

2025
Community Grants
Program

Grant Proposals
Category #10

Support Systems for Residents with Special Needs

CONFIDENTIAL

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Introduction

“Taking care of each other”

The Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge is committed to its mission of enriching quality of life in our community. As part of this mission, the Foundation invites nonprofit organizations serving the independent cities of Staunton and Waynesboro, and the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson to apply for financial support from our Community Grants Program.

In 2024, the Foundation awarded 142 grants totaling \$550,993 through our Community Grants program. The average annual grant was \$3,880 per organization, and awards ranged from \$1,000 to \$10,000. This year, we have received 119 applications, which we have organized into ten categories for the review process. The funding for our Community Grants Program originates primarily from the annual distributions of our many Unrestricted and Field-of-Interest endowments, each established through the generosity of individual community members.

Once again, we are offering the option for each organization to request our consideration of a three-year grant commitment. If the organization requests this option, but is not selected to receive a multi-year commitment, the organization will still be eligible for a single-year 2025 grant.

While the Community Foundation does not have specific funding priorities for this grants program, we do favor those organizations that (1) address clearly-identified community issues and opportunities, and (2) seek to build organizational capacity and sustainability. The community grant application requires applicants to elaborate upon the community issue or opportunity upon which their organization is focused. To this end, we hope that as you review the applications within this booklet, you will appreciate learning more about these needs and opportunities and how the nonprofit community is responding.

If you have any questions about our Community Grants Program, specific grant proposals, or our endowments, please don't hesitate to contact us at 540-213-2150.

Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks

WAYNESBORO

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 2024

Mission:

To increase outdoor accessibility through free track chair use. Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks is dedicated to providing access to the outdoors for individuals with ambulatory disabilities. Our mission is to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation through our Blue Ridge Track Chair Program. By collaborating with Nelson County Parks and Recreation Department, and other nonprofits we aim to make the beauty of the Central Virginia accessible to those with disabilities.

Primary activities and programs:

Blue Ridge Track Chair Program is a partnership between Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks and Nelson County Parks and Recreation Department. The mission is to make The Claudius Crozet Blue Ridge Tunnel hike accessible to those with disabilities by providing free Action Track Chairs and volunteer accompaniment. Whether a first hike or a previously avid hiker who needs accommodation to return to the outdoors, hikes in nature offer the opportunity for healing and transformation. The experience of hiking with their loved ones may be a first and will offer the same benefits to the family and friends along for the hike. The hikes in the tunnel will begin on April 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025. There will be 2- 4 hikes offered each week for 7 months. This will include a minimum of 3 people on each hike (participant, care giver, volunteer) but will likely include additional friends and family. Community members as well as visitors to the area will be able to sign up online at the Nelson County Parks and Recreation Department Website and can be directed there from the Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks Website as well as through social media etc. Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks volunteers will be given historical instruction on the tunnel by members of the Blue Ridge Tunnel Foundation to educate the public on its significance to the surrounding community as well as its significance for the State of Virginia. A partnership with Virginia Wheelin' Sportsman will allow us to provide 2 track chairs for various deer hunts and trout fishing rodeos.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

BRP&T exist to reduce barriers to the outdoors for those with ambulatory disabilities. According to The Welden Cooper Center at UVA 2021 data, 17.4% of those 60 and older Virginians had an ambulatory disability. The Shenandoah Agency on Aging reported an even higher rate at 19.6%. (Welden Cooper Center for Public Service, 2025) Data from the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS-2019), collected by the United States Census Bureau reports that among individual Virginians between ages 18 and 64, the prevalence of ambulatory difficulty was most prevalent (4.3%, n=218,099). (Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, 2021) Although many people with disabilities have access to wheelchairs, few have opportunities to get into nature due to barriers associated with terrain,

such as gravel, uneven ground etc. Our track chairs attempt to address this barrier. When considering additional barriers to such an activity, financial resources must be considered. Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks offers free use of its track chairs. When one considers the extent of financial barriers to owning a track chair, the American Community Survey of Virginia 2019 reported that that of those with Ambulatory disability, 54% met criteria for ALICE (asset limited, income constrained, employed), household in poverty. "Alice in Focus: People with Disabilities" 2022, p 2. "Furthermore, outdoor recreation and nature-based activities can have significant impacts on the mental health and well-being of this population, including reducing stress, improving mood, and increasing overall feelings of well-being. Despite the potential benefits, individuals with disabilities may face unique challenges in accessing outdoor recreation and nature-based activities. However, legislative commitments to ensure that urban parks and other natural spaces are accessible can mitigate these disparities and promote equity in access to nature-based activities." (Rutgers, 2023) BRP&T strives to help reduce these barriers and believes that time spent in nature is healing and restorative, benefiting mental, spiritual and physical well-being. We would like to show others what is possible and thus encourage others to act to reduce these barriers.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

The Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks Program will begin operation in April 2025 at the Blue Ridge Tunnel. In addition, partnering with Virginia Wheelin' Sportsman is planned. The following are outcomes to be measured at the end of the year. 1. Provide 50 ambulatory disabled individuals with a personal hike through the Blue Ridge Tunnel from April 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025. 2. Provide 2 Action Track Chairs for use at 5 -8 Virginia Wheelin Sportsman Events from April 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025. 3. To Engage 150 individuals with nature and educate them on the value of such activities as they relate to healing and improved quality of life.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

100%

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

Goals:

1. To introduce as well as return those with disabilities to the healing power of the natural world through the Blue Ridge Track Chair Program.
2. To reduce barriers to outdoor adventure and sportsman activities such as fishing and hunting for those with mobility challenges in Nelson, Augusta, counties and surrounding area.
3. To educate the participants on the value of the natural world as it relates to this area.

Objectives:

1. The program will increase accessible hiking in tunnel for those community members with disabilities in Nelson, Augusta, and surrounding areas by providing 2 free track chairs and volunteer accompaniment for 2 -4 trips per week from April 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.

2. Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks will provide 2 track chairs for use by Virginia Wheelin Sportsman for use at 1- 2 deer hunts and 4 -6 trout fishing rodeos between April 1, 2025, and December 31, 2025.

3. Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks will conduct volunteer trainings to include proper procedures for ensuring safety on each hike and educate the participant on the history of the tunnel.4. By partnering with other nonprofits we will expand our reach to reduce barriers to the outdoors for those with ambulatory disabilities.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

I am unaware of any other nonprofit that provides a free service such as ours.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

N/A

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

As an Augusta County Resident for the past 23 years I have lived beside a family who cares for their disabled son. We have been good friends, and I have witnessed the extent of sacrifice and care needed to care for a young man now 37 years old who has cerebral palsy. He is able to ambulate short distances, unable to communicate through words as well as incontinent and has any number of other issues. Doctors told the family he would never walk. I have witnessed what the love and dedication of a family can do. This young man is the oldest with three active 30 something siblings. It has been my dream that one day these sisters would be able to hike with there brother. As soon as weather permits, this group of siblings will for the first time go on a hike with their brother. Experiences like these where the entire family benefits from this reduced barrier is our mission for Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 10,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

If a partial amount is awarded, we will modify our wish list for capital expenditures. It will all depend on other donations we receive, but we will continue to offer our services with 2 chairs.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

Although Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks is starting with The Track Chair Program and its partnership with Nelson County Parks and Recreation, it is our hope that as we grow the organization, we will be able to partner with other nonprofits to increase accessible hiking, fishing, hunting and generally getting out in nature. Wintergreen and Massanutten Adaptive Sports Programs have both expressed interest in partnering. Wintergreen has its own trail system and would like to increase access in the summer to those trails and the winter at the ski resort. Both programs are well established. Massanutten's with Adaptive Adventures with Mark Meadows as executive director and Kathleen Boone at Wintergreen. Our long-term goal is to be able to purchase a chair a year donations permitting that will allow us to continue to serve more people with disabilities allowing for outdoor adventures.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 16,000

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

We formed in June of 2024 and so I just attached our Quicken checking account expenditures for 2024. We were better able to estimate an operational budget for 2025.

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Community Foundation
of the Central Blue Ridge
Lora Hamp
Legal Counsel, Director of Nonprofit Relations
117 South Lewis Street
PO Box 815
Staunton, VA 24402

January 30, 2025

Dear Ms. Hamp:

I am writing to recommend to you the founder and executive director of Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks, my very good friend, Paige French. Paige and I met about 20 years ago when she was the primary medical provider for students at Bridgewater College and I was the director of counseling services.

I remember thinking then that Paige provided not just excellent medical care but a real healing presence for the students she treated. In addition, she was always on the lookout for better, more innovative and compassionate ways to support students' well-being and health. Students trusted her. Her colleagues, the staff, administration and faculty also trusted her and experienced her as responsive and generous to them.

Since her employment at BC, Paige worked in a medical practice from which she just recently retired.

Possibly the following points are the most important things to mention in this letter of recommendation: first, Paige is an innovative thinker. She and her late husband had envisioned starting a non-profit like Packs and Tracks after they both retired. Unfortunately, Johnny died suddenly in May of 2023.

The fact that 'action track chairs' are new to Augusta, Nelson and/or Rockingham counties and that no-one else is providing opportunities for disabled persons to enjoy nature with this level of dignity and freedom does not deter nor intimidate her. Paige picked up the dream she and Johnny shared and has worked unceasingly since then to make it a reality.

Secondly, Paige is "wicked-smart." She is organized and competent in so many ways. She can discern appropriate next steps so that the Packs and Tracks project is managed wisely and well. And third, Paige is committed to contributing to the well-being of her community. She and her husband who was a nurse as well, served on numerous medical missions to Central America. Paige sees herself as 'blessed' with resources and capabilities. She is determined to contribute from that wealth of personal resources.

Please call me with any questions regarding this letter. My number is (540) 280-5180. I am excited about the Packs and Tracks Project and I support enthusiastically Paige French's leadership of it.

Sincerely,

Martha S. Barlow
martybarlow895@gmail.com

January 29, 2025

Community Foundation Central Blue Ridge
Lora Hamp
Legal Counsel, Director of Nonprofit Relations
117 South Lewis Street
P.O. Box 815
Staunton, VA 24402
<https://cfcbr.org/>

Subject: 2025 Community Grants

Dear Ms. Hamp,

I am writing to share information about the Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks (<https://www.blueridgepacksandtracks.org/>) non-profit 501 ©(3) which is an excellent match for one of the 2025 Community Grants. Executive Director Ms. Paige French is providing mobility via a track chair to folks who would not normally have access to outdoor trails.

A track chair is an electric, all-terrain wheelchair that can be used on paved trails and in off-road environments. They are designed to help people with limited mobility access areas that are not suitable for regular wheelchairs or walkers. The advantage of a track chair is Ms. French can transport the chair to many locales including Staunton and Augusta County trails providing residents with an experience that they would not normally be able to have. This is also a great opportunity for area residents to volunteer assisting their fellow citizens.

Staunton has a storied history in Augusta County going back 275 years when in 1745 when it became the county seat. One hundred thirteen years later the Blue Ridge Tunnel was completed. Over half the tunnel resides in Augusta County and opened the railroad through the Shenandoah Valley to Staunton.

Former Virginia governor, Ralph Northam dedicated reopening of the tunnel on September 23, 2020. The Tunnel Board opened this engineering and historical landmark to the public on November 20, 2020, during the pandemic. Since then, we have had over 300,000 visitors through the tunnel including many international guests.

I will be doing training for Ms. French's volunteers about the history of Claudius Crozet and the restoration of the Blue Ridge Tunnel, and she will be coordinating training of the Track chair. Volunteers that accompany the hikes will then be able to educate the participants on the tunnel and its value to the area.

I met Ms. French related to using a Track Chair through the Blue Ridge Tunnel Foundation. I am a perfect candidate for it as I had a spine cord injury in July 2024. Although I was a quadriplegic at the time, in the last six and a half months I have been able to recover enough to now use a three-wheel Walker. I see the same grit and drive in Ms. French to assist people who would not be able to ambulate on a trail and believe any grant funds awarded Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks will benefit Staunton and surrounding community citizens.

If you have any questions, please email (bobd@crozettrailscrew.org) or give me a ring (434.806.7620). Thank you for your consideration in awarding a grant to Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks. By providing grant money to this non-profit, Ms. French will be able to provide access to Nelson and Augusta County citizens that would not be able to navigate trails otherwise.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Dombrowe

Blue Ridge Tunnel Foundation Board, 2012 – present

Ouray County Historical Society volunteer 2019 - present

Vice-President Crozet Trails Crew, 2012 - 2018

Director Storage Administration Services, 1988 - 2000

PKS Information Services, Previously, a Level 3 Communications Company



NELSON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

To Whom It May Concern,

Nelson County Parks and Recreation strongly supports Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks' (BRPT) application for grant funding to support this newly formed effort to enhance inclusivity in outdoor recreation around the region.

