

For Immediate Release

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Cannon Foundation Gives \$50,000 to Campaign

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH - The N.C. Coastal Federation announced today that the Cannon Foundation has donated \$50,000 to push its Campaign for the Coastal Education Center and Regional Office past the \$400,000 mark.

The federation began its campaign earlier this year to raise \$600,000 to move, renovate, furnish and landscape the historic Palmgren-O'Quinn house and to expand education and restoration programs. The 1946 building was donated to the federation when the owners learned that the federation was looking for a permanent regional education center and office. The 3,000-squarefoot house was moved in July by barge and then overland to its permanent location at the Wrightsville Beach Historic Square. Renovations are underway now and the center is scheduled to open in early 2014.

"We are extremely grateful to the Cannon Foundation, trustees and staff, who worked with us to obtain this critical funding to assist with the renovations," said Todd Miller, the federation's founder and executive director. "The funds for the move were raised early on, but now we have the challenge of completing the task so we can open the doors and begin our expanded programs. The Cannon Foundation gift is a big boost to this effort."

The Cannon Foundation Inc. began in 1943, much as a corporate foundation, with giving focused on communities where Cannon Mills plants were located. Following the 1971 death of its founder, Charles A. Cannon, and the subsequent sale of the Cannon Mills Co., the Foundation evolved into an independent foundation.

Virtually all giving is in North Carolina, and over the past few years has expanded from just the local area to reach from Manteo to Murphy. Located in Concord, the foundation has supported capital projects at the federation in the past.

To learn more about the federation's campaign for the new Coastal Education Center and Regional Office, please visit <u>www.nccoast.org</u>, email <u>nccf@nccoast.org</u> or call the federation at 252-393-8185.

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