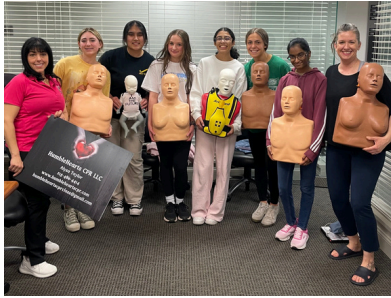
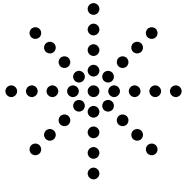


# BC Cares Educational Foundation



# 2025 Impact





BC Cares Educational Foundation has persevered and continues to serve the students of Bucks & Montgomery Counties. Our successful expansion has yielded a great deal of positive impact

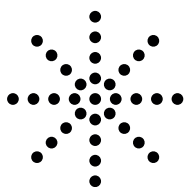
	Projects	Details & Outcomes
<b>\$50,000</b>	Direct Program Support	Bristol HS Drama Club, Brookwood El Garden, CBSD sponsorships, grants, workshops, certifications, volunteer opportunities, and facilitation of student-centric curriculum enhancements
<b>\$7,000</b>	Scholarships	Boomerang Scholarships, and Youth Council Scholarships to Well Deserving Bucks County Students
<b>1500+</b>	Students Directly Impacted	Leadership development, workshops, volunteer opportunities, youth musical performances and art competitions for Students in Bucks and Montgomery Counties



We couldn't have done it without you or your organization. The kids will appreciate this garden for years to come.

**-Ryan Bowen,  
Brookwood Elementary STEAM Teacher**





# Challenges Overcome

For the last three years, much has occurred for BC Cares between the lines. In 2022, we were collateral damage of the Cultural Wars in CBSD. Our organization was suddenly disallowed from supporting the district. Adversarial individuals no longer affiliated with the district labeled us as 'too divisive,' claimed they had a right to seize our assets, and another educational foundation was created in an attempt to discredit and replace us.

Our response was to take ourselves through an arduous period of redefinition.

We rebranded, rebuilt our message and mission, took all the official steps to legally change our name from CB Cares to BC Cares. Each step of the way we were met with adversity. We had to fight to create new momentum from scratch. Because of attempts to dismantle our work, we were audited by the IRS. We were proud to defend our work and honor and have since moved forward.



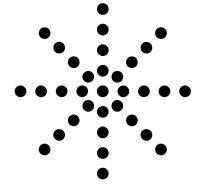
We have revived new and improved versions of many of our programs. We have re-established an amicable relationship with CBSD and have developed new relationships with districts within the County, notably Bristol Borough and Bristol Township SDs.

When our relationship with Central Bucks was decimated, it disallowed us from continuing our work as an EIO with the Dept of Community and Economic Development. This fractured our operational budget. In August of 2025, we officially regained our status as an Educational Improvement Organization. In our previous relationship with the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program, our work was exclusive to Central Bucks SD. Now, we have approved EITC programs that serve both CBSD and BBSD. In our renewal process for next year, we are hoping to make our partnership with Bristol Township SD an official program as well.





# Big Wins, New Hopes



For the past three years, we have diversified our revenue development with fundraisers and grants. We successfully won grants from many funders including The PA Department of Education, Foundations Community Partnerships, Penn Community Foundation, Univest Financial, Today Inc. and Visit Bucks County.

Through grassroots efforts, BC Cares works diligently to find opportunities that allow us to support or facilitate programs rooted in establishing more equitable outcomes for Bucks County students.

Brookwood Elementary in Levittown received the support of BC Cares through the installation of a garden that successfully saw pumpkins, sunflowers, many native plants, Praying Mantis, Monarch Butterflies, and it continues to be enjoyed by the entire 500+ student body. Families took turns caring for the garden over the summer.

Classes regularly utilize the space to find inspiration to write poetry, make scientific observations of ecology, observe the critters that take up residence in the garden, and of course they help to care for the plants and upkeep of the space.

Our Youth Council completed its inaugural year, comprised of students from four different Bucks and Montgomery County schools. They received their CPR certifications, learned how to sit on a board of directors, and facilitated a Fun Run together as a team.

We were proud to award a scholarship to one of our outgoing senior members, who is now pursuing a pre-med path. Nearly all Councilmembers from last year have returned to continue developing their understanding of governance and community leadership.

2025 marks our third year of successfully bringing Pumpkinfest back to life post-pandemic. This event is a fundraiser for our general operations, but it is also a platform for our mission to thrive. Our interns are high school students. Many of our volunteers are also students earning volunteer hours for various reasons. Additionally, while the carving competition remains the focal point, the festival now acts as a showcase for youth in Eastern PA. All of the musical performances are youth bands featuring the musicians of multiple School of Rock locations, CBSD bands, and independent groups of teenagers that would not otherwise have access to the stage and spotlight. There is also a Youth Carving category that is featured on the second day of the event where CBSD high schools compete. Additionally, many free activities for kids are provided throughout the weekend.