By BRPT growing their capabilities, it will help grow our joint partnership to provide accessible rides along the famed Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail. The track chair program will assist individuals with limited mobility by having the opportunity to get out on the trails in nature where they would have not been able to previously. The Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail averages 5000-7000 visitors per month. This program will help better assist individuals to see and enjoy the trail that so many others are to do so without issue.

Aside from providing access to the Blue Ridge Tunnel Trail, BRPT will be able to enhance access to many other outdoor recreation amenities in the area. The capability of potential partnerships will better allow individuals access to areas of recreation they would have been limited from in the past. These opportunities include but are not limited to: off the trail hunting areas, better fishing areas, trails leading to prime wildlife observation locations, etc.

Thank you for your consideration to support Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks in their efforts to make the outdoors an inclusive opportunity for all individuals in the region. Should you have any additional questions for myself, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Jerry West
Director, Nelson County Parks and Recreation
PO Box 442, Lovingston, VA 22949
jwest@nelsoncounty.org
(434)263-7133

Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks		
OPERATING BUDGET		
\$4,000 Currently on hand		
Primary Income Categories	Budgeted	Explanation (if necessary)
Charitable Contributions	\$15,000	Individual donations, fundraising events, and local grants.
Federal & State Grants	\$5,000	Virginia Department of wildlife
Checking Account Balance Currently	\$4,000	
Total Income:	\$ 24,000.00	
Primary Expenses Categories	Budgeted	Explanation (if necessary)
Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	headlamps, first aid kit, transfer board, fishing rod holder, cup, holder, batteries, gait belt, extension cord, left hand controller etc.
Track Chair Carrier/Hitch	\$ 880.00	carries an individual chair for exhibiting and demonstration events. This is a wish list item.
Insurance (liability, BOD, truck)	\$ 7,097.96	
Marketing (website, social media, design, print)	\$ 4,276.00	
Training Materials	\$ 50.00	notebooks, paper, training props
Gas for transportation of chairs	\$ 2,100.00	
Track Chair Replacement Batteries (2)	\$ 600.00	Batteries are anticipated to last one year.
Track Chair	\$ 16,000.00	Goal is to buy one chair a year if donations allow, this is a wish list item
Volunteer t-shirts	\$ 500.00	
Training Lunch	\$ 150.00	Feeding volunteers on training day
Cargo Trailer	\$ 6,000.00	Hoping to purchase a lightweight cargo trailer for transport. This is new price, may find one used.
Attorney Fees	\$ 450	
Total Expenses:	\$ 39,103.96	
Net Income (Loss):	\$ (15,103.96)	

2024 Expenses BRP&T copy

1/1/2024 - 12/31/2024

1 Account 138 Category All Tags All Payees

Payee	Date	Account	Category	Amount

Amazon				
		##### Business Ac	Supplies &	-117.4
		##### Business Ac	Supplies &	-16.44
		Total Amazon		-133.84
BKOFAMERICA BC 12/24 # WITHDRWL 540 Folly Rd Charleston SC				
		##### Business Ac	Cash & ATM	-6,515.00
DES:TRANSFER ID: INDN:BLUE RIDGE PACKS AND T CO ID:PAYPALSD11 PPD				
		##### Business Ac	Transfer	100
		##### Business Ac	Transfer	382.06
		Total DES:TRANSFER ID: INDN:BLUE RIDGE PA		482.06
FORM 1023-EZ				
		##### Business Ac	Administra	-275
Google				
		##### Business Ac	Home Phor	-6.7
Google Des Acctverify				
		##### Business Ac	Personal In	0.06
		##### Business Ac	Personal In	0.31
		Total Google Des Acctverify		0.37
Harbor Freight Tools				
		##### Business Ac	Supplies &	-200.06
		##### Business Ac	Supplies &	-35.41
		Total Harbor Freight Tools		-235.47
Natl Fin Svc				
		##### Business Ac	Personal In	14,277.00
Progressive				
		##### Business Ac	Auto Insura	-83.09
		##### Business Ac	Auto Insura	-16.73
		##### Business Ac	Auto Insura	-99.83
		##### Business Ac	Auto Insura	-99.83
		Total Progressive		-299.48
SHENANDOAH TROPH				
		##### Business Ac	Marketing	-546.9
		##### Business Ac	Marketing	-63.18
		Total SHENANDOAH TROPH		-610.08
STRIPE DES:TRANSFER ID:ST-K5Z4K1T3S9Q1 INDN:BLUE RIDGE PACKS AND T CO ID: CCD				
		##### Business Ac	Transfer	96.4
SVCSbluer CA XXXXX8643XXXXXXXXXX2452 RECURRING CKCD 4899				
		##### Business Ac	Administra	-20.95
VistaPrint				
		##### Business Ac	Marketing	-28.41

Zelle payment to Leah Wagner for "Invoice #3"; Conf# z6t86dtng	
##### Business Ac Marketing	-1,320.00
Zelle payment to Leah Wagner for "Marketing Invoice August 30, 2024"; Conf# stjo1y5t3	
9/3/2024 Business Ac Marketing	-1,110.00
Total	4,300.90

Brain Injury Connections of the Shenandoah Valley

Harrisonburg

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 2005

Mission:

Enhancing the lives of individuals affected by brain injury through cultivating connections with information, services and resources.

Primary activities and programs:

Brain Injury Connections is respectfully requesting funding for Circles of Support. Circles of Support offers comprehensive case management and support groups for individuals living with brain injury. Our primary goal is to help those affected by brain injury achieve greater independence. BICSV's case management is person-centered and community-based; centering on each client's individual needs. We prioritize active listening and collaborative decision-making, encouraging clients to set and achieve their personal goals. Client goals are built around four primary areas:

- independent living
- productive activity
- residential setting
- social/emotional/behavioral health.

Our case managers meet clients where they are – whether in their homes or at a convenient location in order to help them access local resources and build valuable connections in their communities. Transportation is not a barrier in service delivery. Circles of Support funding enables us to assist clients by:

Performing comprehensive intake evaluations and assessments, which include clients' strengths, areas for growth, and available family and community support systems.

Completing needs assessments to develop a tailored support plan.

Evaluating assistive and adaptive technology needs and identifying resources to address them.

Identifying, coordinating, and monitoring community services that align with clients' individual goals and needs.

Providing access to life skills training to address barriers to independence, such as self-care, daily living skills, and hygiene.

Facilitating monthly in-person and virtual support groups to build a sense of community.

Case managers track progress toward each client's goals, reviewing objectives and achievements every 90 days. Our strong community partnerships play a crucial role in our clients' success. Case management services are ongoing, with the length of support determined by client needs. A client only transitions out of services when they no longer have goals to achieve. Continued funding is essential to maintain these personalized services, helping clients achieve greater independence and well-being.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

After reviewing community health assessments from Augusta Health and CAPSAW, we found our services align with two priorities: mental health and financial insecurity/homelessness. Mental Health Each brain injury is as unique as the person living with it. Often an invisible disability, it can lead to misunderstandings of the survivor's behavior as it affects cognitive and emotional functions. Some of these include:

- memory loss & confusion
- headaches & sensitivity to light/sound
- irritability
- insomnia/fatigue
- difficulty speaking

Mental health is a critical component of our services. According to a study conducted by Drs. Kureshi, Clarke, and Feng, and confirmed in an additional study published in the Journal of Neurotrauma, "The prevalence of mental health care utilization is 60% higher in TBI patients compared with those who are not injured." This aligns with our internal data. In CY24, 62.52% of our CAPSAW region clients utilized therapeutic or medication-based mental health support or self-identified as having problems with anxiety and depression. Through Circles of Support, we connect clients to vital resources, fostering resilience and well-being. Case managers work with individuals at many different points in recovery and therefore many different points in their mental health journey as well. Case managers help clients by:

- Researching and connecting with service providers including mental health, behavioral support, substance abuse treatment, and equine therapy.
- Keeping their doctors' appointments organized through identified coping mechanisms.
- Providing financial resources for items to help with organization and medication management.
- Overcoming feelings of loneliness and isolation by:
- Meeting monthly
- Offering in-person and virtual support groups
- Conducting a virtual yoga classes

Additionally, in 2025 BICSV is launching a new program called PALS (Providing a Link for Survivors) which pairs community volunteers with brain injury survivors. This program is similar to Best Buddies in that it helps survivors with socialization, allows for friendship, and further removes the loneliness barrier. Housing & Financial Insecurity Many of our clients struggle to maintain or obtain employment due to the unique nature of their injury. This in turn starts a tsunami effect. Bills aren't getting paid, utilities are being shut off, evictions are threatened, and our clients turn to us for help. And we do. In 2024 we worked with 10 unsheltered clients, and assisted others with utility bills. We also helped 2 clients facing evictions stay in their homes. Our case managers have become specialists in navigating resources for low-to no-income clients including:

- helping with benefits applications
- coordinating with Augusta Health's Neighborhood Clinic, the Valley Mission, and Blue Ridge Area Food Bank
- working with agencies such as Valley Community Services Board
- providing adaptive technologies
- assisting with job searches and applications
- accessing GED programs

Circles of Support cannot fix the systemic issues of housing and financial insecurity, but our focus on prevention is critical. Case Managers provide support and resource navigation, tracking progress quarterly to ensure measurable outcomes. Due to our client's struggles with memory issues and remembering their scheduled appointments, our case managers also assist with keeping track of, and navigation to, these appointments.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

BICSV aims to help survivors live as independently as possible after their injury. While client goals vary, common themes emerge. Below is a snapshot of our 2024 successes.

Served 53 persons through consultations, referrals, and case management in Greater Augusta and Highland County. This is a 15% increase from CY23.

Served 157 persons agency-wide; a 14% increase over CY23.

Provided 205 hours of in-home case management services.

Screened 8 individuals for referrals to New Directions.

Assisted 11 people in finding appropriate mental health supports.

Held 11 in-person and 12 virtual support groups.

Added a virtual yoga class tailored specifically for those living with brain injury.

Took part in 4 Crisis Intervention Trainings with 95 first responders to help them differentiate between brain injury and substance use impairment during incidents.

13 individuals were assisted with housing supports including:

home modification for safety

obtaining and maintaining safe and stable housing

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

28% (53) of the 157 persons served agencywide, were from Staunton, Waynesboro, Augusta, and Highland.

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

An estimated 4,500 people in the Greater Augusta and Highland regions are disabled by brain injury, yet only 1.5% are accessing our services. The main barrier is awareness. We have taken an aggressive approach in marketing and outreach. In 2024, we made 306 outreach contacts, nearly a 200% increase from 2023 (112), and this effort is resulting in more referrals. In 2024 we added an office and case manager in Buena Vista, allowing our Greater Augusta case manager to focus solely on this region. Recognizing the importance of socialization and friendship we are launching the Providing a Link for Survivors (PALS) program pairing community volunteers with brain injury survivors. Our goals for 2025 include:

- At least 55 unique individuals will receive Case Management, consultations, or referral services.
- Providing health system navigation for at least 15 individuals.
- Providing 12 persons with appropriate mental health supports.
- Assisting 15 individuals with housing supports.
- Participate in 3 Crisis Intervention Trainings for first responders.
- 75% of persons served will report an increase in the quality of their lifefollowing services.
- 50 individuals will receive resources for:
 - community activities
 - Augusta Health Neighborhood Clinics
 - volunteer opportunities
 - wellness programs
 - Food supports including Blue Ridge Area Food Bank
 - wellness programs

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

In a single moment – whether from an accident, stroke, violent assault, or fall – lives are turned upside down. BICSV's Circles of Support program, and its inclusive wrap-around services, is the only program that exists for persons with brain injury in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and the only program that specializes in the unique needs of this vulnerable population. While we have had some clients receive partial services from other types of providers, depending on their income, age, or other factors, the majority of our clients would fall through the cracks without this program. However, due to the nature of case management, we have built strong partnerships with agencies in the community. As mentioned earlier, we work with New Directions. We have several clients at the Valley Mission. We work with Valley Community Services Board, Middle River Regional Jail, Department of Social Services, Augusta Health Neighborhood Clinic, and many others.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

The Community Foundation funding for Circles of Support case management played a crucial role in helping us achieve the results outlined above. Every bit of funding we receive is invested into our program and allows for service delivery for those living with disabilities. CFCBR funding also enabled the continuation of our Support Group and the development of our virtual yoga class, both of which are critical for mental health post-injury as evidenced in a study published by Neurology Journals. Additionally, a separate study conducted in Pennsylvania highlights that "social support through community-based programs is essential to maximizing recovery after TBI." BICSV is grateful for our partnership with The Community Foundation of Central Blue Ridge, not only for the financial support but also the educational opportunities. The additional benefit of fellowship with other nonprofits in the area has been immeasurable as well.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

There are two stories that I would like to share. The first is "Miranda". I suffered two back-to-back concussions and two childhood head injuries, unaware of the severe impact of traumatic brain injury (TBI). BICSV connected me with health providers, including a sleep doctor who helped me overcome severe insomnia, allowing me to sleep up to four hours at a time. My caseworker linked me to a financial expert who provided strategies to reduce debt and manage bills, easing the stress of medical expenses and housing concerns. She also guided me through the challenging disability application process, ensuring paperwork was submitted on time and explaining each step. Before my injury, I was social and outgoing, but TBI left me with severe social anxiety and isolation. Joining a support group was intimidating, but it brought immense relief and acceptance. Hearing others' stories helped me feel less alone and taught me valuable coping strategies. BICSV has shown me so much compassion and I feel a sense of connection with the whole organization. The second client is "Kristina". Kristina came to Staunton via

Project Horizons, a domestic violence shelter in Lexington. They reached out to BICSV for help; her behaviors resulting from TBI were such that she had to leave the shelter. After a couple months, she was able to get a bed at the Valley Mission. Kristina's struggles were vast and included addiction, anger/mental health, and financial. Our case manager worked with Kristina who had identified goals including:

- Improving the relationship with her son
- Saving money.
- Going to physical therapy to increase motion in her left hand.
- Researching getting her HUD voucher back.
- Acquiring a reader for her diabetes.

