



## Carolina Engagement Council Newsletter August 2022

*Although the summer is winding down, Carolina Across 100's Our State, Our Work program continues to gear up. We are finalizing the plans for our first in-person learning Forum with community collaboratives and can't wait to bring them all together in September!*

### September Learning Forum

Leading up to our September 19-20 Forum, community collaboratives are engaging in several pre-work activities. These include holding their first official community collaborative meeting, conducting an informal stakeholder analysis to identify what voices are (and aren't) being represented in their current collaborative team, and creating a short video that captures the story of a young adult who is thriving in post-secondary education or the workforce. Themes from these videos and stories will be shared during the Forum.

Additionally, teams are identifying a local program manager to coordinate and facilitate the team's efforts. This capacity is essential for moving the work forward. This person will also work closely with Carolina students who have volunteered to support teams. More on that in our student engagement section.

Last, but certainly not least, the collaboratives are creating new team names for themselves. For example, our collaborative formerly known as Team 11 (from Wayne County) is now the Wayne County Pathfinders. We are loving the results of collaborative team names that capture the spirit of the work.

CEC members are welcome to attend our two-day Forum (agenda forthcoming). It will take place at the School of Government on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday,



(Photo from UNC School of Government website)

September 20<sup>th</sup>. Specifically, CEC members are invited to the reception that will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Monday and/or the "Meet the Support Partners" session on Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.

### CX100 by the Numbers

- Highlighting key accomplishments -

More than **100 students** engaged

- 70 student interviewers
- 21 Hackathon participants
- 3 capstone projects



Deep listening data collection from **all 100 counties**

- 2,866 survey responses
- 85 interviews
- Diverse stakeholders and sectors

Launched first program of **work** focused on opportunity youth

- 13 community teams selected representing 37 counties



Launched **blog series** highlighting campus experts and community perspectives

- 11 campus authors representing 7 different schools/departments
- 5 blogs highlighting local orgs

Building and expanding **dozens of partnerships** across campus

- 4 official partnership agreements
- Diversity across units/depts/schools



## CEC Member Spotlight – Joseph Jordan

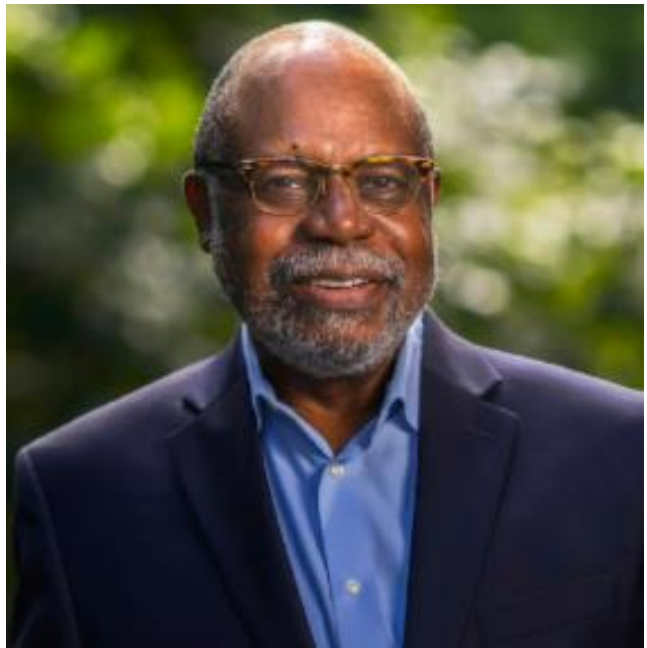
**Joseph Jordan** is UNC's vice provost for academic and community engagement. Since being appointed to the position in early 2020, he has continued to expand his already significant role in community engagement activities.

His purview reaches far and wide as he oversees more than a dozen centers and institutes across campus. He also sits on multiple university-wide committees that help ensure alignment with the University's strategic plan.

Before serving in this position, Joseph was the director of the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History. While at the Center, he oversaw a major expansion of outreach efforts and programming.

Joseph also is an adjunct associate professor in African/African American and Diaspora Studies. His academic work focuses on social justice movements, the cultural politics of race, and identity as explored through the arts.

