



NEWSLETTER

A SEASON OF IMPACT

HopeMill has been busy during an incredibly meaningful few months, deepest appreciation to everyone who supported us in 2025!

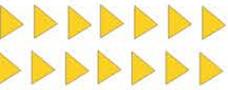
We enjoyed a night out during our Benefit Concert and BBQ Competition in partnership with Downtown Catawba.

In November, we hosted our 2nd Annual HopeMill Mountain Gala, raising over \$40,000 for our mission. Highlighting authentic Appalachian artwork and stunning pieces from a wide variety of artists throughout the Western NC mountains for our auction.

We launched our first annual Wreaths for Hope fundraiser with Hidden Cove Choose N Cut, selling wreaths and greenery that gave back to their recovering tree farm.

During the holiday season, HopeMill was spreading joy to many adopted families by providing a cheerful Christmas to those in need.

We're excited to share the impact you've made possible.



STAY CONNECTED



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<https://hopemill.org/hurricane-helene-donations/>

LOCAL OUTREACH

This past fall **Premierland** and its wonderful employees delivered early Christmas to fifteen **Wilkes County** foster care children in conjunction with HopeMill



HopeMill recently wrapped up delivering over **twenty-five** handmade Blessing Baskets to local volunteer fire departments and emergency service teams throughout Western North Carolina. These dedicated **VFD** and **EMS** departments were major responders in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and continue to support families and communities still recovering.



HIGHLIGHT STORIES

SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER

HopeMill was thrilled to partner with **Nestlewood Realty** and **Physician's Plan Weight Loss & Wellness** for a Christmas toy drive putting smiles on so many WNC children's faces.

The toys were delivered to **Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church** in Spruce Pine, who distributed to a local elementary school and four families in need. Church members still overcoming challenges from Hurricane Helene, were also able to "shop" for their families. All were incredibly grateful to be able to enjoy Christmas this year and our support felt even more significant as it came at a time when assistance was significantly reduced compared to last year.

A Huge Thank You to these generous businesses for helping HopeMill spread joy this holiday season!



WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN

Three women led nonprofits came together to support **Civilian Disaster Response (CDR)**. Many thanks to the **Central District team at Goodwill Industries of Northwest NC** for collecting heaters, as well as dog and cat food, and to **Mountain Aid Project** for generously donating a freezer. HopeMill was happy to help deliver the freezer along with all the donated items to CDR.



Yvonne is the driving force behind the incredible work CDR has accomplished. She led the charge in the aftermath of Helene, **supporting local farmers, homesteaders, and others with agricultural needs**. This marks her second round of disaster relief efforts in the WNC mountains, where her community's recovery remains her unwavering focus.



HopeMill BBQ Competition and Benefit Concert

From the incredible live music to the delicious BBQ, the day was filled with community, connection, and purpose. The way this community continues to show up and show out for Western North Carolina is truly inspiring. We are constantly humbled by your generosity and your dedication to our mission and our beautiful mountains.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to all of the musicians who volunteered their time, our sponsors, and vendors who made the day possible:

Lily Tallent, Honeycutt & Company, Iswani, Southern Style Band, Doug's Fleet + Auto Glass, Catawba Insurance Agency LLC, Cannabis Cultivators, RYGID AV, Sue Osganian Barner, Innovative Outfitters, Hyperformance Graphics, Foothills Dental, Growing Smiles - Ross Penland, DMD, Triangle Contractors, Robinson Builders Mart of Newton, Junction Drinkery, the Town of Catawba, and the Town of Catawba Police Department.

We had a fantastic outcome thanks to your support!

A very special shoutout to Cameron Bixby, Patrick Laney, and Austin Starnes. Saturday would not have been possible without your leadership, hard work, and selfless commitment. You set an incredible example for our entire community.





HopeMill's 2nd Annual Mountain Gala

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Gala & Auction such a success!

Special gratitude to our Platinum & Gold Sponsors: **Fuller & Co. Construction**, **Inter-Continental Corporation**, and **S & S Products**, and our Silver Sponsors:

S & S Diesel Performance, **Jamie Lineberger**, **WNC COAD**, **Hoodsly**, **The Mennel Milling Company**, **Sunfields Valley Farm**, **Goodwill Industries NW NC**, **Mountain Aid Project**, **The Heroes Among Us**, and **Project Your Home**.

We were excited to support several Western North Carolina small businesses this year. The majority of our auction items were handcrafted by local artists, featuring everything from pottery, quilts, and woodworking to stained glass, jewelry, and hand-blown glass pieces. We were also thrilled to offer a variety of Appalachian adventures, generously donated by Grandfather Mountain, Hawksnest Snow Tubing and Zipline, and the WNC Nature Center. Thank you to our guests of honor from **Mt. Calvary Freewill Baptist Church** for sharing their inspiring story. ❤️ To everyone who donated, volunteered, or joined us, thank you. We couldn't do it without you! Your support allows HopeMill to continue bringing hope, help, and healing to communities in need. If you'd like to be part of next year's event, we're now seeking vendors, sponsors, and auction donations.





Wreaths for Hope

HopeMill launched Wreaths for Hope, with 100% of the proceeds from wreath sales going directly back to Hidden Cove Tree Farm. A cherished generational family farm located in Marion, NC. Thanks to your incredible support, our fundraiser for **Hidden Cove Choose-n-Cut** was able to raise over **\$2,000** to help them continue rebuilding by purchasing and replanting fir trees. We are so grateful to everyone who purchased a wreath, shared our mission, and supported Hidden Cove during this season of hope!





Resilience Scholarship



Were you affected by Hurricane Helene?

HopeMill is offering financial assistance to college and trade school students whose lives and education were disrupted by the storm. Our Resilience Scholarship empowers young adults to continue pursuing their academic goals despite hardship.



Residency:

Must live in Western North Carolina



Enrollment:

Must be accepted or enrolled full-time at an accredited college, university, or trade school



Impact:

Must demonstrate financial need due to hurricane-related loss (home, property, family income, etc.)



Age:

Must be between 17 and 25 years old



Scan the QR code
to apply today



Selection Process: Recipients will be selected by the HopeMill Scholarship Committee based on financial need, personal impact, and demonstrated resilience and commitment to their education and community.