



OFTC  
Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT



# To Our Friends, Donors & Champions

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**A**s we reflect on the past year, it's truly inspiring to see the many ways your support has propelled the OFTC Foundation and our students forward. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we've been able to continue building a strong foundation for student success, academic growth, and community impact.

Over the past year, contributions from our community have directly funded scholarships, program enhancements, and essential resources that ensure our students have the tools needed to excel. It's heartening to see how these gifts translate into tangible successes. Our students and graduates continue to make a difference across a range of fields—from healthcare to technology to industrial skills—all empowered by the education they received here at OFTC.

One of the most inspiring parts of this past year has been witnessing how alumni and graduates are achieving their professional dreams and giving back to their communities. Their success stories are a testament to the enduring impact of an OFTC education and the strength of our collective commitment to their future.

As we look toward the year ahead, we are motivated to continue our mission with the same dedication and passion. Thank you once again for being a crucial part of the OFTC Foundation's mission. Together, we are building a brighter future—one that starts here but reaches far beyond. With gratitude,

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**Kathy Aaron**

Executive Director  
OFTC Foundation

# Our Mission

The OFTC Foundation's mission is to secure and provide various resources to promote lifelong learning and workforce development by strengthening the relationship between the College and the community.

In the coming year, we will focus on expanding our scholarship programs, strengthening partnerships with local businesses, and enhancing the resources available to our students, faculty and staff. Join us in our mission to empower the next generation of leaders, professionals, and changemakers. Your involvement and support are critical to our success to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and our community.



Tadrian Davis, General Scholarship



Daeetra Irvin, Howard Sheppard CTD and BH Transfer CTD Scholarships



Nicole Shenk (right), GOAL Scholarship; Instructor Kim Meeks (left)



Quinn Whitehead (left), Sodmasters CTD Scholarship; Instructor Josh Deson (right)



Ghenet Ghebreamlak, OFTC Foundation General Scholarship

## OFTC Foundation, Inc. 2023-2024 Board of Trustees

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Kathy Aaron

Executive Director

The OFTC Foundation is guided by business and community volunteer leaders who represent the eleven counties in our service area: **Bleckley, Dodge, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Laurens, Telfair, Warren, Washington, Wheeler, and Wilkinson Counties of Georgia.** The Board of Trustees is focused on obtaining the resources necessary to constantly improve the educational experience of our students.