# Big Wins Cont'd

At Bristol Borough High School, we were honored to become a direct sponsor of their Drama Club. This program is led by their Spanish Teacher as they do not have the resources to maintain faculty for Theater Education.

BC Cares has leveraged a partnership with the Educational Theatre Foundation and a grant from Foundations Community Partnerships to bring enhancements to their club. Because of our success, this work has officially become an approved EITC program.

This year, BC Cares sponsored a professional Musical Director along with pit musicians for their Spring Production of *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

Before our support, their musical productions were sang to a CD track and live music was not able to be incorporated the way it is at other high schools in Bucks County.

We also established a Thespian Troupe, which gives qualifying students access to resources to help them audition for college programs and apply for scholarships. It is a points based system that encourages them to take ownership in Theatre Arts projects.



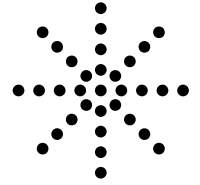
We have entered into a collaborative relationship with The Peace Center. We are proud to align ourselves with other nonprofits that focus on social justice and equality, and look forward to continuing collaborative efforts with them.

Our Boomerang Youth Recognition Awards continue to thrive. We awarded students from 10 districts in Bucks County this year, giving scholarships to five different students that were past Boomerang nominees from CBSD, CRSD and Bucks County Tech. The impact continues in CBSD and has blossomed for more students in Bucks County at large.

Reflecting on our work, and the stresses of the nonprofit ecosystem in Bucks County and the entire Country, we are proud of our place among so many incredible communities. We may not be doctors saving lives, but we are a life giving force. Our programs light up the faces of the students and families we serve.

We lean into supporting Students, Families, The Arts, and The Earth, however possible.

## More on our Impact



## Looking Ahead to 2026

BC Cares' partnership with The Peace Center helps continue the long tradition of their annual MLK Summit this coming January. We are supporting logistics, transportation and planning for the event. Another goal is to collaborate with them for our Parent Positive Speaker Series.

We also look forward to continuing our partnership with CBSD through Boomerang, Volunteer Teens, grants and more!

## Brookwood Elementary

This year, Brookwood has asked for our support to expand their garden with a larger space to accommodate circle seating for an entire classroom, new permanent fencing, and two more garden beds.

## Bristol High School Drama Club

Bristol High School's Drama Club is entering a Renaissance Period where they are able to experience theater education they are not otherwise able to receive in their curriculum. This year, we have developed new assets that will help train burgeoning theater technicians through support of their set design and building efforts. They will be performing *The Addams Family* in Spring of 2026 with our continued support. Our Thespian Troupe will hold inaugural inductions for Theatre Arts students who earn points through theater activities.





# **We'd like to thank all our Partners & Donors for Believing in us**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Our work would not be possible without our Board of Directors, our donors, our sponsors for events, cultural partners and collaborators and believers in our work. To all of you, we give our heartfelt thanks. We could not do this without you!

**Of course, we also want to shout out all of the Young People we serve.  
Especially those affiliated with:**

**School of Rock Doylestown**

**School of Rock Newtown**

**The Rainbow Room**

**The Peace Center**

**All the helpers of Brookwood Elementary Garden**

**The National Art Honor Society Students of CB West, CB East, CB South, Pennridge HS**

**All of our Pumpkinfest Craft Vendors**

**The mother/student volunteers teams of NCL's local chapter**

**BC Cares Volunteer Teens - leaders past and present and participants**

**NHS students of all the different participating schools**

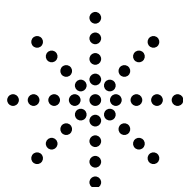
**All the amazing bands that have performed at our events**

**The young artists of TileWorks**

**Bristol High School Drama Club**

**We can't wait for another amazing year!**

**THANK YOU!**



## BC CARES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Stu Kesilman, Vice-President
- Tina Mazaheri, Esq. Treasurer
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- Matthew Nieves-Hoblin, Member-at-Large

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- Paul Gregg
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- Karyn Hyland
- Ben Richlin
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- Stephen Albert (Founding Director Emeritus)



### Staff

- Ashley Crowell, Executive Director

### Volunteer Leaders

- Meredith Slamm, Pumpkinfest Intern 2025
- Brenna Tomsy, Pumpkinfest Intern 2025

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- Bailey Dunn
- Carter Granson
- Daniel Said
- Kendra Pitts
- Kylee Hobbs
- Madeline McClean
- Mahliyo Mardonkuilova
- Prithvi Krish
- Sophia Evola

