

# Community Empowerment Fund

**The Community Empowerment Fund (CEF)** is a non-profit organization in Durham and Orange Counties of North Carolina. CEF's approach combines person-centered support with financial services that pursue equity in order to reduce the racial wealth gap. **CEF Members receive sustained one-on-one support from volunteer Advocates, trained in racial equity and trauma-informed care, to secure housing, gain employment, and build savings in order to increase assets and sustain transitions out of poverty.**

CEF creates a community of support that recognizes the detrimental impacts of systemic racism on Black and Brown members of our communities. Together, CEF Members and Advocates navigate barriers to meeting Members' immediate needs, while also advocating for systems-level change that works for, not against, community Members with lived experience of poverty and homelessness.

## Join the CEF Community!

### Looking for support? Become a CEF Member!

**Members are individuals dedicated to their own success.** They engage with CEF by attending regular meetings with a CEF Advocate to make progress towards their financial, employment, and housing goals. More than that, being a Member is joining a family who will support you as you journey through difficulties and achievements along the way to reaching your goals. Call below to learn more.

#### **Chapel Hill Office:**

919-200-0233

208 N. Columbia St. Suite 100

Chapel Hill, NC, 27514

#### **Durham Office:**

919-797-9233

2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd. Suite 6

Durham, NC 27707

**Mondays:** 10-3pm  
**Tuesdays:** 10-3pm  
**Wednesdays:** 10-3pm  
**Thursdays:** 10-3pm & 5-7pm  
**Fridays:** CLOSED

**Mondays:** 10-12pm & 1-3pm  
**Tuesdays:** 10-12pm & 1-3pm  
**Wednesdays:** 10-12pm & 1-3pm  
**Thursdays:** 10-12pm & 1-3pm & 5-7pm  
**Fridays:** 1-3pm

### Looking to give back? Become a CEF Advocate!

**Advocates are volunteers trained to walk with Members in achieving their goals.** Advocates are not experts, but are curious, empathetic, and highly dedicated team players who commit to holding two Advocate hours per week for a minimum of two years. Advocates leverage the wisdom of CEF Members, Staff, and other Advocates to work alongside Members towards employment, housing, and financial stability. Advocates are there every step of the way to celebrate achievements and support through the challenges and barriers that arise.

New Advocates are trained twice a year. Interested prospective Advocates go through a brief application and interview process before being selected to join CEF. Individuals with lived experience of poverty or homelessness are highly encouraged to apply.

For the most up-to-date information about becoming a CEF Advocate, visit

<https://communityempowermentfund.org/be-an-advocate/>