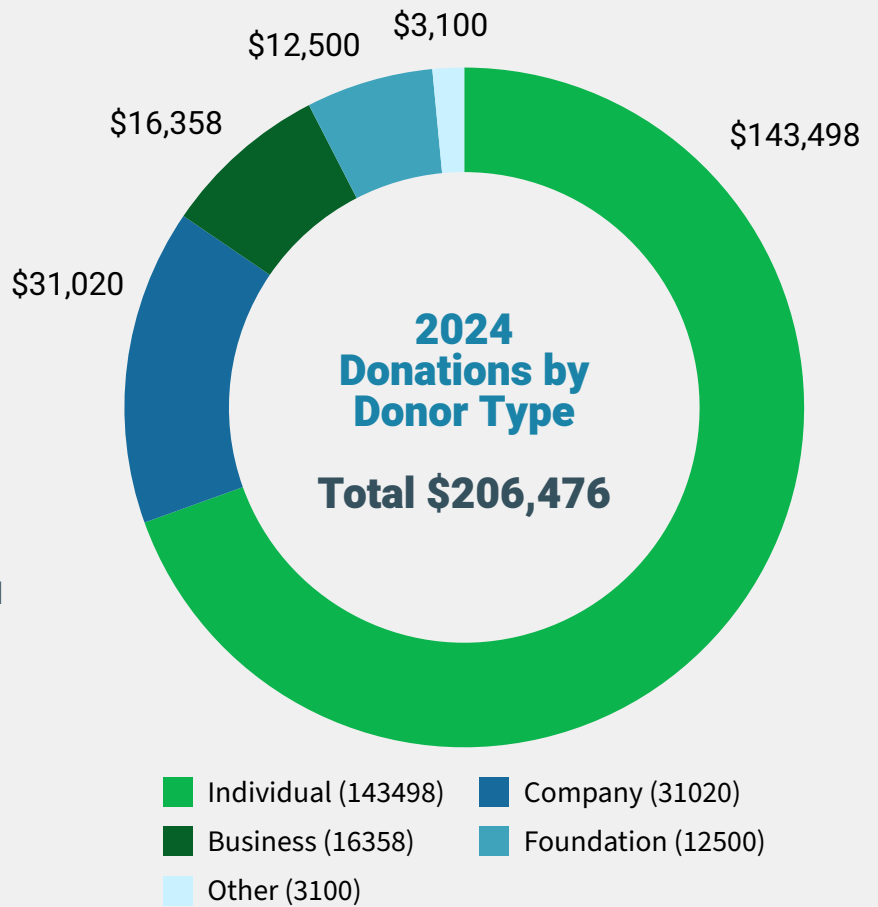
# Fiscal Year 2024 Giving

The annual Employee Fund Drive was held during the month of May. The Brighter Futures Begin Here campaign brought in just over **\$30,145** in donations and pledges from the faculty and staff and a participation rate of **99%**!

## Coming in 2025:

### New Community Campaign

The OFTC Foundation elected at its April meeting to take a different approach as it relates to raising funds. Instead of hosting multiple events scattered throughout the year, the Foundation will kick off a Community Campaign with a goal of raising unrestricted funds. Look for information coming your way!



## Second Annual Peterbilt Golf Tournament Benefits Diesel Equipment Program at OFTC

Peterbilt of Dublin hosted a golf tournament March 21, 2024 at Dublin Country Club with proceeds to benefit the diesel equipment programs at OFTC. Following the event Peterbilt representative Daniel Starley presented the Foundation with a check for **\$7,595.59** which will directly fund needs for the program.



## Dueling Pianos

September 2023 brought entertainment to the Sandersville Campus in the form of The Andrews Brothers Dueling Pianos. Guests were entertained with music, sing-a-longs, dinner, and a dueling of tunes by the Andrews Brothers. Tunes from college fight songs to Queen, Journey, Elton John and Bruno Mars were requested and played by the duelers. The lively crowd participated in the singing and dancing.

## OFTC Foundation Golf Tournament

The Foundation held its 11th annual golf tournament June 23 at Twin City Country Club in Sandersville. Seventy-two players vied for the coveted prize of a round of golf for four at Reynolds at Lake Oconee. While scores were close, a clear winner was determined and in the end, everyone had a great day and enjoyed the tournament.



1st Place Team



2nd Place Team

## Poinsettia Sales

The annual Foundation poinsettia sales fundraiser is held in September and October of each year. Beautiful floral quality white or red poinsettias are sold. This year sales kicked off September 1. The Foundation offers a lovely 6.5-inch plant or an 8-inch plant. Both are amazing in size in quality. Total plants sold this year was 348.



# NEW STUDENT SUCCESS SCHOLARSHIP (S3)

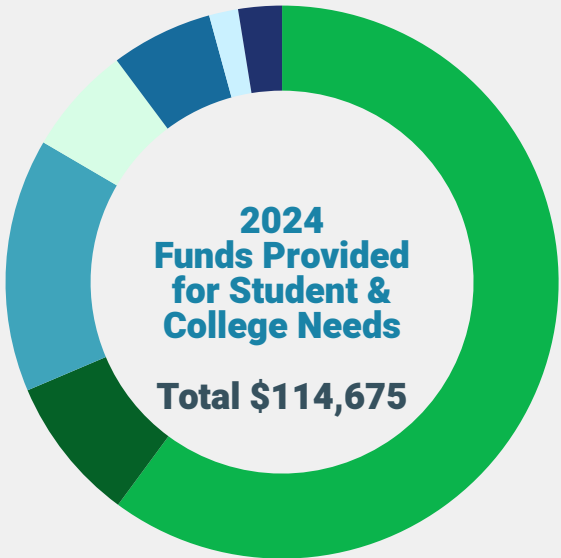
The OFTC Foundation has created a new scholarship designed to benefit the students who currently may not qualify because of GPA. Most scholarships require a 3.0 GPA or higher. The S3 Scholarship is designed to assist currently enrolled students with a GPA of 2.0 to 3.0 and is not campus or program specific. It is the hope of the Foundation that scholarships such as this will allow students to remain enrolled in their program and that financial hardships will be removed.

