



Platinum
Transparency
2026

Candid.

DIRECT AID | LOCAL IMPACT | PRACTICAL ESSENTIALS

Carolina Cares Initiative

Program & Organizational Overview

The Poston Foundation is a South Carolina 501(c)(3) public charity founded in 2020 and headquartered in Columbia. The Foundation's current program focus is the Carolina Cares Initiative, a practical direct-aid model designed to provide useful essentials to South Carolinians facing hardship, instability, financial stress, short-term crisis, or other immediate resource gaps.



ORGANIZATION AT A GLANCE

Legal Name	The Poston Foundation	Current Program	Carolina Cares Initiative
Status	501(c)(3) public charity	Current Project	Carolina Cares Essentials Kit Initiative
EIN	85-0559047	Geographic Focus	South Carolina
Founded	2020	12-Month Program Plan	\$30,000
Headquarters	Columbia, South Carolina	Planning Target	Approximately 1,000 kits*
Governance	Three-member Board of Directors	Primary Contact	Eric Chalmers Poston, Founder & Executive Director

HOW CAROLINA CARES WORKS

A simple, repeatable operating cycle designed for practical aid and accountable execution.

1 Receive Support Accept grants, charitable contributions, sponsorships, and approved in-kind supplies.	2 Procure Supplies Purchase or receive practical essentials based on need, season, pricing, and availability.	3 Assemble Kits Prepare standardized or semi-standardized kits using documented supply categories.
4 Distribute Aid Provide kits directly or through appropriate community touchpoints and partner-supported channels.	5 Document Activity Maintain records of funds, purchases, supplies, kit counts, in-kind support, and distributions.	6 Report Results Provide concise narrative and financial summaries for leadership, donors, sponsors, and funders.

POTENTIAL ESSENTIALS KIT CONTENTS

Hygiene & Dignity

Soap, oral-care products, deodorant, wipes, feminine hygiene products, hand sanitizer, and socks.

Clothing Basics

Socks and other practical clothing items selected for the season and distribution context.

Food & Water

Shelf-stable snacks, bottled water, and similar ready-to-use provisions.

Resource Information

Relevant local service information when suitable and reasonably current.

Health & Safety

Basic first-aid supplies and appropriate protective or seasonal items.

Other Essentials

Additional useful items based on need, availability, available funding, and distribution conditions.



Platinum
Transparency
2026
Candid.

DIRECT AID | LOCAL IMPACT | PRACTICAL ESSENTIALS

Stewardship, Capacity & Program Plan

Success will be recorded, not merely described.

Responsible Stewardship

The Poston Foundation is building Carolina Cares around conservative claims, documented spending, clear use-of-funds records, and concise reporting. Accountability measures are intended to protect both donor confidence and recipient dignity.

- **Funds received:** Tracked by source, amount, date, restriction, and acknowledgment status.
- **Purchases:** Supported by receipts, invoices, vendor records, and budget categories.
- **Kit preparation:** Documented through kit counts and supply or inventory records where practical.
- **Distribution:** Logged by date, location or partner, and kit count without unnecessary recipient identification.
- **In-kind support:** Recorded when appropriate to document donated supplies and program value.
- **Reporting:** Budget-to-actual review and concise narrative/financial summaries prepared for supporters and funders.

12-Month Program Plan

The current program plan is structured around a \$30,000 twelve-month project designed to build practical distribution capacity while maintaining a lean, volunteer-supported operating model.

\$30,000 Total twelve-month program plan	~1,000 Essentials Kits planning target*
\$25 Estimated average direct-supply cost per kit	93% Approximate share allocated to direct program costs
7% Approximate share for limited administrative infrastructure	0 Personnel compensation charged to this project budget

FUNDING PLAN

\$30,000 for direct supplies, distribution, documentation, and responsible administration.

Budget Category	Purpose	Amount
Essentials Kit supplies	Hygiene, personal-care, clothing basics, first-aid, food, water, seasonal items, resource materials, and related contents.	\$25,000
Distribution & other direct costs	Packing materials, local transportation, printing, storage, distribution support, and other direct project needs.	\$3,000
Administrative & indirect support	Donation tracking, recordkeeping, reporting, communications, compliance support, and limited program administration.	\$2,000
TOTAL PROJECT	Twelve-month Carolina Cares Essentials Kits program plan.	\$30,000

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY & WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

Organizational Capacity

- Governed by a three-member Board of Directors.
- Adopted governance policies, internal controls, and recordkeeping procedures intended to support compliance and responsible stewardship.
- Lean, volunteer-supported implementation model centered on practical inputs and manageable complexity.
- Capacity to receive grants, charitable contributions, sponsorships, and approved in-kind support.
- Program design structured for direct or partner-supported distribution and concise funder reporting.

Ways to Participate

- Program grants and charitable contributions
- Carolina Cares Essentials Kit Sponsorships
- In-kind donations of appropriate supplies
- Volunteer kit-packing support
- Distribution and referral partnerships
- Local business, civic, church, and community collaboration