

During the 2020 – 2021 school year, the Center of Applied Technology North (CAT North) was preparing to start AACPS' first barbering program. Mr. Robert Cradle and Rob's Barbershop Community Foundation (RBCF) were instrumental from the very start. Mr. Cradle assisted with the design & organization of the classroom/lab, helped the school in ordering the appropriate materials and equipment for teaching & learning, identified instructional staff to best support the program, and continuously helped our students in need with the necessary materials for them to meet with success.

CAT North has had the privilege and opportunity to establish a strong partnership with RBCF that has provided materials, mentorship, and expertise for our barbering and cosmetology students in need of preparing for this respective career field. During the past year, RBCF has donated over \$5,000 in barbering and cosmetology equipment to our students, which will assist them in preparing to become licensed barbers and cosmetologists.

In addition to material donations, Mr. Rob Cradle visited CAT North numerous times throughout the year to speak with our barbering and cosmetology students. He participated in our Program Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings, a platform for our industry partners to collaborate with our instructional staff to ensure our curriculum is aligned with industry expectations and needs.

Our programs would not be where they are today without Mr. Rob Cradle and the RBCF.

Thank you so much for supporting our students and school.