



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Carolina Engagement Council Newsletter October 2023

It was wonderful to meet with all of you last month! To previous CEC members, we are delighted to continue this work together. To new CEC members, we look forward to engaging you in the mission of the CX100 initiative.

Help your networks discover North Carolina's first-ever Statewide Summit on Opportunity Youth!

Join us on Wednesday, November 29, at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill.

Carolina Across 100 and all 13 "Our State, Our Work" teams are hosting "Stories Brought to Life: A Statewide Summit on NC Opportunity Youth." Don't miss this unique opportunity - the first summit of its kind in our state!

We hope to see you there. The commitment and collaboration of many people across the state are vital to improving outcomes for Opportunity Youth, as this work affects the state's economic development, workforce readiness, health, and more.

Event Details

WHAT: Stories Brought to Life: A Statewide Summit on NC Opportunity Youth

WHEN: Wednesday, November 29, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Includes lunch and an evening reception 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: Friday Center in Chapel Hill, free on-site parking

- Learn the lived experiences of Opportunity Youth in North Carolina.
- Discover proven local strategies for success in reconnecting young people to school and work.
- Connect directly with county teams, state policymakers, and national leaders.

Event Information Link: [Our State, Our Work](#)
Link to Register: [Learning Stream](#)

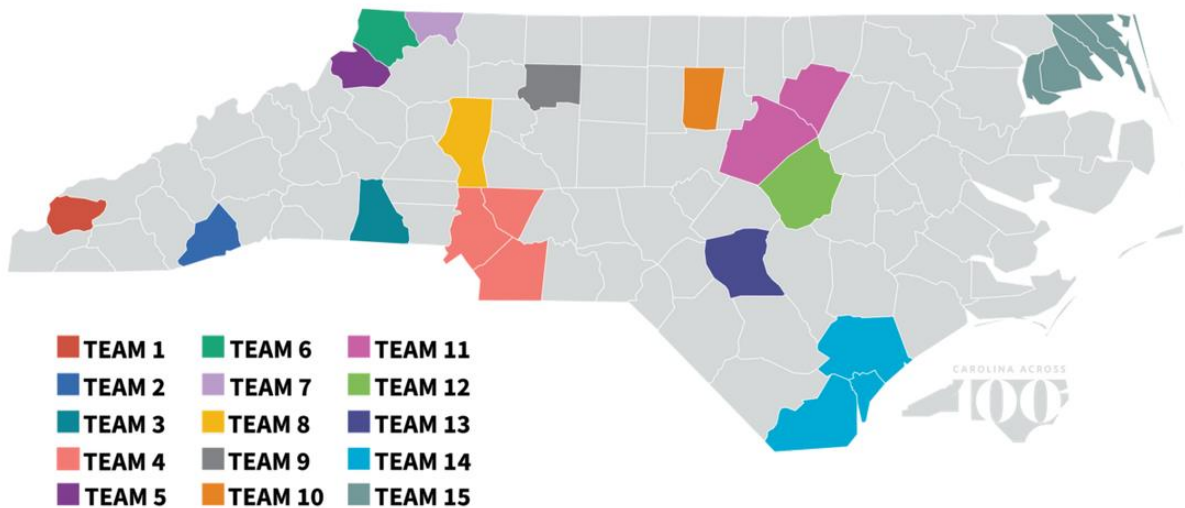


Our State, Our Wellbeing: Partnering to Prevent Suicide

On August 31, we held our first virtual webinar with the teams to kick off Our State, Our Wellbeing. We were pleased to have more than 60 leaders from our community teams attend in addition to presenters and attendees from UNC Suicide Prevention Institute, Carolina Across 100, and campus partners, including Abacus Evaluation and UNC Rural.

We're excited to welcome the teams to our first in-person forum in Chapel Hill on October 24-25. On the first day of the forum, representatives from the UNC Suicide Prevention Institute and several other campus organizations will lead a series of content-focused sessions to deepen the teams' understanding of suicide and its impact on North Carolina, along with challenges facing the mental and behavioral health system. On the second day, we will work with teams as they establish standards for engagement, community problem definitions, vision statements, asset maps, and initial action steps.

