



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Cole Foundation Helps Futures for Kids Motivate Richmond County Students

Richmond County, NC – July 25, 2007- Futures for Kids (F4K) received a little help motivating students to stay in school and prepare for the 21st century with a \$5000 grant from The Cole Foundation.

Based on the premise that kids with a plan are more successful in school, F4K uses business and community support to create an online career connection for students and help them understand the relationship between school and their future. Once students have completed an interest inventory that provides personalized career suggestions, they can use F4K to take the next step and begin exploring those careers, discovering which ones interest them and how to get there.

“Many of my students have really been inspired after finding a job in F4K and said now they know what they need to do to achieve the career,” said Sharon Johnson, Career Development Coordinator for Richmond County Schools. “We want to see all Richmond County students have the opportunity to experience this for themselves.”

With the support of The Cole Foundation, F4K will work to expand the program from its current focus on 8th graders to encourage all students to discover their passions and interests and how that translates into career choices. This gives students the resources and the motivation to take ownership of their future and achieve their goals.

“Our commitment is to helping students reach their full potential. We know that if we can connect our kids with real people and companies across the state, it will keep them in school and on a path toward a fulfilling career,” said Susan Milliken, F4K Executive Director.

Futures for Kids is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that was created to bridge the gap between the hopes and dreams of our students and the workforce development needs of our communities. As a public-private partnership, F4K represents a dynamic solution to a pressing need in our communities and hopes to continue expanding statewide with the support of the General Assembly and businesses in North Carolina. For more information or to volunteer as a Career Coach, please visit: www.f4k.org.

The Cole Foundation Endowment of Foundation For The Carolinas was established by the late Elizabeth S. Cole and her brother, the late Robert L. Cole, both life-long residents of Richmond County.

Foundation For The Carolinas is a nonprofit organization that serves donors, communities and a broad range of charitable purposes in North and South Carolina. With assets under management of approximately \$450 million, the Foundation encourages and makes possible philanthropic giving by individuals of all means to benefit their communities both now and in the future.

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