## The Ballantyne Scoop

## Community News in South Charlotte

## **Answer Scholarship Endowment Wins Grant From Leon Levine Foundation**

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Charlotte, NC – The Leon Levine Foundation has awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Answer Scholarship Endowment to help send Mecklenburg County mothers to college.

The Answer Scholarship Endowment, established in 2006, provides scholarships to Mecklenburg County mothers to earn a four-year college degree or an associates degree in nursing. Recipients must be raising school-age children, show demonstrated need for the scholarships, and be earning their first college degree. The Endowment's offices are located in Ballantyne.

Founder Susan Andersen created the fund as a way to strengthen local families. Higher education leads to better jobs, higher income, and greater self-esteem in women, which in turn helps set the same standards and expectations for their children. Students whose parents did not attend college are less likely to complete a college degree themselves.

Many Answer recipients are pursuing degrees in much-needed areas such as health care and social work, and some past recipients are now earning master's degrees.

"By supporting mothers who attend college, we increase the family's earning potential over the long-term and significantly increase opportunities for the children as well," Andersen says. "We are so grateful to the Levine Foundation for seeing the potential of this project to help many more women in the county."

Andersen is actively seeking contributions to the Answer Scholarship Endowment after recognizing the extent of the need among local mothers. Answer is housed at Foundation for the Carolinas, which provides financial oversight and administrative support.

If you would like to make an end-of-year, tax-deductible gift to the Answer Scholarship Endowment and help put these families on the path to greater academic success, visit www.answerscholarship.org. For more information, contact the fund at info@answerscholarship.org or call 704-544-1988.

Founded in 1980 by Leon Levine, Founder and Chairman Emeritus of Family Dollar Stores, Inc., The Leon Levine Foundation has granted millions of dollars to impactful charitable

organizations in this region. The Foundation primarily focuses on educational opportunity, improving health, Jewish values and human services. For more information, please visit www.leonlevinefoundation.org.

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