Kristina worked hard. She was able to stay away from drugs. Through behavioral therapies she learned coping mechanisms for her anger and has rebuilt relationships with both her son and a brother. She was able to secure benefits allowing her to move into an apartment in Staunton. She struggles with many health issues and our case manager has been diligent in ensuring her attendance at appointments. She struggles with cooking due to a hand injury and BICSV provided adaptive equipment to assist with meal preparation along with setting up Meals on Wheels. Kristina has successfully completed 4 of the 5 initial goals set—the housing voucher being the last one. Kristina's success is multifaceted. She has been able to succeed because she is willing to work hard and is learning to work through her impulses. She is also successful due to the team effort of multiple agencies working together. Project Horizon got her out of a bad situation and housed her. The Valley Mission was her safe haven for months. Case managers from BICSV, Valley Community Services Board, and Hall Community Services worked to assist with resources and interventions. The two clients above are so different, yet each has been able to find/keep their housing, receive necessary supports to address mental health, and work towards living their best possible life in spite of their significant injury.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 8,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

BICSV is committed to serving individuals with the greatest need and fewest resources, offering our services free of charge. We increased case manager hours (40/week) in 2024, expanding our capacity to serve. Although a significant portion of our budget is supported by state funding, we are currently facing a 21% funding gap. To address this, we've expanded funding requests to additional localities, increased grant applications, and hired a part-time Development Manager to enhance fundraising efforts. We also have 10 months worth of funding in reserves. We've leveraged our resources wisely and can successfully deliver uninterrupted services if partially funded.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

Thank you so much for this opportunity!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 640,226

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

The 2024 General Assembly approved an increase in funding for brain injury service providers for a) expansion of services and b) wage and benefit adjustments. We utilized our funding to open a new office in Buena Vista and hire a case manager dedicated to Rockbridge and Bath Counties. Prior to this we had one case manager serving Augusta, Highland, Bath, and Rockbridge counties and their inclusive cities. We have already seen an increase in numbers of persons served in our Greater Augusta region now that our case manager can solely focus on Augusta and Highland counties. The funding for wage and benefit increases was critical in bringing salaries in line with local agencies and allowed for us to offer competitive benefits. This will ensure that we hire and retain qualified staff which in turn allows for a continuum of care for our clients. If you would like a copy of our most recent 990 or financial review we will be happy to send it.

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

to whom it may concern,

I haven't any other words about your program except Fantastic!! It has lifted me up when other wise I felt lonely, lost, and so sad about my situation. Please, please keep up the good work!! I'm finally so excited, and happy about being able to join the virtual groups, and being able to talk to people who are going through the same thing I am. It's a light at the end of my tunnel, it really is!! And Susan has really made it easier to face my situation, and is always happy to help me with whatever I need. I feel really blessed to belong to such a necessary group. This has gave me some hope and goals, which I didn't have before. A stroke is life changing and with out people like you and your program, a lot of people would sink into self pity, and despair so I would like to say

BE A LIGHT FOR ALL TO SEE

thank you so, so much!!

Please keep doing what you're doing, because it really has made a difference in my life, and I'm sure countless others will benefit, ~~thrive~~ thrive, and have hope that their lives will only get better and without you, who would we have?

I finally have something positive in my life, and I have you to thank so much!! I don't feel so small any more and I thank you so much!!

Keep all of us in your prayers every day can make a difference!

Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart!

so thankful,

Cynthia L. Ashcroft

BE A LIGHT FOR ALL TO SEE

I am a current BICSV client and I am writing this letter to let you know a few things/ways BICSV has helped me with in my brain injury journey.

1) I like that my BICSV case manager is always available and a safe person (other than family) to check in with. Having BICSV in my life has given me the understanding that the challenges I am dealing with are typical or "normal" for brain injury survivors.

2) BICSV has connected me with all sorts of resources like DARS, VAIL and other specific things I am interested in, in the community.

3) ~~my~~ BICSV has helped me accomplish goals that I did not think I could. When I was overwhelmed, scared, angry & frustrated, my case manager helped me break things into smaller parts and now (3 years into my life with a brain injury) I can see how far I've come. Before, I didn't know how I was going to live with this brain injury. - Emily Rooker

INCOME

State Contract	\$512,331
Foundation Grants	\$52,000
Contributions & Fundraising	\$80,000
Program Fees	\$5,000
In-Kind	
Total Income	\$649,331

Expenses

EXPENSE	Total	Augusta Region
Salaries	\$400,170.34	\$83,279.26
Benefits	\$67,444.76	\$17,830.64
Bonuses	\$8,200.00	\$1,640.00
FICA	\$30,000	\$6,000
Total Personnel	\$505,815.10	\$108,749.90
Rent, Utilities, Parking	\$17,935.00	\$1,587.00
Corporate Insurance	\$7,935.00	\$1,587.00
Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$400.00
Corporate Expenses	\$700.00	\$60.00
General Office	\$2,500.00	\$500.00
Membership Dues	\$2,000.00	\$500.00

Printing and Copying	\$1,000.00	\$250.00
Telecommunications	\$5,236.00	\$1,209.00
Accounting Fees	\$6,000.00	\$1,200.00
Staff Training & Developer	\$4,000.00	\$800.00
Board Development	\$1,000.00	\$200.00
Retention	\$700.00	\$175.00
Software	\$11,850.00	\$2,245.00
Credit Card Processing Fees	\$600.00	-
Contract Services	\$2,345.00	\$469.00
Mileage	\$13,900.00	\$2,500.00
CARF Accreditation	\$210.00	\$52.50
BIDS	\$5,000.00	\$1,250.00
Support group	\$1,600.00	\$600.00
Assistive Technology	\$3,000.00	\$750.00
Monthly supply allocation	\$400.00	\$100.00
Events and Donor Relations	\$20,000.00	-
Fundraising Printing & Mailir	\$3,000.00	-
Marketing & Outreach	\$20,500.00	\$1,250.00
Total Non Personnel	\$134,411.00	\$17,684.50
Total Expenses	<u>\$640,226.10</u>	<u>\$126,434.40</u>
Income-Expenses	\$9,105	

Camp Holiday Trails

Charlottesville

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 1973

Mission:

Camp Holiday Trails creates a community that empowers children and teens from the Mid-Atlantic region with medical needs to thrive.

Primary activities and programs:

We engage the ENTIRE MID-ATLANTIC region in camping programs for children and teens with medical needs. We offer summer overnight camps, year-round family camps, and Pop Up Camps that travel TO the region including Waynesboro, Staunton, etc. (hospitals, schools, etc.) and provide short camp programs on-site.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

While Charlottesville is our homebase, we engage kids from throughout the Mid-Atlantic region - and we work with the Augusta Health as well as pediatric specialty clinics in the area to seek campers for our summer program AND also sites to bring our Pop Up Camp for a visit. During the pandemic, and now beyond as impacts remain - kids with medical needs were particularly vulnerable and isolation and anxiety has risen. Our camp programs build community with trained camp counselors, fun and engaging camp activities, a full medical team, and a focus on being in nature. We pay particular attention to the mental and emotional needs of our campers. We have a special focus on our teen campers, called Blazers, and providing them with the skills and resources to better manage their own healthcare and develop independence. In addition, we welcome teen volunteers to help with light maintenance projects or even with the camp program, as a pipeline to a paid counselor role.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

Each year we engage over 600 campers with medical needs in our 3 programs - summer camp, Family Camps (back after a hiatus!) and Pop Up Camps (that travel.) We also engage over 600 annual volunteers and are proud to host medical and nursing and PA students for clinical hours, support RN to BSN students who need hours, and serve as a regional hub for off-site pediatric clinical training ... for over 50 years.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

c. 25% of our campers are from Staunton, Waynesboro, a/o the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

In 2025 we plan to engage 300+ summer campers with medical needs

In 2025 we plan to break ground on a critically needed new Med Korner facility for year-round use

In 2025 we plan to earn 70% or higher on our camper surveys around a) finding community, b) finding a min. of 1 new friend, c) being better able to manage their healthcare and d) increased confidence.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

We work closely with regional hospitals and pediatricians, school nurses and social workers, and therapeutic foster care. We also partner with larger organization to collaborate on recruitment and programming including: Camp Corral, Live Free Together, Reclaimed Hope Initiative, VA Hemophilia Foundation, Hemophilia Assoc of the Capital Area, Elements of Peace, Cville Adapted Rec, and a growing list of additional partners.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

We recieved \$1,000 from the Lumos Foundation of the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge and used these funds to defray the cost of Camp for 4 campers from the Staunton/Waynesboro region.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

A family from a recent winter program offered this: "I only sleep when my child is AT Camp. The nights of listening for beeps and breathing are replaced with peace. While I miss my son and my heart is tugged, to see him return with endless camp songs (and endless laundry) and stories of campfires, talent shows, gentle camp pranks, new foods, and new friends - restores me and him. I feel confident with the counselors and the Med Team (maybe more so that with the hospital) and next year will ask him to make ME a tie die short too!"

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

2025 Community Grant (single-year grant)

What is the single-year grant amount you are requesting?

\$ 5,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If applicable, please describe the specific program or capital expenditure for which you are seeking support and why it is important to our community.

We will focus a Community Grant on our Staunton/Waynesboro region camp families who attend Summer Camp, Family Camps a/o Pop Up Camps and ensure no child/family faces financial hardship in their decision to attend Camp.

If applicable, what is this program or capital expenditure's total budget?

\$ 1,356,570

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

We fundraise year-round (round the clock?) and work with our Funds Committee and philanthropy staff to meet all shortfalls.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 1,356,570

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

In honor of our 50th Anniv year in 2024, our Board decided to offer summer camp fee of just \$100 (actual cost of Camp is \$2,000/camper.) We plan to continue this program as the response has been so positive. To do so, we are fundraising regionally to support campers from the region-and making up the \$1900 variance PER camper!

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?



