



April 5, 2019

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond  
P.O. Box 27622  
Richmond, VA 23261

Dear Sir or Madam,

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD  
2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Autrice Campbell Long  
**President**

John Bowman  
**Vice President**

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Marcy Tucker  
Tony Williams

Ryan Fehrman  
**Executive Director**

I am writing in support of the proposed merger between BB&T and Suntrust. I am the executive director of Families Moving Forward ([www.fmfnc.org](http://www.fmfnc.org)), a 501(c)3 nonprofit in Durham, NC that provides emergency shelter and services to homeless families with children that are experiencing homelessness. Suntrust has been a strong corporate supporter of the agency and our families for many years and has committed both financial resources and real volunteer time to address the needs of the families that we serve. I believe that the merged entity will continue to be engaged with our work and will have the capacity to do even more for low income and at risk populations in our community.

In the last four years, Suntrust has made financial gifts to the agency ranging from \$2500 to \$10,000 annually. They are our second largest donor in the banking sector and have consistently increased their gifts over the last three years. While many corporations in RTP, Durham and the Triangle have the capacity to make gifts of this size, very few support direct services like emergency shelter and case management at the level demonstrated by Suntrust. Beyond funding, Autrice Campbell Long, the Community Development Manager in Suntrust's Durham office has been a board member for the agency since 2012 and for the last two years has served as our board president. Autrice's leadership and engagement has been invaluable during the agency's merger in 2016 and through two strategic planning processes. People like Autrice give Suntrust a very good name in our community.

I truly believe that the merger between BB&T and Suntrust will be beneficial for Families Moving Forward and the community at large. I have seen over an extended period that Suntrust has a real commitment to our state and city and I know that BB&T has a similar reputation in the Triad. I have seen with my own eyes that mergers can leverage positive impacts beyond what either organization can create separately and am proud to support this marriage between two esteemed banking institutions. I can be reached at [ryan@fmfnc.org](mailto:ryan@fmfnc.org) or by phone at 919-683-5878 ext. 21 if you would like to discuss this issue in more detail. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Ryan J. Fehrman

FINDING THE WAY HOME