



### Organization Certifications

- 1) Organization hereby gives assurance that no person shall, upon the grounds of race, creed, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which this organization is responsible.
- 2) Organization certifies that it will provide quarterly spending reports to the Agency Providing Contribution listed above.
- 3) Organization certifies that it will provide an accounting at the end of the fiscal year to the Agency Providing Contribution listed above.
- 4) Organization certifies that it will allow the State Auditor to audit or cause to be audited the contributed funds.

  
Organization Signature

Vice President for Business and  
Title

V. Diane O'Berry  
Printed Name

5-Oct-23  
Date

### Certifications of State Agency Providing Contribution

- 1) State Agency certifies that the planned expenditure aligns with the Agency's mission and/or the purpose specified in the appropriations act of 2022.
- 2) State Agency certifies that the Organization has set forth a public purpose to be served through receipt of the expenditure.
- 3) State Agency certifies that it will make distributions directly to the organization.
- 4) State Agency certifies that it will provide the quarterly spending reports and accounting received from the organization to the Senate Finance Committee, House Ways and Means Committee, and the Executive Budget Office by June 30, 2023.
- 5) State Agency certifies that it will publish on their website any and all reports, accountings, forms, updates, communications, or other materials required by Proviso 117.21 of the appropriations act of 2022.
- 6) State Agency will certify to the Office of the Governor that it has complied with the requirements of Executive Order 2022-19 by June 30, 2023.

  
Agency Head Signature

10/10/2023  
Date

Rusty Monhollon  
Printed Name

October 5, 2023

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
Attn: Bryce Wilson, Director of Fiscal Affairs  
1122 Lady Street  
Ste 400  
Columbia, SC 29201

PROVISO 117.21  
2022-2023 South Carolina General Appropriations Act

The \$100,000 in funds received from the State of South Carolina through the Commission on Minority Affairs will play a pivotal role in the transformative rebranding of Voorhees University, which transitioned from Voorhees College just one year ago. These allocated funds will be strategically utilized to erect a statue that pays homage to the university's visionary founder, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright, a remarkable figure in the history of education and an African American trailblazer who holds the distinction of being the first of only two African American women to establish a Historically Black College or University (HBCU). The statue will be completely erected and installed by April 2024, at which time there will be a public unveiling, while celebrating the 127<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the university's founding.

Despite the profound significance of Ms. Wright's achievement, her foundational role in the institution she pioneered has been underrepresented in the physical landscape of Voorhees University. With this in mind, the primary aim of this initiative is to correct this historical oversight by creating a lasting and prominent tribute in the form of a statue dedicated to Elizabeth Evelyn Wright. This statue will be prominently erected and displayed near the Wright-Potts Library, thus serving as a symbol of recognition, empowerment, and connection between the founder and the institution she tirelessly built.

The significance of this statue goes beyond mere aesthetics; it will become a central piece in Voorhees University's brand identity. It will act as an identifying placard, vividly linking the institution with its visionary founder. In doing so, it will reinforce the university's commitment to

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“THE NEXT LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE”

honoring its rich history, promoting diversity, and celebrating the achievements of African American pioneers in education. Moreover, the statue will provide a tangible and compelling focal point for both current students and future generations, fostering a sense of pride, identity, and historical continuity within the Voorhees University community.

In summary, the generous funding provided by the State of South Carolina will enable Voorhees University to enhance its brand identity through the creation of a significant and long-overdue tribute to its founder, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright. This statue will not only serve as a testament to Ms. Wright's groundbreaking accomplishments but will also strengthen the institution's connection to its history and mission, ensuring that her legacy continues to inspire and empower generations to come.