Catalyst: National Campus Compact Challenge

- empower our students, faculty, staff, and community partners to **co-create mutually respectful partnerships** in pursuit of a **just, equitable, and sustainable future** for communities beyond campus
- prepare students for lives of **engaged citizenship**, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good
- contribute to the **health and strength of our communities** — economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically
- harness the capacity of research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practices to **challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities**
- foster an environment that affirms the **public purposes of higher education**
CAP Integration
The Civic Action Plan is a sustainable and long-term approach to fully activate the University’s mission to address the unique needs of the Charlotte region.

The plan provides a strategy to improve social outcomes by organizing University resources, community-based research efforts, and community collaborations to effectively address regional need through collective impact.
Civic Action Plan Process

Leadership Team (meeting weekly - Oct 2016)

Planning Group - meeting every other week - 12 meetings Spring/Fall

Advisory Group - March 1 and October 18

January 2018 Report Completion

Activation Fall 2018
The Work of the Planning Group

Created a mission statement

Collected and analyzed stakeholder feedback

Conducted a SWOT analysis

Designated teams for focus areas to generate recommendations

Drafted the plan

Sought Feedback and peer review

Stakeholder Feedback

Little is understood about the collective impact or comprehensive value of university/community partnerships.

Utilize innovative technical applications and grassroots data collection as a way to build bridges between the university and the community.

A central office or store front would facilitate engagement.

Support the development of more community engagement academic programs.

Increased focus on Economic Mobility.

Larger community partners want us to develop and support comprehensive partnerships with shared understandings and agendas across multiple University divisions/units.

Hold dialogues on community-based research made accessible to the community.

Lack of trust is an issue for some community partners.
Goals

1. Enhance the quality of life in the Charlotte Region through mutually beneficial partnerships.
2. Build a culture of civic responsibility through experiential learning, community-based research, and volunteerism.
3. Establish metrics and an assessment process that evaluate the collective impact of community engagement.
Recommendations of the Working Group

1. Establish a centralized office, with dedicated staff to coordinate and support the University’s community engagement efforts and assess collective impact.

2. Build “Community Engagement Zones” designed as multi-year interdisciplinary university-wide initiatives with common themes and shared agendas responsive to community need.