In addition to his guidance as a CEC member, we are honored to have Joseph serve as one of the steering committee members for *Our State, Our Work*. We will benefit from his extensive experience and commitment to equity.



## Leveraging Campus Expertise for Evaluation

Carolina Across 100 is excited to officially announce a collaboration with [Abacus!](#)

Housed at the UNC School of Medicine, Abacus is a program evaluation and research consultancy committed to amplifying impact and effectiveness. Their work “fosters innovation and advances equity in research and health outcomes through evaluation.”

Abacus has developed a comprehensive evaluation plan to document our process and capture its impact with a particular focus on the *Our State, Our Work* program.

Working in close collaboration, the team at Abacus and the CX100 team have begun tracking existing data and metrics, identifying data collection opportunities, developing data collection instruments, and creating connections to our collaboratives so that the teams' perspectives and priorities inform the evaluation plan.



## Continuing to Build a Campus-Wide Collaboration

Campus collaborations are vital to Carolina Across 100's mission to make this project a pan-university effort. The work truly could not get done without the energy and insights of extraordinary campus experts. Below is a listing of existing and budding partnerships that show the cross-cutting collaborations taking place with this initiative. These partnerships include deep, ongoing activities as well as short-term engagements.

### Campus Impact – Extraordinary Partnerships

- Abacus
- Arts Everywhere
- Carolina Center for Total Worker Health
- Carolina Center for Public Service
- Carolina Demography
- Carolina Hunger Initiative
- Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention
- Department of Anthropology
- Department of City and Regional Planning
- Department of Public Policy
- Development Finance Initiative
- Gillings School of Global Public Health
- Innovate Carolina
- Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise
- School of Data Science and Society
- School of Education
- School of Government/MPA Program
- School of Information and Library Science
- School of Social Work



#CarolinaAcross100



## Relying on Experts to Guide the First Program

In addition to the support and guidance of this incredible Carolina Engagement Council, the CX100 initiative has identified a group of key stakeholders to directly advise the *Our State, Our Work* program. These individuals, who are mostly external to the University, represent a range of sectors and institutions, such as the community college system, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Department of Public Safety and Juvenile Justice.

This group also includes representatives from some of our program partnerships, such as Google, and providers with experience working with our target population, such as Kinston Teens (a youth-led nonprofit organization empowering young people in Kinston, NC).

We are grateful for the willingness of these individuals to help guide and inform our work with communities and Opportunity Youth. The full list of Steering Committee members will soon be added to the CX100 website. Stay tuned!

## Students Still Eager to Engage

Starting this month, Carolina Across 100 adds two new capstone projects to our student engagement activities. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we will be working with a capstone class from the Gillings School of Global Public Health. These students will be assisting with Opportunity Youth focus groups, helping to identify and create resources for our community collaboratives, and designing content for future learning Forums.

We will also bring on another group of students from the Department of Public Policy. We worked with an excellent group of students last spring, and we're thrilled to be working with another group of students this semester. The team will lead some data analysis work focused on county data for our community collaboratives as well as assessing some overall community collaborative metrics.

The start of this semester also marked the launch of an undergraduate course focused on CX100 led by two of our CEC members, **Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld** and **Elizabeth Frankenberg**. The 24 students who enrolled in the class will be paired with one of our 13 community collaborative teams to help support their work and expand our community-campus partnership. We are excited about this unique new offering for students to deeply engage with and support our communities across North Carolina!

## Student Spotlight

**Caitlin Lancaster** - a political science major and North Carolina native - joined CX100 as part of our student launch team. Since that start in June 2021, Caitlin has established herself as an integral part of the team.

Her many contributions include data collection during our deep listening phase, managing a wide range of student engagement activities, supporting grant writing efforts, and presenting to diverse audiences about the initiative.

When she is not working for the nclIMPACT Initiative and CX100, she loves spending time in nature, listening to Taylor Swift, and connecting with students through her role as a resident advisor on campus.



## The Wheels on the Bus Get Ready to Roll

Interest in this year's Tar Heel Bus Tour has been extremely strong. Seventy-five faculty and senior administrators representing 13 schools and 57 different departments and administrative units have been notified they have a seat on the bus, and there is a waiting list if space becomes available.

