

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 19, 2017**



**Contact:** Jama Dagenhart, Executive Director  
Office: 919-839-5562 | secufoundation@ncsecu.org

### **SECU Members Provide \$1.5 Million Grant for New Autism Clinic in Davidson County**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – The member-funded State Employees' Credit Union (SECU) Foundation recently announced its support for a new healthcare and human services initiative in Davidson County, providing a \$1.5 million grant for the construction of the SECU Autism Clinic at ABC of NC. Local Credit Union representatives were on hand for the announcement and check presentation made by SECU Foundation Board member Michael Clements to ABC of NC Foundation during an SECU Advisory Board meeting held in Winston-Salem. The Foundation's grant will further boost capital improvement and building campaign efforts, enabling the non-profit to help meet the needs of northwestern North Carolina's growing autism population.



*L to R: Richard Brenner-ABC of NC, Board President; Felice Brenner-ABC of NC, Board Chair; Selene Johnson-ABC of NC, Executive Director; Angela Pesenti-ABC of NC, Director of Finance; Dr. Kelly O'Laughlin-ABC of NC, Psychologist; Kevin Mack-SVP, SECU Winston-Salem Silas Creek Pkwy Branch; John Roberts-SVP, SECU Winston-Salem Stratford Rd Branch; Michael Clements-SECU Foundation, Board Member; Stephanie Reitz-ABC of NC, Board Member; Casey Raymer-ABC of NC, Director of Development.*

"When construction is complete in August 2018, the 26,000 square foot SECU Autism Clinic at ABC of NC will provide shorter wait times for diagnostic assessments; more equitable access to evidence-based autism therapies; and the addition of adolescent and young adult services," said Felice Brenner, ABC of NC Board Chair. "Thanks to the generosity of SECU members, we will be able to provide hope and a brighter future for individuals with autism in our state, whether they are beginning their journey or transitioning to adulthood."

ABC of NC has been serving children with autism and their families with high-quality, evidence-based diagnostic, therapeutic, and educational services since 2002. Their program ensures service accessibility to people from any economic background, offering support and hope to families, and advocating inclusion and acceptance. The SECU Autism Clinic at ABC of NC will help expand the non-profit's reach within their primary service area of Catawba, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Iredell, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, and Yadkin and beyond.

"SECU members are proud to assist ABC of NC Foundation in their mission of providing high-quality programs and services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder," said Cynthia Jolly, SECU Foundation Board Chair. "With the generous support of our 2.2 million members statewide, including 341,000 members in the thirteen counties primarily served by the non-profit, the SECU Autism Clinic at ABC of NC will address the critical need for greater resources for those living with autism and their families."

**About SECU and the SECU Foundation**

A not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members, SECU has been providing employees of the State of North Carolina and their families with consumer financial services for over 80 years. The Credit Union also offers a diversified line of financial advisory services including retirement and education planning, tax preparation, insurance, trust and estate planning services, and investments through its partners and affiliated entities. SECU serves 2.2 million members through 262 branch offices, nearly 1,100 ATMs, 24/7 Member Services via phone and a website, [www.ncsecu.org](http://www.ncsecu.org). The SECU Foundation, a 501c (3) charitable organization funded solely by the contributions of SECU members, promotes local community development in North Carolina primarily through high impact projects in the areas of housing, education, healthcare and human services. Since 2004, SECU Foundation has made a collective financial commitment of more than \$130 million for initiatives to benefit North Carolinians statewide.