

The Charlotte Observer

Opinion

Thank You

Every year Charlotte and the surrounding region benefit from the efforts of thousands of people who give their time, money and talents to make this area a more compassionate, prosperous and livable place. For more than two decades, the Observer's editorial board has acknowledged those notable acts through the examples of a few. We do so again today. The good works and commitment of these individuals represent the spirit and generosity of many others. Their example has enriched this region and should inspire us as we begin the New Year.



SUSAN ANDERSEN

When Susan Andersen was a senior in high school, she got a gift she would always remember: help from a local insurance company to pay for a chunk of her college education. Years later, she got a chance to pay it back by helping women who arguably need help most: mothers with school-age children. So she founded the ANSWER Scholarship Endowment, which helps women - single and married - to achieve their dream of a college education. Since the program started in 2005, it has provided 53 scholarships to 29 women through many gifts, Andersen says. For more information on the program, go to www.answerscholarship.org.