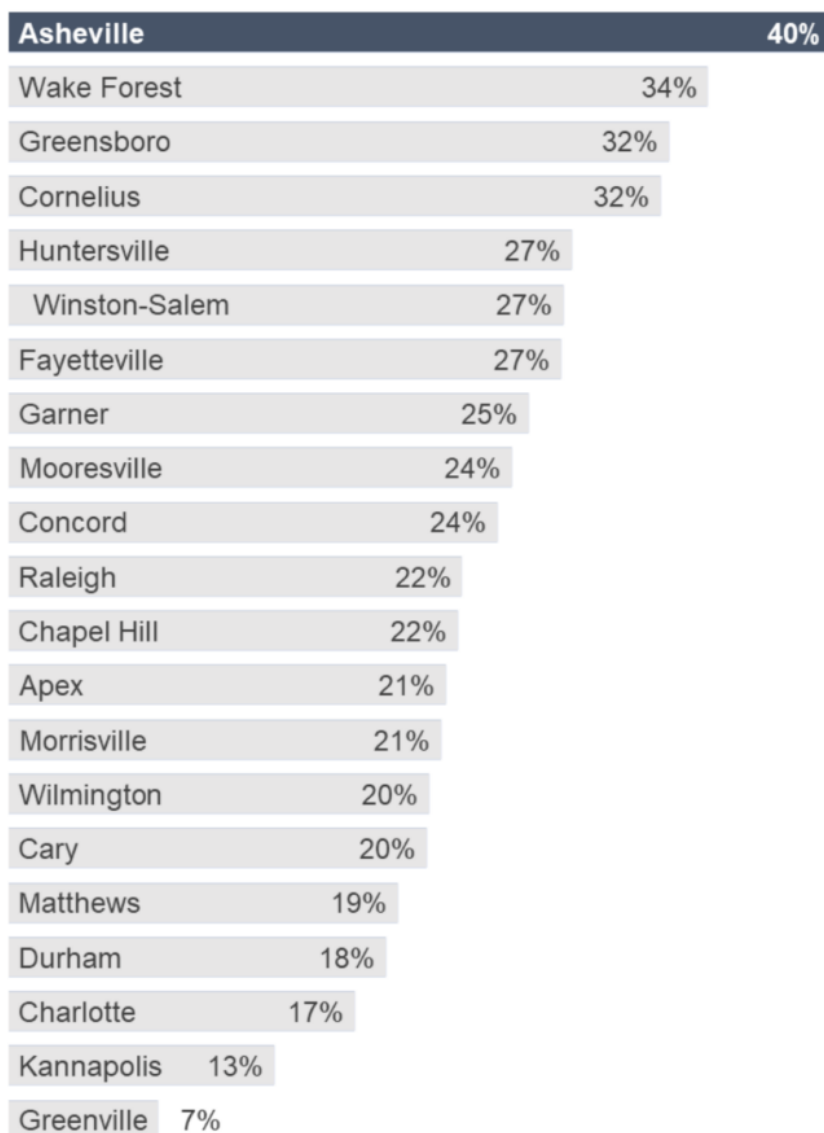
Two buses will leave Chapel Hill early on Wednesday, October 19, one traveling east and the other west. Over the next two and one-half days, they will be covering more than 1000 miles and visiting more than 20 communities, learning about North Carolina and many of the UNC-Chapel Hill partnerships across the state, including some with other UNC system schools. We will share more details about "Heels on a Bus" at our September 20 meeting.

## Read the Latest from the CX100 Blog Series

The latest blog in our CX100 series focuses on stable, affordable housing, a topic that frequently appeared as an area of concern for communities across our state during the CX100 listening phase. In the blog titled, "[COVID-19 dealt a blow to already struggling renters.](#)" **Frank Muraca** of the School of Government's Development Finance Initiative describes how affordable housing is critical to the well-being of residents and shares data on the impacts the pandemic has had on affordable rental housing.

### Asheville saw the biggest rent increase between March 2020 and November 2021

Source: Apartment List | Graphic: DFI



## Check Your Calendars for the Next CEC Meeting Calendar Invite

Virtual meeting on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. The zoom link reminder and agenda will be in your inboxes in the next few weeks.