



# MEMBER NEWS

**Issue: January 2026**

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## **Our Mission**

Connecting women who care  
with causes that matter.

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A note from Sharon Sheally

Our Grant 2026 Theme

How to Renew Your  
Membership

Teachers

## **A note from our PEARLS chair**



Looking forward to the New Year

As I settle myself to pen this message, immediately the predominant feeling I have is thankfulness. The first thing to be thankful for are the members of PEARLS and our support staff. Without all of you, we could not make a difference in our community. So this coming year I look forward to increasing our membership.

The work of the people in our community who are trying to improve life for our community members is also something to be thankful for. The creative ideas and projects that PEARLS is able to help come to fruition with grants are definitely something to be thankful for.

Celebrating women at the annual International Women's Day event makes me realize how much women here and all over the globe do everyday to make life better for everyone. Women need to be celebrated more! And it makes me thankful that we are celebrating women on a more regular basis.

So many things to be thankful for. So much work yet to be done. So let us work together to improve our community and make it a great place to live, work and raise our families.

Sharon Shealy

# PEARLS 2026 Grant Theme:

*"Supporting and educating  
Hampton county."*



## PEARLS of Hampton county 2026 Grant

### THEME:

*Supporting and Educating Hampton County*

### ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible for funding, an applicant must:

- Be a nonprofit agency with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status or equivalent (church, school, government agency) under the Internal Revenue code.
- Demonstrate measurable project outcomes for PEARLS selected area of focus.
- Submit grant requests that help launch new programs or enhance existing programs and projects in Hampton County.

### Generally request for the following will NOT be considered:

- Building organizational capacity
- Personnel and/or office expenses
- Religious activities (Although faith-based groups are encouraged to apply, to be considered for funding the projects must reflect nondiscriminatory practices.)
- Political activities or organizations
- Grants directly to individuals
- Endowments
- Annual fundraising campaigns and special events or fundraisers

### FUNDING DETAILS:

Individual grants typically range from \$500 to \$3,000, with approximately \$10,000 total given annually

### ACCESS CODE: **PEARLS26** APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Thursday, January 15, 2026, at  
5:00 p.m.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please visit [cf-lowcountry.org/grants](https://cf-lowcountry.org/grants)

or contact Rose Gomez-Benitez:

- [rgomezbenitez@cf-lowcountry.org](mailto:rgomezbenitez@cf-lowcountry.org)
- (843) 681-9100.

# Grant Impact Spotlight

Each year, PEARLS supports local organizations making a long-lasting difference in Hampton County. Here's a look at one of our recent grant partners.



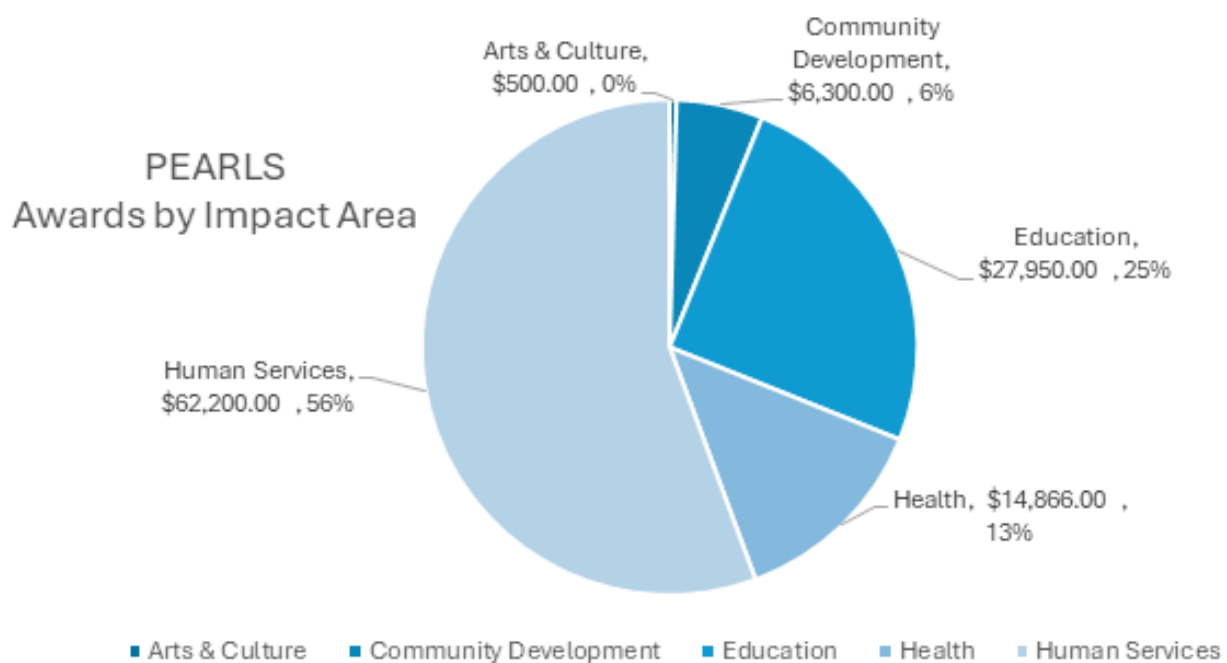
*Scenes from Greater Faith International Ministries' GFIM-TASC Expansion program.*

# Giving to PEARLS of Hampton County

*Everyone is welcome to support PEARLS of Hampton County. Community contributions—big or small—help us uplift local organizations and invest in Hampton County's future.*

## Your Impact at a Glance

Last year, PEARLS members and supporters contributed more than \$111,000 to strengthen Hampton County. As shown below, your generosity funded essential programs in Human Services, Education, Health, and Community Development—ensuring that local families continue to thrive.





# Membership Renewal

If you are a current or returning PEARLS member, your annual contribution can be made online or by mail using the card below.

New members may also join this way.

To renew online, visit [cf-lowcountry.org](http://cf-lowcountry.org) and choose PEARLS of Hampton County under "Make an Online Donation."

*Interesting in joining? Our [membership brochure](#) provides additional information.*



## Membership Contribution Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### My Annual PEARLS Gift

- ☐ \$100  
☐ Other Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ I am paying another member's annual gift  
Name of member: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Contact me about serving the community

### Payment Method

To give online:  
Visit <https://cf-lowcountry.org/current-future-donors/donate-online> and select "Make an Online donation".

☐ Check Enclosed  
Payable to: Community Foundation of the Lowcountry – PEARLS

☐ Credit Card Giving  
Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ AMEX ☐ Discover ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa  
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail to:

Community Foundation of the Lowcountry  
PO Box 23019  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29925  
843.681.9100

# Calling on Our Members: Let's Bring Teachers Into the Circle

PEARLS is hoping to grow our membership by adding more voices from Hampton County's educators. Teachers see firsthand what students, families, and schools need — their perspective strengthens every conversation we have. We encourage members to share information about PEARLS with teachers you know personally or professionally. A simple invitation can go a long way.

Link to share:

[cf-lowcountry.org/giving-circles/pearls-of-hampton-county](https://cf-lowcountry.org/giving-circles/pearls-of-hampton-county)