Camp Holiday Trails

A camp for children and teens with medical needs

	2025 BUDGET	QBO income & expense accts
Income		
	740,500	4100 CONTRIBUTIONS
	715,500	4110 Individual
	25,000	4120 Business (Corporate Giving)
	120,000	4300 GRANT INCOME
	104,625	4200 CAMP FEES
	193,732	4400 BUSINESS INCOME
	60,000	4410 Weddings
	7,000	4420 Airbnb
	114,925	4431 Event & Site Rentals
	11,807	4440 Cell Tower
	500	4700 IN-KIND
	500	4710 Goods
Total Income	1,159,357	
Expense		
	87,000	5100 DIRECT COSTS
	37,000	5130 Camp Supplies
	50,000	5131 Camp Food
	4,000	5400 BUS COSTS
	853,230	6100 PERSONNEL
	665,377	6110 Compensation
	57,884	6120 Payroll Taxes
	39,933	6130 Benefits
	49,100	6140 Training Development
	1,500	6150 Team Building (also staff recognition)
	2,000	6155 Volunteer Recognition
	2,000	6160 Employee Meals and Travel
	13,785	6170 Retirement
	1,650	6180 Recruiting & Onboarding
	20,000	6190 Contracting (program and
	11,000	6200 OPERATIONS
	3,000	6220 Vehicle Costs



Camp Holiday Trails

A camp for children and teens with medical needs

	2025 BUDGET	QBO income & expense accts
	2,000	6225 Mileage
	6,000	6280 Membership Dues (includes maint scheduling software)
	69,518	6300 MARKETING
	10,414	6310 Online Ads
	34,720	6320 Traditional Ad Fees
	1,134	6330 Creative Services
	11,250	6340 Marketing Materials
	12,000	6350 Entertainment (hope grows food, music, etc.)
	60,000	6400 DEVELOPMENT
	4,000	6600 TECHNOLOGY
	4,000	6610 Software Subscriptions
	86,323	6700 FINANCE & LEGAL
	25,000	6710 Accounting Svces
	0	6720 Legal and Professional Svces
	59,823	6730 Liability Insurance
	1,000	6770 Licenses, Taxes & Fees
	500	6780 Bank Fees
	175,500	6800 FACILITY
	50,000	6820 Utilities
	120,000	6830 Maintenance & Grounds
	5,000	6840 Repairs
	500	6850 Security & Safety
	6,000	6900 ADMIN
	6,000	6910 Office & Postage
Total Expense	1,356,570	
Net Income	(197,213)	
Other Income/Expense		
	125,000	7100 EXTRAORDINARY INCOME
	125,000	7110 Other Misc Income
	74,919	7200 INVESTING & FINANCING
	40,000	7210 Interest Income
	13,481	7220 Interest Expense



CampHolidayTrails

A camp for children and teens with medical needs

	2025 BUDGET	QBO income & expense accts
	22,000	7230 Realized Gain/Loss
	35,000	7240 Unrealized Gain/Loss
	8,600	7250 Management Fees
	70,000	7300 EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSE
	70,000	7380 Other Misc Expense
Total Other Income	129,919	

Camp Holiday Trails Budget

	2024 BUDGET	2024 50th Anniv Campaign Budget
Income		
Individual Donatons	500,000	
Corporate Donations	46,000	
Grants	100,000	
Camp Fees	146,000	
Wedding Rentals	60,000	
Airbnb Rentals	13,000	
General Rentals	158,650	
Cell Tower Rental	10,267	
Sale of Goods	500	
Interest Income	9,000	
Total Income	1,043,417	0
Expense		
Food	45,000	
Ropes Course	3,900	
Payroll	538,720	
Payroll Taxes	41,843	
Benefits	28,546	
Training & Professional Development	2,750	
Team Building	3,100	
Employee Meals & Travel	460	
Retirement	10,876	
Recruiting & Onboarding	750	
Vehicle Costs	6,450	
Mileage	300	
Online Ads	2,000	
Traditional Ads	20,700	
Marketing Materials	5,000	
Contracting	24,800	
Supplies	30,775	
Membership Dues	12,850	
Accounting Services	30,000	
Legal & Professional Services	70,500	
Liability Insurance	29,600	
Licenses, Taxes & Fees	10,000	
Bank Fees	1,500	

Utilities	44,600	
Maintenance & Grounds	57,800	
Repairs	1,000	
Office & Postage	15,000	
Interest Expense	7,000	
Total Expense	1,045,819	
Net Ordinary Income	(2,402)	
<u>Other Income/Expense</u>		
Fidelity Investments	3,000	
Interest Income	4,000	
Unrealized gain/Loss	22,000	
CACF Investments	28,000	
Restricted Income (50th Anniv Campaign)		2,000,000
Total Other Income	57,000	2,000,000
<u>Other Expense</u>		
Debt Repayment	26,520	
Total Other Expense	26,520	0
Net Other Income	30,480	2,000,000
Net Income	28,078	2,000,000

Creative Works Farm

Crimora

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 2012

Mission:

Creative Works Farm operates Camp LIGHT, a summer camp for children with special needs and at-risk youth. Our mission is to show kids with special needs and circumstances that life is only limited by their imagination, and to give them new tools and skills, along with love and support, to inspire them to become anything they can dream. We offer a day camp experience for children with programs designed for all types of disabilities and at-risk youth, at no cost to the families attending.

Primary activities and programs:

Creative Works Farm operates Camp LIGHT so that we can offer a summer camp experience to children ages 6-17 with special needs and at-risk youth, as well as a week of camp for adults with special needs who have aged out of traditional programs. When camp is not in session, we offer field trips specific to special needs classrooms throughout the community, which are adapted to meet both the special needs and educational needs of the students. We also hold events throughout the year that campers are invited back to with their families so that they can continue to know that they are part of our Camp LIGHT family and they are loved.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

According to area needs assessments done by Augusta Health, CAPSAW, and Greater Augusta Wellness Partnership, two of the major needs in our area include Mental Health and Nutrition/Physical Activity. There is an increase in the need for mental health resources for everyone, especially kids with special needs who have a harder time processing the world around them. Summer camp gets kids off of the couch and into engaging physical activity for the summer. We provide unique programs designed to build skills, boost self-confidence, improve psycho-social skills and mental health. Activities help exercise our campers both physically and mentally. Our goal is to enhance life skills like problem solving, communication, decision making, self-regulation, socialization and relationship skills, and create a sense of belonging. We have had multiple campers attend that struggled with anxiety and depression, and a few that had attempted suicide in the past. Camp gave them a place where they could build their confidence, overcome obstacles, and learn coping skills that helped them after camp was over. Feedback we most commonly hear from parents is that their child felt like they belonged, was able to make friends, learned how to manage social situations better, which helped when they got back into their school environment. We strive to create an environment where kids can realize that they are amazing and capable of great things. The benefits of camp for kids with special needs are often the same as for any child: increased confidence and

independence; activity and exercise; the opportunity to interact with other kids, develop friendships, and build relationships; positive role modeling by adults; a chance for parents to have a much-needed break. Independence is an important camp benefit. For example, camp can give special-needs campers the chance to be without parents, doctors, or physical therapists. They will do more things for themselves and learn how to ask friends to help, which can boost problem-solving and communication skills. Also, camp provides the physical benefits of increased activity. Many kids with disabilities or chronic illnesses are sedentary and do not get to participate in the sports or recreational activities that their peers do. They therefore miss out on the social, mental, and health benefits that exercise brings. Many camps combine learning environments with these physical activities, giving kids with behavioral or learning problems the chance to develop, or catch up on, needed skills during the summer. There are currently only a few camps in the state of Virginia that work with kids with medical, physical, and behavior needs. Many camps do not have the training and resources to work with behavior needs such as autism, adhd, PTSD, and down syndrome, so kids with behavior challenges have limited opportunities to experience camp.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

Our summer camp outcomes have shown improved social skills, confidence, sense of belonging, learned teamwork and communication skills, and more. These skills are important to our mission because we want individuals with special needs to be able to have life skills that can help them fit in at school, hold jobs, and feel like a productive part of society, just like anyone without a disability. Program outcomes are measured by parent feedback, observed behavior improvements, and a very high return camper percentage. Projected individuals served through summer camp program in 2025: 300; through spring and fall field trips: 200; through post high young adult program: 3-20; through planned special needs social events and other events: 200.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

in 2024, approx 69% of campers were from these areas.

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

We are in the beginning stages of our final phase of development, which will include construction of a residential summer camp facility in the next 3-5 years. With this addition, we will be able to serve up to six hundred campers each summer, as well as family respite weekends, training workshops and opportunities for special needs adults, and much more. As we work towards this goal, we will continue to enhance existing programs and increase enrollment each year by at least 10% over our current enrollment goal of three hundred

campers. As CWF grows, we will maintain awareness of what gaps in services and other needs exist in our community so we can determine how to assist in meeting those needs while staying true to our mission. Specific goals for 2025 include beginning construction of our dining hall, which will be the first building in the overnight facility. This building will allow us to grow annual enrollment of campers and offer additional social activities throughout the year while we continue to fundraise for additional building construction. There is a big need for additional programs for individuals with disabilities in our community that we want to assist in fulfilling.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

There are very few camps who serve individuals with special needs in the state. Of those who do serve this population, many do not enroll campers with behavior needs. We have found that around half of our campers have a diagnosis that causes behavior challenges. When programs are created, we strategize to ensure that campers can be successful through adapting elements of the program where we can, training our staff to understand how to best manage our camper needs, and listening/reacting to things when they need to be adjusted. During our spring open house, we also host a resource fair where we invite other organizations in the area that serve individuals with disabilities so that our families can learn more about them. This includes some summer camp programs, support groups, therapy centers, and other groups that serve our population.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

The grant we received in 2024 was for general operating costs. Some of the bigger accomplishments that positively impacted those we served in 2024 include: Addition of a relaxation station to our summer camp program. This allowed our campers a place not only to relax, but to learn how to self-regulate, have a safe place to calm negative behaviors, and help them learn behavior management skills. Paved road: in 2024, we paved the main part of our road into camp and around our airplane playground. Our campers in wheelchairs, using walkers, or having balance issues, struggled when we went to our barn and other areas due to the gravel road. By paving this area, it allowed our campers to be more independent and made our adventures much safer.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

Our entire mission is based on creating opportunities for underserved special needs communities so that everyone has the opportunity to experience the joy of summer camp, despite their disability. Many of our campers have siblings and friends who have attended summer camps, and they are very excited to find a camp made for them so they can do things their peers do. Activities are adapted for mobility needs with things like a lift at the pool and at the horse ring, an adaptive bow stand for archery, flat entry to buildings, tools to assist with grip and other needs, and more. Many of our campers struggle with behavior-based needs like autism, adhd, down syndrome, etc, and a traditional program is not equipped to manage these behaviors. A big part of our staff training includes behavior management (before, during and after a negative behavior) so that we can be better prepared for situations that may happen.

We also look for ways to minimize negative behavior triggers by adapting the sensory environment for our campers.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

2025 Community Grant (single-year grant)

What is the single-year grant amount you are requesting?

\$ 10,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

Camp LIGHT receives its funding through grants, private donations, and onsite fundraiser events held by us. Our budget is written with program needs and enhancements. If we have a need to cut out enhancements in order to meet budgetary needs, we have the flexibility to do so. There are priority items in the budget that must happen that would not be cut. If we are below budget and have additional funds available, those funds are put towards future construction projects and growth or anywhere else the board of directors agrees upon.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

Camp LIGHT's summer camp program is accredited through the American Camp Association (ACA), which holds camps accountable for meeting 300 standards in safety, HR, programming, and more. Camp LIGHT was named on Newsweek's list of best summer camps in the USA in 2023, one of only 4 in the state of VA that made the list. Creative Works Farm was honored as nonprofit of the year during the Greater Augusta Business Excellence Awards in 2023.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 410,200

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Creative Works Farm		
expense budget 2025		
operating	2025 budget	2024 budget
advertising and marketing	5000	3000
animal care	30000	25000
background checks	1000	1000
bank service charges	500	500
credit card fees	700	700
contract labor expenses	4000	3500
dues and subscriptions	3000	2500
education/training/networking	3000	2500
equipment-minor	2000	2000
fuel expense	5000	0
camp expense	66700	64000
insurance	13000	13000
license/fees software	13000	12000
legal/professional	8500	8500
license and permits	5000	5000
meals and entertainment expense	0	0
office supplies	1000	1000
postage/shipping	500	500
printing/reproduction	1000	500
repairs/maintenance	10000	10000
repairs/maintenance-auto/equip	2500	2500
salary/wage	120000	100000
supplies	5000	5000
taxes-payroll	12000	12000
taxes-personal property	500	500
taxes-real estate	3600	3600
ticketspice fees	11000	9000
travel expenses	1000	500
utilities-general	17000	15000
utilities=cable and internet	2300	2300
utilities-phone	1400	1400
leasohold improvements	50000	50000
volunteer appreciation	2500	1500
pool	3500	3500
septic	5000	5000
total expenses:	410200	367000
Revenue	2025 projection	2024 budget
income		
contributions-unrestricted	90000	80000
contributions-temp restricted	15000	10000

fundraising income-holiday	125000	120000
wedding/rental revenue	10000	6000
fundraising income-store sales	8000	3000
fundraising income-car show	4000	3000
corporate and foundation grants	60000	50000
corp and foundation grant-temp restr	5000	5000
field trips	500	500
auction	100000	90000
income-in kind contributions	50000	25000
building fund		25000
total income	467500	417500
cost of goods sold	2025 projection	2024 budget
fundraising cost-store merch	5000	5000
fundraising cost-auction	12000	10000
fundraising cost-car show	200	200
fundraising cost-christmas	35000	35000
total fundraising cost	52200	50200
gross profit:	415300	367300
REVENUE VS EXPENSES	5100	300

Creative Works Farm		
expense budget 2024		
operating	2024 budget	2023 budget
advertising and marketing	3000	5000
animal care	25000	0
background checks	1000	400
bank service charges	500	500
credit card fees	700	5000
contract labor expenses	3500	1200
dues and subscriptions	2500	2200
education/training/networking	2500	1000
equipment-minor	2000	5000
fuel expense		1000
camp expense	64000	50000
insurance	13000	12000
interest	0	1000
license/fees software	12000	10800
legal/professional	8500	8500
license and permits	5000	1500
meals and entertainment expense	0	0
office supplies	1000	900
postage/shipping	500	700
printing/reproduction	500	750
repairs/maintenance	10000	30000
repairs/maintenance-auto/equip	2500	3000
salary/wage	100000	85000
supplies	5000	2000
taxes-payroll	12000	9960
taxes-personal property	500	500
taxes-real estate	3600	3600
ticketspice fees	9000	0
travel expenses	500	500
utilities-general	15000	15000

utilities=cable and internet	2300	2000
utilities-phone	1400	2000

leasohold improvements	50000	35000
volunteer appreciation	1500	1500
pool	3500	0
septic	5000	0
total expenses:	326300	297510

