



ANSWER

SCHOLARSHIP 20 YEARS

IMPACT REPORT 2025-2026

Celebrating Twenty Years
of Opportunity &
Generations of Impact.



Our Vision and Mission



Vision

To create a brighter future for moms and their children.



Mission

To mentor and prepare mothers of school-age children to achieve a college education and inspire them to be role models of academic, personal, and professional success for their children.

A Message From Our Executive Director



At her lowest point, April Fowler lost her job, home, and car. "I felt like I was drowning in despair," the ANSWER scholar told the crowd at our May 2026 celebration luncheon. "But in that darkness, I made a choice. I chose to rise."

April earned her associate degree in nursing from Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in 2025 and gave birth to her son KJ, her sixth child, the same year. Her next life-changing moment came when she opened her first check as a registered nurse after working as a certified nursing assistant for 22 years. She earned in six days what used to take 10.

Her story illustrates the remarkable impact of ANSWER Scholarship in its 20th year. We celebrated our anniversary by crossing the **\$1 million mark in college scholarships.**

Two other landmark events from the year stand out. **We opened our program to moms in our region seeking a full-time degree at any accredited, nonprofit institution in North Carolina or South Carolina.** The flexibility of online classes is important for moms raising a family, working, and earning a degree.

We were also overjoyed for ANSWER alumna Dr. Katie Jensen, the **first Ph.D. to emerge from our program.** ANSWER funds four-year undergraduate degrees and select two-year degrees, but we love to see women go even further in their education.

Katie is April's mentor in our Mentors For Mom program, led by Martha Honeycutt. Our mentoring program is the reason we had a 100% graduation rate in 2025-2026. We are proud of that achievement - but know it isn't a guarantee for each class. Some moms give up on themselves, in spite of our best efforts to see them through their degree.

April persevered. Today, she's so confident of her future that she's set up autopay for her bills, rather than worrying the money won't be there. As April told our supporters, "Not only does this program ease the financial burden, they also pour into the woman as a whole, in every aspect."

I couldn't have said it better.



Susan Andersen, Founder and Executive Director

2025-2026 Scholarship Year

Two Decades of Creating a Generational Ripple Effect...



\$97,625 in Scholarships

Total financial aid awarded to support mothers pursuing higher education.



23 Scholar Moms



Includes 11 successful graduates this year.

Popular Majors

Education

Supporting future generations.



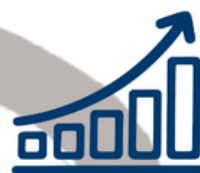
11 Colleges Represented

A wide geographic and institutional footprint.



Business

Driving local economic growth.



Nursing & Comp. Sci.

Filling critical roles like healthcare & tech.



...Strengthening Our Communities.

Mentors For Mom: Support Meets Success



An ANSWER Scholarship is more than financial assistance. It is an investment of time and talent by way of the Mentors For Mom program. The program continues to transform lives, strengthen families, and create lasting change. Our alumnae are building successful careers, increasing their earning potential, inspiring their children, and giving back to their communities. These women are creating a ripple effect for generations. Our scholars continue to say it best when they describe their relationships with their mentors..

"It's been beyond my expectation. She has been a HUGE support to me."

"My mentor was amazing... her support and encouragement has truly been a blessing."

"I expected to have my mentor check in occasionally. However, I received a lifelong sister."

Career Success

- 79% employed full-time
- 86% working in their field
- 82% satisfied in their jobs

Generational Impact

98% say their education journey *positively impacted their children*
65% said it made a "great deal" of difference

Economic Mobility

Before graduation: most earned under \$50K
Today: 76% earn \$50K+
1 in 3 earn \$70K+

Giving Back

- 88% engaged in community work & volunteering
- 75% have mentored others

Statistics and quotes from ANSWER's 2025-2026 Scholar/Alum Surveys

Volunteers and Community: The Village That Makes It Possible

Celebrating 20 Years of Community Impact

ANSWER is a community united to create brighter futures for scholar moms and their families. Together, we are making an impact--\$1 million+ in scholarships awarded since 2006. This milestone was made possible by two decades of generous community investing in mothers, families, and the future.



A Community That Shows Up

We are 60+ volunteers strong, including an all-volunteer Board of Directors. From mentors and event volunteers to community ambassadors and board leaders, our volunteers provide the time, talent, and passion that help scholar moms succeed.