## Fiscal Year 2024 Distribution

Here's a look at the impactful ways foundation funds were used over the past fiscal year. From providing essential equipment and program materials to supporting scholarships and special initiatives, each dollar spent has played a part in advancing student success and enriching the college community. Here's how your contributions helped make a difference:

Scholarships	\$70,728.00
Equipment	\$17,447.00
Lending Library	\$10,000.00
Laptops	\$ 7,500.00
Staff Development & Incentives	\$ 7,000.00
Discretionary Funds	\$ 3,000.00
Student Needs (not scholarship)	\$ 2,000.00

**Total Foundation Support      \$114,675.00**



- Scholarships (70728)
- Lending Library (10000)
- Equipment (17447)
- Laptops (7500)
- Staff Development & Incentives (7000)
- Student Needs\* (2000)
- Discretionary Funds (3000)



The Foundation also offers financial support to the GOAL (student of the year), RPA (instructor of the year) and EAGLE (adult education student of the year) recipients by purchasing necessary interview clothing, giving scholarships, and paying for prizes for the winners.

For **adult learners** earning their high school equivalency (HSE), the Foundation's contributions provided vouchers to cover test fees for their diploma.

**Faculty and staff** are supported by the Foundation through funding for staff development training, advisory committee meetings meals with community professionals, plus equipment and supplies for the classroom that do not qualify for state dollar funding.

# The **IMPACT** of Your Gifts

The OFTC Foundation plays a crucial role in supporting OFTC's wide range of programs and services, benefiting students across all levels and backgrounds plus the college's faculty and staff.

By providing funding for scholarships, emergency financial assistance, and resources like textbooks and laptops, the Foundation directly impacts **academic program students** who are pursuing high-demand career pathways. Additionally, it helps **high school students** gain valuable college credits without financial barriers through scholarships and textbooks for each student.

The Foundation also reimbursed all **allied health students** for half of their clinical fees, which are required by each hospital or clinic site where they complete their training. Since each facility mandates its own fees and credentials, these costs can quickly accumulate, creating a potential barrier for students. This support from the Foundation ensures students can pursue their clinical training without being restricted by the financial burden of multiple facility-specific fees.

The Foundation also provides **emergency funds** for unexpected student needs, plus the Last Mile Fund, designed to assist students in their last semester who no longer qualify for financial aid (or the aid will not cover their tuition); student activities funds, and so much more.

Those Served  
by OFTC Foundation:

**480** Students & **150** Employees  
**161** Student Scholarships  
**17** TOOLS Awards  
**31** High School Equivalency  
Vouchers

Lending Library had  
resources available to assist  
**153** students with 226 books  
and **97** students with laptops.



Tmond Holmes,  
Sodmasters CTD Scholarship

# Scholarships

The OFTC Foundation, Inc. offers scholarships to assist students at Oconee Fall Line Technical College in a variety of ways: tuition, clinical site fees, testing vouchers, textbooks, and so much more. In FY 2023-24 the Foundation awarded over **\$70,728.00** in scholarship funds to 161 deserving students.

Alton McCullough Dual Enrollment  
BH Transfer CTD  
Bill & Vickie Cheek  
Brandon Lawrence Dual Enrollment  
Cochran-Bleckley High School  
Frank G. Wall Dual Enrollment  
GADA Automotive/Diesel  
Garbutt Construction Mgmt.  
Gene Haas Automotive  
Hancock Strong Allied Health  
Hancock Strong Dual Enrollment  
Hancock Strong General  
Horadan Early Childhood  
Howard Sheppard CTD  
Johnnie Howard  
Katie Smith Poole  
National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRCS)  
OFTC Foundation Student Success (S3)  
Randy Helton Family General  
Schrader Vision of Hope Imaging & Nursing  
Sodmasters CTD  
Sterrett ADN  
Sterrett LPN  
Tommy Barlow Automotive

The Foundation is thankful for the donors who support these scholarships.



2023 Tools Award Banquet



The **TOOLS (Tools for Outstanding Occupational Leadership Students)** Program is Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) Foundation's largest giving event, designed to support and celebrate students in technical programs by providing them with essential, program-specific tools. During the annual event, select students receive items they need to transition smoothly from education into their careers without the financial strain of purchasing these tools on their own. Items range from stethoscopes and scrubs for healthcare students to welding helmets and toolboxes for those in industrial trades.

In 2024, the TOOLS Program awarded 17 students with these valuable resources, thanks to generous donations from sponsor The Louie and Evelyn Livingston Family Foundation and donors and supporters like Fairview Park Hospital, Morris Bank, Pitts Toyota, the Washington EMC Foundation, and WestRock. While the event usually includes a luncheon and ceremony, this year, due to inclement weather, students were honored through photos and a video, allowing them to still be recognized for their achievements.

Kathy Aaron, OFTC's Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, highlighted the humility and gratitude of the recipients, emphasizing the impact of the program on students' readiness for the workforce. The TOOLS Program not only equips students but also reinforces the mission of OFTC to foster career-ready graduates prepared to succeed.