Revenue	2024 projection	2023 budget
income		
contributions-unrestricted	80000	75000
contributions-temp restricted	10000	5000
fundraising income-corn maze	0	5000
fundraising income-holiday	120000	85000
wedding/rental revenue	6000	12000
fundraising income-store sales	3000	3000
fundraising income-car show	3000	4000
corporate and foundation grants	50000	50000
corp and foundation grant-temp restr	5000	5000
field trips	500	2000
auction	90000	80000
income-in kind contributions	25000	25000
building fund		0
total income	392500	351000

cost of goods sold	2024 projection	2023 budget
fundraising cost-corn maze	0	2200
fundraising cost-store merch	5000	3303
fundraising cost-auction	10000	10000
fundraising cost-car show	200	200

fundraising cost-christmas	35000	25000
total fundraising cost	50200	40703
gross profit:	342300	310297

REVENUE VS EXPENSES	16000	12787

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

Monterey

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 2015

Mission:

Mission: Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center (D2D) utilizes the power of horses in a peaceful, mountain setting to help individuals reach their fullest potential, build self-confidence, and cultivate self-love. Founded in 2015, D2D is a non-profit organization based in Highland County, Virginia, that offers equine-assisted activities and education in horsemanship and therapeutic horseback riding. Our programs are designed to support individuals with physical, mental, and emotional challenges, including but not limited to autism, PTSD, anxiety, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, substance abuse, muscular dystrophy, and fragile X syndrome. D2D was originally established to serve combat veterans and their families, at-risk youth, and special-needs individuals in Highland County and the surrounding areas, providing them with life-changing opportunities for healing and growth. Over the past decade, we have empowered numerous participants by connecting them with therapeutic experiences in a region where such services are scarce. Our goal is to improve the quality of life for each participant, while fostering a sense of hope and community support.

Primary activities and programs:

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center (D2D) provides special needs and challenged participants with unique opportunities to engage in outdoor activities that promote physical, emotional, and social growth. Honored as Best ADA Outdoor Experience by Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine in 2024, D2D's motto, "Go outside and play," captures its mission to create safe, joyful, and transformative equine experiences. Participants enjoy activities such as horseback games like Treasure Hunt and Drive-Through Restaurant, training horses at liberty to build trust, and learning tricks like carrying a flag or barrel racing. They also groom horses, braid manes, and take trail rides in high pastures with breathtaking views – sometimes riding to their favorite music because horses love to move to music. Guided by expert staff, dedicated volunteers, and therapy horses, these activities are tailored to complement participants' therapy and education goals, as informed by input from doctors, therapists, teachers, and parents. The benefits of therapeutic riding are multifaceted: Physical: The horse's three-dimensional movement mimics natural walking, enhancing muscle strength, posture, balance, coordination, and joint mobility. Emotional: The bond with horses fosters self-awareness, trust, and confidence in a non-competitive, supportive environment. Social: Collaborative activities nurture self-esteem and build positive relationships. Through these programs, D2D empowers participants to embrace new challenges, celebrate achievements, and experience the profound joy of connecting with horses in a caring and inclusive setting.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center (D2D) addresses critical gaps in therapeutic recreation and trauma-informed services in a remote community where resources are scarce. Highland County, according to the 2024 U.S. Census Bureau, has a disability rate of 22%, with 11.9% of residents under 65 living with disabilities – 30% above the national average. Among D2D's regular participants, 46% have a physical disability, underscoring the need for accessible, therapeutic programs that promote physical, emotional, and social well-being. Beyond serving individuals with disabilities, D2D plays a crucial role in addressing the trauma caused by substance use disorders, a pervasive issue in our community. In 2024, 41% of D2D's participants were affected by substance abuse, either directly or indirectly. Over the years, D2D has worked with 15 children being raised by caregivers other than their parents due to substance abuse-related circumstances. These children face significant emotional and developmental challenges. Working with families impacted by substance abuse is complex. Parents struggling with addiction often miss appointments, leaving volunteers who rearranged their schedules to assist with lessons in limbo. Transportation challenges frequently arise, requiring staff to coordinate rides for children to ensure their participation. Additionally, the ripple effects of addiction – court appearances, arrests, and family crises – often impact the children directly, creating an unstable and stressful environment. Despite these challenges, D2D remains a constant source of stability, offering a safe, nurturing space where children can develop new skills, build confidence, and form positive relationships. Social services frequently refer cases to D2D, recognizing its ability to provide transformative support. For children facing trauma, programs like D2D are essential. As highlighted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation: "When kids experience trauma – such as abuse, neglect, or hardships during foster care – these events can disrupt healthy development and cause lasting consequences." Trauma increases the risk of emotional, behavioral, and physical health issues, juvenile justice system involvement, and academic struggles. However, these effects can be mitigated with trauma-informed services, nurturing relationships, and supportive environments – core principles of D2D's mission. By offering therapeutic horsemanship in a caring, inclusive setting, D2D empowers children affected by substance abuse and other challenges. They gain resilience, emotional healing, and a sense of belonging. D2D also supports foster and adoptive families by providing an outlet for children to thrive despite their circumstances. D2D strives to mitigate the trauma these children face, providing hope and healing through the unique bond between humans and horses. Our work ensures that the most vulnerable members of our community have access to the support they need to navigate adversity and build brighter futures.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

In 2024, D2D served approximately 60 unique individuals through 500 hours of lessons. Our participants included special needs children and adults, at-risk youth, combat veterans and their families. These transformative experiences were made possible by generous support of donors, grants, and sponsors. The impact of our work is measured through both qualitative and

quantitative data. We track the number of unduplicated individuals served, number of lessons provided, and participant progress toward personal goals. Additionally, we rely on feedback from parents, teachers, and caregivers, who observe changes in confidence levels, goal-setting abilities, physical strength, balance, and behavioral outlook. These observations are vital indicators of effectiveness of our programs. Unfortunately, in 2024, resource limitations prevented us from hosting camps and combat veteran family retreats. Despite this, we continued to provide meaningful opportunities. Looking forward, we aim to expand our reach and programming to ensure even greater impact on communities we serve.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

Of the 60 individuals who were instructed at D2D in 2024, 37 (61%) were Highland residents: 7 were from Augusta County (12%).

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

Goal 1: Strengthen Financial SustainabilityD2D aims to enhance financial sustainability by cultivating relationships and partnerships. Success will be measured by a 20% revenue increase in 2025 compared to 2024. Currently operating with a minimal budget and no funding for salaries, D2D relies entirely on volunteers. Securing funding for professional services as part of program costs is essential for long-term growth and capacity building.

Goal 2: Enhance Riding FacilitiesTo expand learning opportunities for riders and horses, D2D plans to add five new obstacles to the riding ring and pasture. These additions will teach new skills, enriching the experience for participants and horses. This goal will be achieved when the obstacles are installed and integrated into lesson plans during the 2025 season.

Goal 3: Increase Community ReachD2D seeks to broaden its impact by collaborating with new community organizations for referrals. In 2024, the organization served the maximum number of students with existing resources. By increasing resources, D2D aims to serve 20% more individuals in 2025, including those attending retreats, clinics, and camps. By meeting these goals, D2D will continue delivering life-changing therapeutic horsemanship experiences while building a stronger foundation for future growth.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

D2D maintains collegial relationships with several therapeutic horsemanship centers in Virginia and adheres to the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH) standards. Our Executive Director completed PATH certification training at Sprout Therapeutic Riding Center, Dream Catchers, and Hoofbeats Therapeutic Riding Center, gaining valuable insights from these programs. What differentiates D2D is our emphasis on foundation horsemanship. Participants build trust and respect with their horse through groundwork before focusing on riding, fostering deeper connections and self-awareness. Highland County has three

other lesson stables, but D2D uniquely integrates therapeutic activities tailored to participants' physical, emotional, and social goals. Many students build confidence and skills at D2D that inspire them to compete in shows or pursue advanced riding opportunities not offered within our program, showcasing the transformative impact of our approach.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

D2D received a grant of \$2500 from the Community Foundation in 2024, which helped defray some of the cost increases for horse care. In our ten years of operation, the cost of feed increased by 47%: hay increased by 37%, and our farrier fees have doubled. Grant funds and donations enable us to offer scholarships to individuals who may not have the means to participate otherwise, as well as expand our outreach initiatives to reach underserved communities. We continue to seek ways to provide services to more people every year, and that requires more resources.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

I first met a couple I will call Dave and Jan during a meeting with social services counselors to brainstorm ways to help them adjust to their new reality. Jan had sustained severe injuries in a car accident that turned their lives upside down. Dave had to quit his job to care for her, and their frustration and depression were palpable. Social services asked D2D to introduce them to horsemanship, hoping it could offer them a renewed sense of purpose – and maybe even some fun. I knew that through working with horses, we could help Jan build confidence, strengthen her core, and improve their overall outlook. In short, we could offer them hope. Working with Jan was a challenge. Paralyzed on one side with an amputated leg below the knee, her core strength was very limited after over a year confined to a wheelchair. Riding could help her rebuild strength and balance, but she also struggled with fear stemming from the pain and trauma of her accident. Our initial goal was to have her ride Buck, our steadiest horse. We started small – introducing her to grooming and groundwork with Buck. He is a confidence-building horse, gentle and intuitive, and perfect for riders like Jan. Progressing to riding required immense courage. When the day came, we practiced a unique mounting technique to safely get her onto Buck. Overcoming her panic with each movement, we began with five steps. As she gripped the saddle horn, holding her breath, we made it. Then, step by step, we extended to 20. Suddenly, Jan laughed – a beautiful sound that moved all of us to tears. Her husband, Dave, shared that it was the first time he'd heard her laugh since the accident. By the end of that session, Jan and Buck completed a full circle around the ring. After their first month at D2D, I sent a progress report to the referring agency, complete with photos. The responses were humbling: Caseworker 1: "It brings tears to my eyes seeing how happy they are. They're a completely different family from when we met them." Caseworker 2: "That last report made me cry. That couple has been through so much, and it's wonderful for them to focus on something beyond the hell they've endured. Thank you to you and your team. You are ROCKSTARS, and we appreciate the excellent work you do for our at-risk youth and families." Jan's journey with D2D is a testament to the transformative power of therapeutic horsemanship. Together, we proved that hope, healing, and even laughter is possible after immense hardship. NOTE: the pictures attached below are of Jan's first lessons. The last picture is of Jan riding past her wheelchair – See you later, wheelchair!

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

2025 Community Grant (single-year grant)

What is the single-year grant amount you are requesting?

\$ 5,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

If the 2025 Community Grant is a partial amount of our request, we would continue to seek grants, donations, and sponsorships from other sources. The expenses that we are seeking help with from the Community Foundation are costs that we must spend to operate our program. We are committed to making our programs accessible to all individuals, regardless of their financial circumstances. Grant funds that cover our operational expenses enable us to offer scholarships to individuals who may not have the means to participate otherwise, as well as expand our outreach initiatives to reach underserved communities. We continue to seek ways to provide services to more people every year, and that requires more resources. D2D strongly believes that our collaboration with the Community Foundation will not only enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities but also contribute to the overall well-being and vitality of our community. We hope to work together to create a lasting impact that extends beyond the boundaries of our center and resonates throughout the region.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

At the end of 2024, we had to put one of our star therapy horses down. It is the heart-breaking side of equine therapy. We recently found a rescue horse that we believe will be able to fill in for Champ, although he has some pretty big shoes to fill. Our new horse, Cowboy, will need some training before we start using him for lessons in April. A grant from the Community Foundation will help us hire a trainer to work with him.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 5,000

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

January 27, 2025

AARP Purpose Prize Contest

Hello,

I am writing to recommend Marsha Lunsford, Executive Director and Founder of Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center to receive the Community Foundation Grant. Her work with individuals with disabilities and other challenges has brought hope and therapy to many in our remote rural mountain county.

I first met Marsha in 2018 when she hired me to create a video to post on Dare to Dream's website. I was so impressed with Marsha as I watched her seamlessly connecting her clients and horses together in such a positive, impactful way that was nothing short of inspiring. In 2019, I stepped into the position of Executive Director of the Highland County Chamber of Commerce, where Marsha was then serving as Chamber President. We collaborated for several years in that role, and she was always thoughtful, determined, and once again, inspirational.

