



SunTrust Foundation Press Release

SunTrust Foundation Gives \$250,000 to Help Charlotte Female Entrepreneurs

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The SunTrust Foundation announced Monday it is giving \$250,000 over two years to Grameen America, a nonprofit that helps low-income women build small businesses to create better lives for their families.

The donation will support Grameen America's capacity to deliver ongoing financial training to its 5,600 members in Charlotte.

"Grameen America is a dynamic organization that has helped thousands of women in Charlotte attain success through financial education," said David Fuller, president of the SunTrust Foundation. "We are honored to partner with them to help women who live in poverty build businesses, create better lives and ultimately reach financial well-being."

Founded by Nobel Peace Prize recipient Muhammad Yunus, Grameen America has 12 branches across the country and has invested nearly \$600 million in microloans to more than 86,000 women.

Women join Grameen America to receive financial training before they launch a business. Members learn how to establish a bank account, improve credit, build assets and manage a budget during a five-day training program.

"Financial education is essential for women entrepreneurs on the path to economic empowerment," said Andrea Jung, president and CEO of Grameen America. "We are grateful to the SunTrust Foundation for their support as a strategic partner to ensure our members in Charlotte have access to vital financial education services. By promoting financial literacy and inclusion, we are enabling women entrepreneurs in Charlotte to reach their full potential."

ABOUT SUNTRUST FOUNDATION

The SunTrust Foundation is committed to SunTrust Bank's purpose of *Lighting the Way to Financial Well-Being* by engaging with local and national organizations to advance financial confidence. Grants and activities focus primarily on financial education, financial counseling, career readiness and small business/entrepreneurship, in addition to local community grants. The SunTrust Foundation supports American Red Cross disaster relief efforts and contributes as a United Way Global Corporate Leader. Established in 2008, the SunTrust Foundation has proudly provided grants totaling more than \$112 million throughout the United States.