Our State, Our Wellbeing is a 12-month initiative to identify and implement strategies to improve mental health and reduce the number of suicides in North Carolina, launched by Carolina Across 100 and the UNC Suicide Prevention Institute. We'll work with 15 teams from 24 counties and every part of the state, partnering to prevent suicide in NC. We're excited to get started with the teams and share more about how they will dive into this important work. You can see more about the participating communities [here](#).



Tar Heel Bus Tour

This month, two of the 12 CX100 “Our State, Our Work” teams were featured stops on the Tar Heel Bus Tour.

On the Eastbound bus, participants met “Men of Destiny” Team 5 in Cabarrus County. Through “Collaboration Over Competition,” they foster and promote community collaborations and provide relief for their community’s lower-income, disadvantaged members. Through interactive skills programs that provide pathways to educational, economic, and social mobility, they inspire participants to be the best examples for themselves and others. They were also among three teams selected as round one OSOW innovation mini-grant recipients. OSOW mini-grants allow teams to pursue innovative ways to engage with Opportunity Youth in their communities through experimentation, learning, and developing evidence-based practices.



Participants met the “Wayne County Pathfinders” Team 11 on the Westbound bus. The Wayne County Public Library partners with the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, Wayne County Public Schools, Communities Supporting Schools of Wayne County, and Wayne Community College to provide employment support, career fairs, and volunteer and community service opportunities for justice-involved youth. Looking forward, the project seeks to coordinate with its partner agencies to build connections among schools, employers, and the community at large.

Student Spotlight – Hallie Springer

Hallie Springer is a first-year Master of Public Administration student at the UNC School of Government. She joined the nIMPACT and Carolina Across 100 team this fall. Thus far, her time has been spent supporting the planning and development of activities for the Our State, Our Work statewide summit.

Hallie graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2022 with Public Policy and Economics degrees. She spent the summer before graduating studying politics in Greece. Before returning to Chapel Hill, she worked as an Intern of Research, Strategic Initiatives, and Economic Securities for the American Federation of Teachers in Washington, DC. She spends her free time trying new restaurants, going to concerts, and doing crafts, specifically crochet.



From Silos to Synergy: Help Shape the Future of Community-Campus Partnerships!

The UNC Engaged Scholarship Series (ESS) aims to unite community and campus partners to share experiences and strengthen relationships. ESS is open to all community members and Carolina faculty, staff, and students who already are or would like to be involved in community-engaged work.

You're Invited to a Networking Event on Nov. 9, 2023!

Connect with other community and campus members in person at the UNC Engaged Scholarship Series (ESS) first event. Attendees will help shape the series' future and increase the impact of community-engaged work.

Date and Time: Thurs., Nov. 9, 2023, from 5-7 p.m.

Location: Blue Hill Event Center at 200 South Elliott Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Family Friendly Event: If it helps to bring your kids along, given the time of this gathering, they are welcome! Although we won't have childcare, we'll have space for crafts and activities in the room.

Food and Refreshments Provided: Please include any dietary restrictions and other accommodations for you and your guests.

For Community Partners: You will receive an automatic confirmation email after you RSVP and a separate email from eghall@email.unc.edu with details regarding optional support for your time participating in this event.

Questions? Contact Gail Currin Fallon at eghall@email.unc.edu or 919-607-4829.

For more information and to RSVP by Nov. 2, visit: go.unc.edu/join-ess



FROM SILOS TO SYNERGY

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP SERIES

YOU'RE INVITED:
Networking event for partners in community-engaged work with food in a family-friendly space

WHEN AND WHERE:
Thurs. Nov. 9 from 5-7 p.m.
Blue Hill Event Center Chapel Hill

WHY ATTEND:
Connect with other community and campus members to co-create the future impact of engaged work

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [GO.UNC.EDU/JOIN-ESS](https://go.unc.edu/join-ess)

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Save the Date for the CEC November Meeting!

The CEC's next meeting of 2023-24 is slated to take place on Monday, November 13, from 3-4:30pm. You should have received an Outlook calendar invite for the 2023-24 meetings from [Margaret Barrett](#). We look forward to reconnecting with you at our meeting next month!