Marsha is changing lives with her magnificent horses in Highland County. She truly has dedicated herself to Dare to Dream's mission, making her vision a reality. Our community and beyond has been blessed by her work, and the results speak for themselves. Recently, Dare to Dream was announced as the Best ADA Outdoor Experience in Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine's 2024 Best of the Blue Ridge. This award is voted on by readers of the magazine, so this is a major acknowledgement that is well deserved. Marsha's reach beyond just local residents can also be seen as she assists combat veterans at Dare to Dream, most of whom travel from other localities.

It's hard to overstate how fortunate Virginia's least populous county is to have such an incredible nonprofit within our midst. Marsha and Dare to Dream are such an asset to our area, and I am hopeful that your support will make their impact even greater. If you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Todd Swecker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'C' at the beginning.

Chris Swecker
Executive Director, Highland County Chamber of Commerce
director@highlandcounty.org

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

Quarterly Statement of Activity Summary

July 2024 - January 2025

	JUL - SEP, 2024	OCT - DEC, 2024	JAN 2025	TOTAL
Revenue				
4010 Program Fees				\$0.00
4011 Horsemanship Lessons	9,260.00	3,830.00		\$13,090.00
Total 4010 Program Fees	9,260.00	3,830.00		\$13,090.00
4020 Camps & Retreats				
4026 Volunteer Training	50.00			\$50.00
Total 4020 Camps & Retreats	50.00			\$50.00
4040 Sponsorships				
4041 Horse Lease Sponsorship	1,449.00	1,449.00		\$2,898.00
4044 Facilities Rent & Maintenance Sponsorship	2,421.00	2,421.00		\$4,842.00
Total 4040 Sponsorships	3,870.00	3,870.00		\$7,740.00
Total Revenue	\$13,180.00	\$7,700.00	\$0.00	\$20,880.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$13,180.00	\$7,700.00	\$0.00	\$20,880.00
Expenditures				
5015 Horse Lease	2,700.00	2,700.00		\$5,400.00
5020 Facilities Rent & Maintenance	2,421.00	2,421.00		\$4,842.00
5024 Job Materials	780.00		2,300.00	\$3,080.00
5026 Veterinary Expense	313.95	558.78		\$872.73
6013 Office Expenses, Supplies	158.91	590.00		\$748.91
6014 Computer equipment	835.74			\$835.74
6018 Information Technology				\$0.00
6017 I T Professional Services	161.00	150.00		\$311.00
6022 Website	147.00	147.00		\$294.00
Total 6018 Information Technology	308.00	297.00		\$605.00
6041 Legal & Professional Fees		125.00		\$125.00
6053 Insurance - Liability	1,019.00			\$1,019.00
6061 Dues & Subscriptions		95.00		\$95.00
6066 Travel		200.00		\$200.00
6070 Advertising	401.00	1,297.05		\$1,698.05
6083 Repair & Maintenance	958.00	702.00		\$1,660.00
6103 PayPal Fees		133.41		\$133.41
6104 SBA Lona Interest	24.00	24.00		\$48.00
8013 Advertising/Events & Appeals	125.00	449.72		\$574.72
Rent or Lease				\$0.00
6091 Rent for outhouse	366.28	919.85		\$1,286.13
Total Rent or Lease	366.28	919.85		\$1,286.13
Total Expenditures	\$10,410.88	\$10,512.81	\$2,300.00	\$23,223.69
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,769.12	\$ -2,812.81	\$ -2,300.00	\$ -2,343.69
NET REVENUE	\$2,769.12	\$ -2,812.81	\$ -2,300.00	\$ -2,343.69

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

Quarterly Statement of Activity Summary

July 2023 - June 2024

	JUL - SEP, 2023	OCT - DEC, 2023	JAN - MAR, 2024	APR - JUN, 2024	TOTAL
Revenue					
4010 Program Fees					\$0.00
4012 Scholarship Horsemanship Lessons	8,880.00	2,600.00	150.00	6,340.00	\$17,970.00
Total 4010 Program Fees	8,880.00	2,600.00	150.00	6,340.00	\$17,970.00
4020 Camps & Retreats					
4021 Cowgirl Camp	1,200.00				\$1,200.00
4026 Volunteer Training	980.00	40.00			\$1,020.00
Total 4020 Camps & Retreats	2,180.00	40.00			\$2,220.00
4040 Sponsorships					
4041 Horse Lease Sponsorship	450.00	70.00	1,449.00	1,449.00	\$3,418.00
4044 Facilities Rent & Maintenance Sponsorship	2,421.00	2,421.00	2,421.00	2,421.00	\$9,684.00
4048 Horse Training		160.00			\$160.00
Total 4040 Sponsorships	2,871.00	2,651.00	3,870.00	3,870.00	\$13,262.00
4045 Riding Ring Sponsorship				16,500.00	\$16,500.00
Total Revenue	\$13,931.00	\$5,291.00	\$4,020.00	\$26,710.00	\$49,952.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$13,931.00	\$5,291.00	\$4,020.00	\$26,710.00	\$49,952.00
Expenditures					
5013 Volunteer Expense	115.00				\$115.00
5015 Horse Lease	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	\$10,800.00
5020 Facilities Rent & Maintenance	2,421.00	2,421.00	2,421.00	2,421.00	\$9,684.00
5022 Expansion of Riding Ring				31,574.95	\$31,574.95
5024 Job Materials		194.96			\$194.96
5026 Veterinary Expense	362.54	669.56	1,316.15	1,927.96	\$4,276.21
5027 Professional horse training	1,843.18				\$1,843.18
6013 Office Expenses, Supplies	71.01	790.00	167.90	230.80	\$1,259.71
6018 Information Technology					\$0.00
6016 Computer Security	77.99				\$77.99
6017 IT Professional Services			28.00		\$28.00
6022 Website	147.00	147.00	147.00	147.00	\$588.00
Total 6018 Information Technology	224.99	147.00	175.00	147.00	\$693.99
6020 Postage & Shipping		9.55	39.63		\$49.18
6041 Legal & Professional Fees	100.00		0.00		\$100.00
6045 Annual Registration Fee				150.00	\$150.00
Total 6041 Legal & Professional Fees	100.00		0.00	150.00	\$250.00
6052 Insurance - Disability	100.00				\$100.00
6053 Insurance - Liability	919.00				\$919.00
6060 Education	75.00		694.99		\$769.99
6061 Dues & Subscriptions		95.00	675.00		\$770.00
6066 Travel			308.64		\$308.64
6070 Advertising	350.00	625.22	575.00	175.00	\$1,725.22
6071 Advertising/Program		100.00			\$100.00
6082 Licenses				35.00	\$35.00
6083 Repair & Maintenance	1,580.00	892.00	782.00	819.00	\$4,073.00

Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center

Quarterly Statement of Activity Summary

July 2023 - June 2024

	JUL - SEP, 2023	OCT - DEC, 2023	JAN - MAR, 2024	APR - JUN, 2024	TOTAL
6104 SBA Lona Interest	48.00	24.00	48.00	48.00	\$168.00
Rent or Lease					\$0.00
6091 Rent for outhouse	698.20	139.64	144.94	284.06	\$1,266.84
Total Rent or Lease	698.20	139.64	144.94	284.06	\$1,266.84
Total Expenditures	\$11,607.92	\$8,807.93	\$10,048.25	\$40,512.77	\$70,976.87
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,323.08	\$ -3,516.93	\$ -6,028.25	\$ -13,802.77	\$ -21,024.87
NET REVENUE	\$2,323.08	\$ -3,516.93	\$ -6,028.25	\$ -13,802.77	\$ -21,024.87

DePaul Community Resources

Fishersville

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 1977

Mission:

For over 47 years, DePaul Community Resources has opened doors to hope and belonging for children, families, and individuals with unique challenges across Central and Western Virginia. Since our founding, DePaul has grown to become one of Virginia's prominent providers of foster care, adoption, and developmental disabilities services, with 13 service locations statewide, over 150 staff, a network of over 400 care providers, foster and adoptive parents, and a host of volunteers and advocates. We are more than a nonprofit human services organization – we are a social impact organization that works to change the world by improving lives and building families. For the children and families we serve, our mission is to ensure safety, promote permanency, facilitate healing, and support independence. We accomplish this through foster care, adoption, independent living, and community-based counseling services. For individuals with developmental disabilities, we work to support personal choice, promote individual growth, and increase social inclusion to improve quality of life. We accomplish this through the provision of sponsored residential homes and day support services.

Primary activities and programs:

DePaul supports the community through our two service divisions – Child and Family Services (CFS) and Developmental Disabilities (DD) Services. Our CFS division provides foster care, adoption, kinship care, independent living, and counseling services. Our foster care program carefully matches children with loving foster families that can support youths' individualized needs. We recruit nurturing foster parents and provide specialized training so they may extend therapeutic care to children who experienced past trauma. For children with the goal of adoption, we offer comprehensive adoption services that support children and families through every step of the adoption process – before, during, and after adoption finalization occurs. Our kinship care program supports youth in kinship arrangements with relatives and prevents them from entering foster care. Our counseling services offer targeted therapies and counseling to children and families in crisis. In Independent Living, we assist youth who aged out of foster care in preparing for adulthood and achieving self-sufficiency. DePaul's DD Services division provides sponsored residential services and day support programs for individuals with developmental disabilities. Our Sponsored Residential program carefully matches children and adults with developmental disabilities to compassionate care provider homes. Our specially trained sponsored providers empower individuals to be active members of a family, experience community involvement, and find normalcy in everyday life. Our Agency-Directed Services program extends support to individuals and families with Medicaid waivers who need additional support in their homes. We operate two OPTIONS day support centers for adults

with disabilities in Fishersville and Madison Heights. At OPTIONS, our participants are involved with peers and friends in the community in enrichment activities, skill building, social events, field trips, and volunteer projects. The social inclusion and community engagement offered by our OPTIONS program are transformational for participants, contributing to their sense of belonging, personal growth, and overall quality of life.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

DePaul exists to improve lives, build families, and uplift communities across Virginia. We build new families through foster care and adoption, strengthen families in crisis, and create families for individuals with developmental disabilities who require more care than they can give themselves. Virginia is facing an ongoing foster care crisis and mental health crisis, exacerbated by a severe shortage of available foster homes to provide care to foster youth. More children are entering the foster care system with higher needs and mental health struggles due to significant abuse, neglect, and other trauma. This increase in needs requires a high level of therapeutic care and targeted mental health supports to help youth cope and heal from past trauma. The Virginia Department of Social Services reports a total of 5,418 children in foster care statewide; of those children, 1,696 (31%) are waiting to be adopted (1/2025). Currently, there are 178 children in foster care in Staunton, Waynesboro, and the counties of Augusta, Highland, and Nelson; 74 (42%) of these youth are waiting to be adopted. The shortage of available foster homes will most certainly have negative impacts on foster youths' ability to achieve permanency in a family home before they turn 18. When youth age out of foster care without permanent families, they are more likely than their peers to drop out of school, become parents before they are ready, turn to alcohol or drugs, experience homelessness, or become incarcerated – costly consequences that affect everyone in the community. In addition to the shortage of foster homes for youth in the region, there is a lack of care provider homes to support children and adults with developmental disabilities, especially in southern and western regions of Virginia. When community-based family homes are not available to provide care for them, individuals with disabilities are often placed in assisted living or nursing facilities simply because there is nowhere else for them to go. Sadly, this type of environment does not offer the quality of personalized, compassionate care these individuals deserve and need to thrive. Sterile nursing facilities are far from ideal and can prove to be counterproductive as these settings significantly limit an individual's ability to make personal choices and truly integrate into their community. Additionally, individuals with disabilities often feel excluded from the community at large. Their quality of life is drastically impacted without access to opportunities for personal and educational growth, skill building, recreation, and community integration. Having access to these opportunities in the community is transformational for individuals by generating more meaningful experiences, improved social, physical, and group interaction, and positive feedback from the community. Currently, over 17,000 individuals receive services through Virginia's Medicaid DD waiver program. The Arc of Virginia reports there are 15,436 Virginians with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who are on waiting lists for Medicaid waivers so they can receive urgently needed services (1/2025). Of those waiting, over 3,400 are considered priority one, meaning they require services immediately or within one year.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

DePaul's 2024 impact includes 123 children experiencing safety and healing in our nurturing foster homes; 169 children receiving support during their adoption process, including 78 who were officially welcomed into their forever homes; 334 families receiving post-adoption services to enhance stability and connection; 18 families receiving vital kinship support resources to ensure children stay close to their family network and out of foster care; 26 young adults in our Independent Living program transitioning into college, employment, and stable housing; 315 individuals and families working toward healing and stronger relationships through our counseling services; 23 adults with disabilities experiencing social inclusion, skill building, and community engagement in our OPTIONS day support centers; 146 families receiving services so they can care for their loved ones with a disability in their own homes through our agency-directed services; and 132 individuals with disabilities residing in family homes versus institutions through our sponsored residential program.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

