000 to CaroMont Health in Gastonia, N.C., to improve access to oral health care for children in Gaston, Iredell and Catawba counties
- \$1.5 million to Duke University Health System to develop a caregivers training program for the elderly.

The Endowment’s Health Care program area focuses on improved quality and safety of the delivery of health care, improved access to care, and enhanced prevention for improved population health. In North Carolina and South Carolina, candidates for grants include not-for-profit hospitals, academic health centers, area health education centers, select organizations in counties without an eligible hospital, and not-for-profit inpatient long-term care facilities.

The Endowment has distributed more than \$3.3 billion in grants since its inception in 1924. The foundation shares a name with Duke University and Duke Energy, but all are separate organizations.