Events and Supporters: Fueling Futures Together



ANSWER is deeply grateful for the unwavering support of the individuals, foundations, corporations, and community partners who invest in our mission each year. Their continued generosity makes it possible for scholar moms to pursue higher education, achieve their goals, and build brighter futures for their families. Below are just some of our incredible business and community partners that are transforming lives, one scholarship, one family, and one future at a time. Thank you!

- Christ Episcopal Church
- Coca-Cola Consolidated
- Lift Up Carolinas
- MER Foundation
- North Meck Women's Club
- Principal Foundation

- Selective Insurance Group Foundation
- St. Ann Catholic Church
- St. Matthew Catholic Church
- Synchrony Financial
- Truliant Foundation

Our two annual signature events raised **\$92,326** this year.

fall
festival

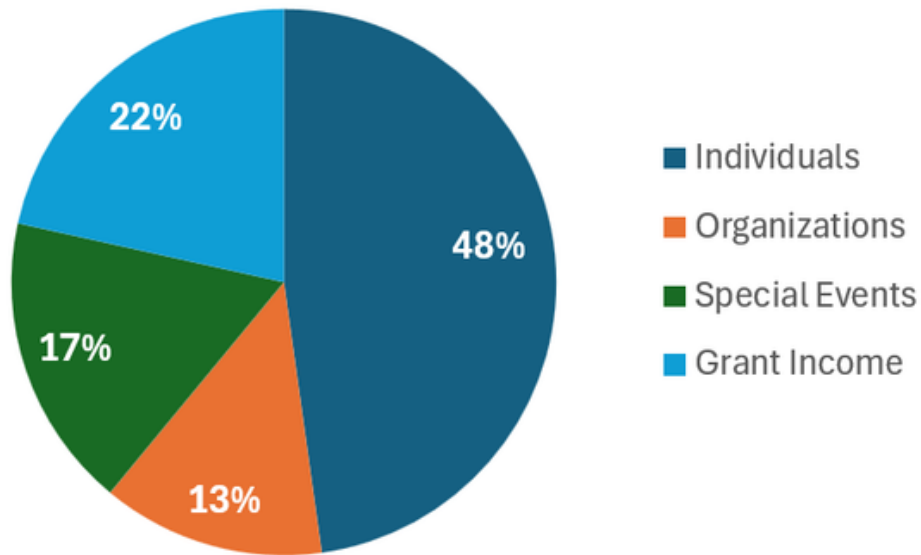
Fall Festival October 2025: \$37,040



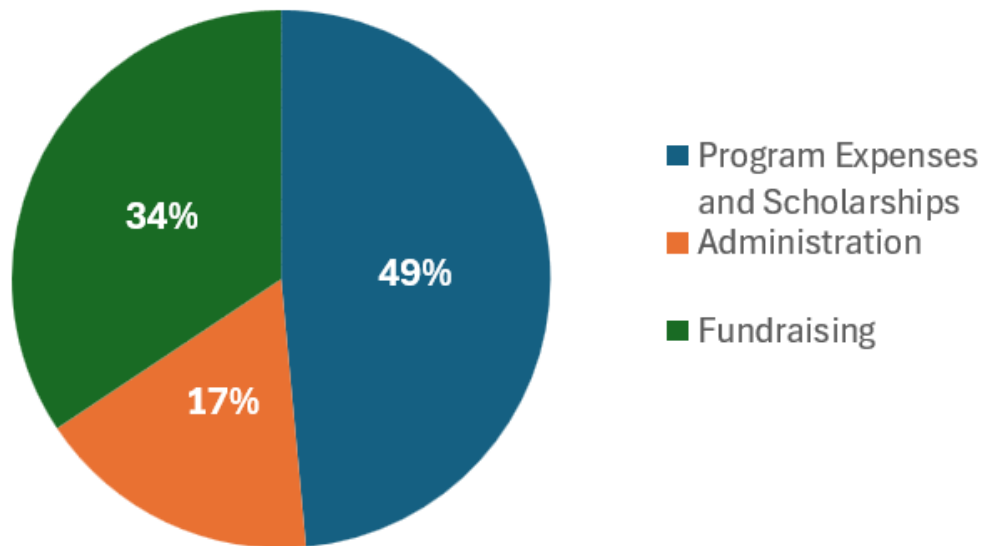
May Celebration Luncheon 2026: \$55,286

Financials

Operating Revenue



Operating Expense



This year, ANSWER made a thoughtful investment in our future by expanding our fundraising capacity with a full-time Development Director. As a small nonprofit, we know that building sustainable support takes time, but this investment will help us grow the resources needed to provide more scholarships, mentorship, and opportunities for the mothers we serve.

GET IN TOUCH:



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