81

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

DePaul's new strategic plan went into effect July 1, 2024 and includes goals that will extend through June 2027. Three of DePaul's strategic priorities include: 1.) Maintain financial agility and stability: Goals include generating a positive operating margin of 2-4% annually; maintaining net operating revenues at a level that allows for competitive wages, program development, and a positive operating margin; and identifying new funding sources that support existing programs and increase total contributions to between 3-5% of net operating revenues. 2.) Service alignment and responsiveness: Goals include aligning programs to address identified service needs; and ensuring each program has appropriate and meaningful outcome goals. 3.) Develop and maintain community connections and partnerships: Goals include developing and building new connections and partnerships in existing service regions; strengthening current community relationships; and building connections and partnerships in program expansion regions; and using digital marketing and social media presence to increase brand awareness.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

DePaul consistently exceeds the basic standards of care to achieve permanency for children and ensure individuals with disabilities are living full lives. Our treatment foster care services are uniquely suited to helping youth with complex needs. Our qualified team specializes in attachment theory, trauma, and the unique challenges of children and families involved in the

child welfare system. We recruit nurturing families and deliver specialized training and support so they can provide therapeutic homes to children with past trauma. For individuals with disabilities, our sponsored program carefully matches children and adults with disabilities to compassionate family care homes. We train our sponsored providers to extend personalized home-based care and empower individuals to experience their community. DePaul has long-standing relationships with our referral partners; we work closely with DSS agencies, CSBs, and other providers to ensure children, individuals, and families have access to the high-quality services and support needed to thrive.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

In 2024, DePaul was awarded a generous community grant from CFCBR in the amount of \$4,000. This grant was utilized to enhance services, support, and community outreach for participants at our Fishersville OPTIONS day support center. With the funds, our team was able to create a calming quiet room at the center for our participants to relax and be comfortable if they become overwhelmed. This former catchall room is now a soothing space for our participants, including comfortable furniture, area rug, sound machine, touch lights, and activity books when they need a break and some quiet time apart from the group. These funds also facilitated enriching activities in the community for our participants, including trips to Virginia Safari Park, painting and pottery classes, grocery shopping, library visits, zoo trips, as well as on-site cooking classes and outdoors games and activities at the center.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

Steven Burnette has big plans for the future. He wants to have friends. Before finding OPTIONS day support center, Steven struggled in social settings. Now, after three years in the program, Steven is on his way to overcoming the effects of a difficult past. He enjoys spending time with other participants in his program and his social interactions are improving. The next challenge for Steven to overcome: reading. DePaul staff are helping Steven learn how to read. These are big milestones for Steven and a simple box of books is helping him meet those milestones. It's called the "Little Free Library" and it is providing purpose and pride for adults with developmental disabilities like Steven at DePaul's Waterlick OPTIONS day support. Every Tuesday at 10 a.m., a group of OPTIONS participants boards the bus and heads to the local library. They scour the shelves and choose a few books to bring to the park. With books in hand, they board the bus again and they're off to the Little Free Library at Riverside Park. A few years ago, Lynchburg unveiled three Little Free Library locations, joining an international campaign to promote reading and community. The Little Free Library project encourages people to create small places where the public can leave and take books whenever they want. DePaul staff members heard about the little libraries and applied to be in the program. DePaul saw a chance to create more opportunities for OPTIONS participants. People with disabilities often struggle to find meaningful connections in their community. This was a small way to break down those barriers. Now, day support participants are maintaining the Riverside Park library, a chance for them to step outside of the center (and their comfort zones). "It's very important. I am a community engagement person all the way. I think the more situations they are in, the more they can learn," said Day Support Mentor Lisa Elbertson. The moment the bus arrives at Riverside Park, you can feel the excitement. Participants walk to the box, inspect the outside to

make sure it still looks inviting, and then open that little door and begin stacking their carefully chosen books. This is their responsibility and the participants take it seriously, especially Steven. He finds motivation in the little free library he maintains. "People need books when they don't have any to read. It gives them things to do. I want to help them," said Steven, beaming with pride. Some days, the visit to the little library is short. Sometimes participants will meet kids at the nearby playground and show them what all the little library has to offer. It is in those moments that maintaining a box of books becomes so much more. The world is not always welcoming to people with disabilities. For many, the fight for opportunities, freedom, and respect is part of life. For many like Steven, a little free library is a chance to dream, find purpose, and have pride no matter what challenges lie ahead.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

2025 Community Grant (single-year grant)

What is the single-year grant amount you are requesting?

\$ 7,500

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

A specific program or capital expenditure

If applicable, please describe the specific program or capital expenditure for which you are seeking support and why it is important to our community.

This project will support adults with developmental disabilities in Staunton, Waynesboro, and the surrounding area who participate in DePaul's OPTIONS day support program in Fishersville, VA. DePaul's day support program is known as OPTIONS—Opening People To Individual Opportunities in a Network of Support. Our OPTIONS centers are welcoming, loving places to belong for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. We offer activities inside and outside the center, Monday through Friday, that are tailored to the abilities and interests of our participants. Activities include art classes, personal fitness, social events, field trips, skill building, relationship building, educational experiences, and volunteering in community service projects. Through the program, participants grow as individuals as they develop self-esteem, learn new skills, make friends, and become involved members of their communities. The individuals served by our OPTIONS program include adults age 18 and older who have an intellectual and/or developmental disability. Disabilities may include intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, autism, Down syndrome, fragile X syndrome, or cerebral palsy. These individuals need support in personal care and daily living, medical/healthcare coordination, community access, leisure activities, behavior intervention, and emotional support. In facing the challenges of a disability, these individuals often feel excluded from the community at large, and their families can feel excluded as well. Their quality of life is drastically impacted without access to opportunities for personal and educational growth, skill building, recreation, and community integration. The requested

funding will provide our OPTIONS participants with opportunities for enriching activities and meaningful experiences with their friends in the community, as well as much-needed program support for Fishersville OPTIONS to continue delivering high-quality day support services to individuals and families in the region. \$2,500 will provide admission and membership expenses for OPTIONS participants to engage in enriching activities in their community, including: annual group membership to the YMCA or fitness center; community yoga, arts, and crafts classes; interactive plays or musical events; and educational experiences such as trips to Virginia Safari Park and more. \$5,000 will provide general program support for Fishersville OPTIONS to enhance services and support for the individuals we serve. Every day at OPTIONS, our day support staff encourage and facilitate participation in individualized activities, ensure safety, and provide needed practical support such as administering medication, transportation to community outings, and more. We support our individuals in skill-building, including self-care and hygiene, eating, toileting, task learning, community resource utilization, behavioral and social skills, and opportunities for peer interaction and community integration. At Fishersville OPTIONS, our participants have the opportunity to volunteer in their community with Meals-on-Wheels, the local food pantry, and more. This volunteerism provides an invaluable service to our community, and it is an invaluable experience for participants as well. The treasured, purposeful experiences individuals have at OPTIONS empower them to achieve their goals, enrich their daily lives, and improve their overall quality of life—a primary goal of the OPTIONS program.

If applicable, what is this program or capital expenditure's total budget?

\$ 400,797

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

To meet the goals of this project and enhance opportunities and services for our participants at Fishersville OPTIONS, the total amount of the requested funding is necessary. If we receive partial funding, we will prioritize the funds to facilitate the most immediate of our program's needs followed by enrichment opportunities that have the most interest and benefit for our participants. OPTIONS is a mission-driven program for DePaul because we understand how important and life-changing the OPTIONS program is for adults with disabilities. The funding DePaul receives from government sources to deliver day support services does not cover operating expenses. We operate our day support centers at a significant financial loss to our organization, which has only been exacerbated by the pandemic. During the temporary closures, our organization spent over \$300,000 to maintain our day support operations in anticipation of reopening our centers. DePaul continues to provide this essential service because the OPTIONS program is transformational for the people with disabilities we serve and beneficial to the community at large. This program empowers individuals, improves their quality of life, and uplifts the families who care for them. External support is critical to sustaining our OPTIONS centers and the invaluable support our program offers to individuals and the community. A grant from CFCBR will ensure our participants in Fishersville will continue to have access to activities and opportunities that will enhance their personal growth

and connection to their communities. Should we require additional funds to support the program, DePaul will reach out to private foundations and corporate partners whose goals are aligned with our mission of hope and belonging for individuals with disabilities.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

DePaul's OPTIONS centers help adults with disabilities feel a sense of belonging, connection, and purpose. Participants learn to serve others, experience personal growth alongside their peers, and feel they are part of something special. This program is essential in helping individuals flourish and improves their quality of life. In March 2020, DePaul was forced to temporarily close our OPTIONS centers due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These mandatory closures were necessary to ensure the health and safety of our participants, staff, and community. However, this led to missed opportunities, disruptions in routines, decreased social interaction, and other negative impacts for the individuals we serve. When OPTIONS closed, our participants lost access to one of their primary supports for quality time with peers, enrichment activities, and community involvement – all of which are necessary for our individuals to thrive. Our OPTIONS staff continued to stay connected with our participants, their families, and caregivers during this difficult, isolating time through personalized notes, phone check-ins, Zoom calls, virtual games, and packages. After more than two years apart, DePaul reopened OPTIONS and welcomed participants back to our centers in Madison Heights and Fishersville. Our participants have been thrilled to return to the program, see their friends, and have active days at OPTIONS and in the community again. DePaul's OPTIONS program has served Staunton, Waynesboro, and surrounding communities since 2001. Our Fishersville OPTIONS program currently serves 13 participants at the center each day. At this time, we have four referrals for individuals waiting to receive day support services. We are in the process of filling an additional direct service provider position which will allow our team to serve more individuals. We expect our census at Fishersville OPTIONS will continue to grow to a number that is comparable to our census prior to the pandemic, approximately 20 participants. As we continue to grow the program after the extended closure, OPTIONS requires external support and our participants are in need of meaningful activities outside of the center to connect with friends and the community.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Over half of DePaul's gross operating revenue consists of pass-through dollars to compensate foster families who provide loving homes for children and teens in foster care. DePaul continues to recover from pandemic-related impacts such as the closures of our day support

centers and significant remote work expenses required to safely continue service delivery to the community. Lingering challenges from the pandemic include a drastic decrease in new, approved homes for children in foster care and reduced interest in our center-based day support program for individuals with disabilities—a trend that has continued, resulting in significant revenue loss for DePaul. DePaul previously experienced an operating deficit due in part to external factors such as increased labor costs, unprecedented inflation, and stagnant reimbursement rates. We are implementing new operational strategies and programs to address these challenges, adapt to the changing landscape of the child welfare system, and meet the growing needs of families in crisis, children in foster care, and individuals with disabilities. Our current annual budget reflects an increase in expenses in part due to opening our new Hanover service location and launching agency-directed services to help meet unmet needs in the communities we serve. Overall, we project a loss of approximately \$239K, making outside support necessary to maintain and sustain the financial stability of our programs. To extend essential services that go beyond the basic standards of care, DePaul diligently seeks partners in our mission that will help us meet the needs of our communities and uplift Virginia's most vulnerable citizens.

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

\$2,500 will provide admission and membership expenses for OPTIONS participants to engage in enriching activities in their community, including: annual group membership to the YMCA or fitness center; community yoga, arts, and crafts classes; interactive plays or musical events; and educational and enriching experiences such as trips to Virginia Safari Park, Monday movies at the Wayne Theatre, swimming at the Augusta Health Center, and minigolf at Waynesboro Golf and Games. \$5,000 will provide general program support for Fishersville OPTIONS to enhance services and support for the individuals we serve. Every day at OPTIONS, our day support staff encourage and facilitate participation in individualized activities, ensure safety, and provide needed practical support such as administering medication, transportation to community outings, and more. We support our individuals in skill-building, including self-care and hygiene, eating, toileting, task learning, community resource utilization, behavioral and social skills, and opportunities for peer interaction and community integration. At Fishersville OPTIONS, our participants have the opportunity to volunteer in their community with Meals-on-Wheels, the local food pantry, and more. This volunteerism provides an invaluable service to our community, and it is an invaluable experience for participants as well. OPTIONS is a mission-driven program for DePaul because we understand how important and life-changing this service is to adults with disabilities. Unfortunately, the limited funding DePaul receives from government sources to deliver day support services does not even cover basic operating expenses. External support from partners like the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge is critical to sustaining our OPTIONS program and providing our participants with new opportunities for meaningful activities and connection to their communities.

May 16, 2023:

To whom it may concern,

DePaul Community Resources is fulfilling a desperate need in our community for adult day program services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. I am a caregiver for a member attending the DePaul OPTIONS Day program. The member was on a 3-year waiting list. This individual has been attending DePaul Options Day Program for almost (3) months. I have been extremely impressed by their qualified, caring staff and their wide array of activities to meet the members' different interests, needs, and abilities.

