

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 20, 2020

> MEDIA CONTACT Michele Neely 404-615-5925 <u>mneely@scsfga.org</u>

## **State Charter Schools Foundation Awards \$10K in Grants to Schools** *Two State Charter Schools awarded grants from COVID-19 Relief Fund*

ATLANTA, GA – May 20, 2020 – The State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia (SCSF), a nonprofit foundation dedicated to supporting high-quality state charter schools in Georgia, announced two additional awards of \$5,000 each from its SCSF COVID-19 Relief Fund. Grants have been awarded to Cherokee Charter Academy and Resurgence Hall Charter School to provide remote tutoring and supplemental instruction over the summer for students who need extra academic support. Funding for the SCSF's COVID-19 Relief Fund was provided by a \$200,000 grant from the Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Recovery and Response Fund, a partnership between the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and United Way of Greater Atlanta, in addition to other private donations. So far, the SCSF has awarded over \$205,000 in grants to state charter schools and gift card awards to teachers as a part of its response to COVID-19.

"We are pleased to support these schools' efforts to close learning gaps over the summer so that students can start the next school year better prepared for success," says Michele Neely, President of the SCSF. "Throughout this crisis, state charter schools have shown flexibility, creativity, and compassion to provide distance learning to their students. We know, though, that as the school year ends, schools are considering how to plan for the fall. The SCSF will stand by state charter schools as they prepare for likely reductions in funding coupled with increased expenses to ensure the health and wellbeing of their faculty, staff, and students." The SCSF is seeking additional funds to continue providing financial support for Georgia's 33 state charter schools and seven schools expected to open in the fall. Neely reports that state charter schools have substantial needs for electronic devices, facility enhancements, support for new cleaning protocols, assessment of student progress, and general operating support. Since state charter schools receive the majority of their funding from the state, cuts to the state budget could have a serious effect on these schools. Neely hopes that the philanthropic community will rally around state charter schools so that they can continue providing innovative educational opportunities to Georgia's children.

## About the State Charter Schools Foundation

The State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia (SCSF) is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to supporting high quality state charter schools serving children throughout Georgia by leveraging resources to help schools launch, build capacity and grow. For more information about the State Charter Schools Foundation, visit <u>www.scsfga.org</u>