Adriana Johnson, Sandersville, Medical Assisting



Jason Garner, Dexter, Precision Machining & Manufacturing Technology



Randolph Walker, Oconee, Electrical Control Technology



Kayla Tarpley, East Dublin, Respiratory Care

2024 TOOLS recipients include those pictured above and:

Tre'Meisha Charleston, Dublin, Respiratory Care  
 Joshua Guy, Louisville, Welding & Joining Technology  
 Travis Jackson, Dublin, Electrical Control Technology  
 Matthew House, Gibson, Welding & Joining Technology  
 Lincoln Hooks, Dublin, Welding & Joining Technology  
 Sharon Lake, Mitchell, Radiologic Technology

Monica Morales, Dublin, Pharmacy Technology  
 Chiquetta Robbins, Sparta, Pharmacy Technology  
 Jonathan Roberson, Rentz, Air Conditioning Technology  
 Shelby Shenk, East Dublin, Diagnostic Medical Sonography  
 Laura Simmons, Eastman, Radiologic Technology  
 Nacole Wilder, Dublin, Diagnostic Medical Sonography  
 MacKenzie Underwood, Eastman, Medical Assisting



In the college's 2023-2024 annual year, OFTC's Lending Library received **261 applications for books and 156 applications for laptops**. The program had **resources available to assist 153 students with 226 books and 97 students with laptops**.

Donations to the OFTC Foundation are crucial in supporting the Lending Library programs for books and laptops, as they help alleviate the financial burden on students, making education more accessible. By providing textbooks and laptops that students can borrow, the Foundation reduces the upfront costs of education, ensuring that students—especially those facing financial hardship—can stay enrolled and focused on their studies. **Access to these resources can make a significant difference, allowing students to complete their coursework successfully and stay on track for graduation.** This support promotes educational equity, helping to level the playing field so that all students have the tools they need to succeed.



Pictured: Jamieson Kotey, Computer Support Specialist Associate of Applied Science Degree Graduate, June 2024

# Lending Library Programs

OFTC provides students with access to a Lending Library, offering the option to borrow textbooks or laptops for their current term instead of purchasing them. Students can apply for assistance each term, with loaned textbooks or laptops awarded based on financial need. At the end of each term, students return the borrowed items, allowing others to benefit from the resources.

**The OFTC Foundation is the sole financial support for the Lending Library** through an annual budget allocation, ensuring that students have access to updated textbooks and essential equipment. This initiative, including the laptop lending program, often provides the critical resources students need to stay enrolled and succeed in their studies.

# Donors

THE OFTC FOUNDATION IS GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR DONORS,  
AT EVERY LEVEL, FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

## ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

### Individual Donors

Kathy Aaron	Dr. Jacqueline Copenny	Shemekia Gaston	Amy Lewis	Mike Shepherd
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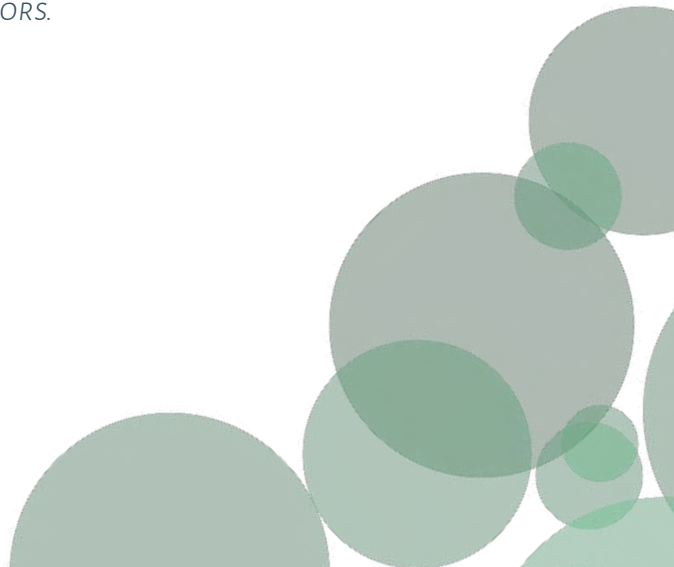
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*THIS LIST RECOGNIZES  
CUMULATIVE GIFTS RECEIVED  
BETWEEN JULY 1, 2023 AND JUNE  
30, 2024. EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN  
MADE TO ENSURE ACCURACY.  
PLEASE INFORM THE OFTC  
FOUNDATION OF ANY ERRORS.*





OFTC  
Foundation

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