**Moore County Literacy Council Selected as 2020 Parsec Prize Recipient; $200,000 Total Awarded in Parsec Prize Grants**

*The 2020 Parsec Prize unrestricted grants help support those working diligently and effectively to prioritize educational and literacy needs amidst the pandemic.*

June 1, 2020 – As the school year comes to a virtual close for children across the state, fee-only wealth management firm Parsec Financial, with an office in Southern Pines, announces $200,000 in unrestricted Parsec Prize grants to educational and literacy-based organizations across N.C, including a $10,000 grant to local non-profit Moore County Literacy Council.

“We wouldn’t be where we are today without a big investment in education, so we are honored to celebrate our 40th anniversary by focusing this year’s Parsec Prize grants on supporting educational and literacy programs in the communities in which we serve,” Parsec CEO Rick Manske said.

Parsec chose 15 awardees to commemorate the 15th year of the Parsec Prize. The Parsec Prize committee prioritized funding literacy programs and K-12 education. They also decided to support a few niche educational needs, such as sciences, arts, leadership training, conservation and special needs.

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| **2020 Parsec Prize Winners:** | |
| **Asheville:**   * [OnTrack Financial Education](https://ontrackwnc.org/) $25k * [Literacy Council of Buncombe County](http://www.litcouncil.com/) $15k * [Children First](http://www.childrenfirstcisbc.org/) $10k * [Boys & Girls Club of Henderson County](http://www.bgchendersonco.org/) $10k * [Smart Start Transylvania](http://www.smartstarttransylvania.org) $10k * [Asheville Museum of Science](http://www.ashevillescience.org/) $10k * [St. Gerard House](http://www.stgerardhouse.org) $10k * [Music Works](https://www.musicworksasheville.org/) $10k * [Appalachian Wildlife Refuge](http://www.appalachianwild.org/) $10k * [Serve to Lead](http://goservetolead.org/) $10k | **Charlotte:**   * [Read Charlotte](https://readcharlotte.org/) $20k * [YMCA Y Reader](https://www.ymcacharlotte.org/mission/youth-development/academic-success/y-readers) $20k |
| **Winston-Salem:**   * [Bookmarks](https://www.bookmarksnc.org/) $20k |
| **Tryon:**   * [KidSenses Inc.](http://www.kidsenses.org/) $10k |
| **Southern Pines:**   * [Moore County Literacy Council](https://mcliteracy.com/) $10k |

“Our board, staff and students are delighted to receive this year’s Parsec Prize,” said MCLC Executive Director Stuart L. Mills. “We were aware of Parsec’s many good works in our community, but we never dreamed of receiving this recognition ourselves, or such a generous donation. The funds received will be critical to our goal of transforming Moore County into Read Moore County, leading North Carolina in literacy.”

President of the MCLC’s Board of Directors Rev. John G. Talk IV said that “the Literacy Council makes the most of every gift received to improve the reading and writing of residents of Moore County. A large gift like this one will empower our staff to recruit, train and equip many volunteer tutors who will sit with residents of Moore County and teach them to read and write. Those residents will themselves become better students, parents, employees, businesspeople and community members. The timing of this gift, announced during the Covid-19 pandemic, is critical – it will help the Literacy Council to keep its doors open.”

A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated**About the Parsec Prize:**

The Parsec Prize is designed to help local non-profits further their missions and help improve the lives of those served in our communities. Since 2005, Parsec has awarded more than $1.5 million in Parsec Prize grants to 84 local non-profits. The Parsec Prize represents approximately one-half of Parsec’s annual charitable giving. Learn more: [parsecfinancial.com/parsec-prize](https://parsecfinancial.com/parsec-prize/)

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**About Parsec Financial:**

Parsec Financial is a fee-only registered investment advisor with $2.5 billion in assets under management as of March 31, 2020. Parsec provides investment management, financial planning, tax planning, trust services and business retirement services to more than 1,700 individuals and businesses in six offices across North Carolina.

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