Since my individual began the program, DePaul created a quiet room for her and others to use when needing to practice coping skills. Additional funding for DePaul would benefit the Options Day Program by creating opportunities for additional activities, recreational outings, volunteerism, additional staff and most importantly, serving additional members.

DePaul's Options Day Program is the only place in our area catering to the day program needs of adults with intellectual disabilities. I have witnessed their priority of the health and wellness of my individual. I believe she is happier now because she is a part of a day program again.

I asked my individual what she liked best about the DePaul Options day program. She said, "What I like best about DePaul is having a building and being able to stay in. I like having attention from my staff. I like working on crafts. I really like being around other people and seeing my friends. I like eating lunch with a big group of friends. I really missed having a day program. Having a day program in my life makes me happy."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stacy Griffin

DePaul Consolidated

Description	Budget FY2025
RECEIPTS	
PASS-THROUGH RECEIPTS	13,378,961
OPERATING REVENUES	12,867,779
GROSS OPERATING REVENUE	26,246,740
PASS-THRU EXPENSES	14,184,206
NET OPERATING REVENUE	12,062,534
OPERATING EXPENSES	
SALARIES & OTHER BENEFITS	9,906,862
OCCUPANCY COSTS	771,455
SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	208,671
PHONE & INTERNET EXPENSE	216,408
VEHICLE EXPENSE	247,707
FOSTER PARENT RECRUIT. & TRAINING	94,597
STAFF RECRUITING & TRAINING	129,000
STAFF & CLIENT SPECIAL EVENTS	74,602
OTHER EXPENSES	665,081
GRANT RELATED EXPENSES	223,696
OPERATING EXPENSES	12,538,079
NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	(475,545)
NON-OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	236,127
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(239,418)

DePaul continues to recover from pandemic-related impacts such as the closures of our day support centers and significant remote work expenses required to safely continue service delivery to the community. Lingering challenges from the pandemic include a drastic decrease in new, approved homes for children in foster care and reduced interest in our center-based day support program for individuals with disabilities—a trend that has continued, resulting in significant revenue loss for DePaul. DePaul previously experienced an operating deficit due in part to external factors such as increased labor costs, unprecedented inflation, and stagnant reimbursement rates. We are implementing new operational strategies and programs to address these challenges, adapt to the changing landscape of the child welfare system, and meet the growing needs of families in crisis, children in foster care, and individuals with disabilities. Our current annual budget reflects an increase in expenses in part due to opening our new Hanover service location and launching agency-directed services to help meet unmet needs in the communities we serve. Overall, we project a loss of approximately \$239K, making outside support necessary to maintain and sustain the financial stability of our programs. To extend essential services that go beyond the basic standards of care, DePaul diligently seeks partners in our mission that will help us meet the needs of our communities and uplift Virginia’s most vulnerable citizens.

DePaul Community Resources
Statement of Activities
Consolidated

Description	Actual	Budget
	FY 2024 YTD	FY2024 Annual
RECEIPTS		
PASS-THROUGH RECEIPTS	12,305,295	13,031,460
OPERATING REVENUES	11,601,217	12,408,466
GROSS OPERATING REVENUE	23,906,512	25,439,926
PASS-THRU EXPENSES	12,898,278	13,618,586
NET OPERATING REVENUE	11,008,234	11,821,340
OPERATING EXPENSES		
SALARIES & OTHER BENEFITS	9,180,024	9,338,797
OCCUPANCY COSTS	760,874	763,053
SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	212,238	216,312
PHONE EXPENSE	220,282	250,797
VEHICLE EXPENSE	240,804	240,049
FOSTER PARENT RECRUIT. & TRAINING	81,751	106,047
STAFF RECRUITING & TRAINING	150,415	141,243
STAFF & CLIENT SPECIAL EVENTS	47,557	75,695
OTHER EXPENSES	642,492	669,349
GRANT RELATED EXPENSES	207,687	155,450
Total Operating Expenses	11,744,124	11,956,792
NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	-735,890	-135,452
NON-OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	439,509	150,784
NET INCOME (LOSS)	-296,381	15,332

PROJECT BUDGET:

Promoting Social Inclusion and Community Involvement for Individuals with Disabilities at DePaul's OPTIONS Day Support Program in Fishersville, Virginia

Income

Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge \$7,500.00

Expenses

Admission and Membership Expenses for OPTIONS Participants
Annual group membership to the YMCA or fitness center; community yoga, arts, and crafts classes; interactive plays or musical events; educational trips to Virginia Safari Park, etc. \$2,500.00

General Program Support
Fishersville OPTIONS day support services for adults with developmental disabilities \$5,000.00

Total \$ 7,500.00



Budget Narrative:

\$2,500 will provide admission and membership expenses for OPTIONS participants to engage in enriching activities in their community, including: annual group membership to the YMCA or fitness center; community yoga, arts, and crafts classes; interactive plays or musical events; and educational and enriching experiences such as trips to Virginia Safari Park, Monday movies at the Wayne Theatre, swimming at the Augusta Health Center, and minigolf at Waynesboro Golf and Games. \$5,000 will provide general program support for Fishersville OPTIONS to enhance services and support for the individuals we serve. Every day at OPTIONS, our day support staff encourage and facilitate participation in individualized activities, ensure safety, and provide needed practical support such as administering medication, transportation to community outings, and more. We support our individuals in skill-building, including self-care and hygiene, eating, toileting, task learning, community resource utilization, behavioral and social skills, and opportunities for peer interaction and community integration. At Fishersville OPTIONS, our participants have the opportunity to volunteer in their community with Meals-on-Wheels, the local food pantry, and more. This volunteerism provides an invaluable service to our community, and it is an invaluable experience for participants as well. OPTIONS is a mission-driven program for DePaul because we understand how important and life-changing this service is to adults with disabilities. Unfortunately, the limited funding DePaul receives from government sources to deliver day support services does not even cover basic operating expenses. External support from partners like the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge is critical to sustaining our OPTIONS program and providing our participants with new opportunities for meaningful activities and connection to their communities.



DePaul Community Resources

Budget

07/01/2024 - 06/30/2025

Fishersville OPTIONS

	<u>Total</u>
OPERATING REVENUES	240,890
SALARIES & OTHER BENEFITS	304,642
OCCUPANCY COSTS	48,656
SUPPLIES & EXPENSES	6,121
PHONE EXPENSE	6,905
VEHICLE EXPENSE	8,593
CARE PROVIDER RECRUITING & TRAINING	1,459
STAFF RECRUITING & TRAINING	2,510
STAFF & CLIENT SPECIAL EVENTS	4,943
OTHER EXPENSES	14,340
GRANT RELATED FUNDS	2,627
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	400,797
NET INCOME (LOSS)	(159,907)

Infant and Toddler Connection of Augusta-Highland\Augusta County
Preschool
Verona

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: Early Intervention services first became mandated under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act) in 1987.

Mission:

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia is Virginia's early intervention system for infants and toddlers (age 0-36 months) with disabilities and their families. Any infant or toddler in Virginia who isn't developing as expected or who has a medical condition that can delay typical development is eligible to receive early intervention supports and services under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Early intervention supports and services focus on increasing the child's participation in family and community activities that are important to the family. In addition, supports and services focus on helping parents and other caregivers know how to find ways to help their children learn during everyday activities.

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia's supports and services are available to all eligible children and their families regardless of a family's ability to pay.

One important aspect is fostering preschool experiences for all children. Interacting with peers plays a huge role in learning opportunities for children. Developing partnerships with families supports children by communicating about learning, supporting family needs, and connecting families to their communities. We support community partners so children have access to quality preschool experiences.

Primary activities and programs:

Infant Toddler Connection of Augusta-Highland and Augusta County Preschools collectively provide support and services to children from birth through the age of five who are not developing as typically expected, at risk for school success, or who have an identified disability that can delay normal development. The Infant and Toddler Program, Augusta County Preschools, and community partners work collaboratively to best meet the educational needs of the children we serve. Early Childhood Special Education Services can occur in the family's home, community based programs, or in a school setting.

The change from early intervention to preschool services is often met with feelings of stress and anxiety by families. Families are coached to consider all relevant factors - financial, geographic, values, teaching methods, class size, and school staff to determine the best preschool match for their family and follow a philosophy of child placement in the least restrictive environment.

All guidelines emphasize family involvement, child preparation for new environments, information exchange between service providers, continuity between settings, and compliance with federal, state, and other legal mandates. Developing partnerships with families includes communicating about preschool, supporting family needs, and connecting families to their communities.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

For any number of reasons, many young children need a little extra help to reach certain developmental milestones. And since infants and toddlers grow and learn so quickly, it's important to get that extra help as early as possible. Early identification and intervention makes a difference!

The Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia provides supports and services (physical, speech, occupational, developmental, and service coordination) for infants and toddlers and their families so that families can help their children learn during everyday activities and routines.

Through our scholarship program for part time community based preschool, ITCAH and ACPS is addressing a gap in access to quality, early childhood education for "school aged 2 year olds" that had previously been unattainable for them due to (1) the disability of the child, and (2) lack of financial resources. Our mission is to provide high quality early childhood experiences for all children and families. Consistent barriers have been identified in prohibiting access to early childhood experiences with same aged peers; these children may remain on the waitlist for Early Head Start due to limited available slots, are unable to afford private/community preschool, community preschools do not typically have the training and resources available to meet the unique needs for a child with a developmental delay, families do not have access to transportation, geographically they live in locations where access to community activities/events are difficult to attend, or do not meet community preschools' current developmental criteria for enrollment; therefore excluding the needs of the children we are serving. The average cost of attending a part time community preschool program (2-3 half days per week) is \$300/month. This is not manageable for a family that is living at the poverty level.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

Infant Toddler Connection provided early intervention services to 212 children, birth through the day before their third birthday during 2024. There is an average of 105 children being served at any one point in time.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

100%

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

It is our goal, in the scope of this initiative of supporting part time community preschool placements for two year olds, to stretch financial resources to serve as many kids as possible.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

Our community preschool scholarship program is intended to support two year olds whose families are not financially eligible for Early Head Start or the childcare subsidy through DSS but still find the tuition to be a financial hardship and are still too young for the school based Preschool.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

Our scholarship, that is currently fully supported by the Community Grant, was able to assist 4 children in attending a part time preschool program. These children and the preschool program were also supported by our early intervention services (OT, PT , Speech, developmental) to ensure their success in a community setting where the providers do not always have the training to meet special needs.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

This year we were able to support one child in particular that has significant developmental needs in a part time preschool setting. His family was barely over the income limit to meet the requirements for Early Head Start or the childcare subsidy but did not have the financial resources. Additionally many preschools declined serving him because they did not feel they would be able to meet his needs (staffing or environmentally), even with the support of early intervention services. His mom was devastated through this very long process as she really valued the benefits of peer socialization for her child. Through persistence we were able to aid them in finding a preschool that agreed to enroll him and our scholarship made it financially feasible. We also have a strong belief that the community benefits as well when there is inclusion.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 10,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

A specific program or capital expenditure

If applicable, please describe the specific program or capital expenditure for which you are seeking support and why it is important to our community.

Preschool scholarships for children age 2 to attend part time community preschool.

If applicable, what is this program or capital expenditure's total budget?

\$ There is no particular budget. We serve as many kids as we have the funds for. We do look to identify other sources of money such as church based preschools that also offer scholarships as well as what families are able to contribute.

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

We will offer scholarship funds to as many kids as we are able.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Part C LEIS LLA Fiscal Report

Infant & Toddler Connection of Augusta-Highland
 LLA: Augusta
 Contract Number: 720-5063-04
 DUNS Number: 18435412
 FFY24/SFY25

Revision Date @ N/A

Section A: Budget, Service Information & Expenditures									
	Budgeted Federal Part C Revenue	Budgeted State Part C Revenue	Budgeted Additional Revenues	Budgeted TOTAL Revenues	Actual Expenditures 07/01 - 12/31	Actual Expenditures 01/01 - 06/30	TOTAL Expenditures	Comments	
DIRECT SERVICES									
<i>Billed by 15-minute increments/units</i>									
Assessment for Service Planning	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Counseling	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Nursing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Occupational Therapy	\$0.00	\$133,467.00	\$0.00	\$133,467.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Rhonda Shreve - \$133,467
Occupational Therapy - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Physical Therapy	\$0.00	\$58,680.00	\$82,886.00	\$141,566.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Karen Miller + \$10,000 = \$131,566 + \$10,000 = \$141,566
Physical Therapy - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Psychology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Social Work	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Developmental Services	\$94,844.00	\$0.00	\$76,278.00	\$171,122.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Leah Harris = \$82,033, Kim Mahon = \$89,089 = Total of \$171,122
Speech Language Pathology	\$0.00	\$64,945.00	\$0.00	\$64,945.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Kari Hanson = \$55,692, Susan Morris Rollins = \$9,253 = 64,945
Speech-Language Pathology - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Vision	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,860.00	\$1,860.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Amber Smith - last year - \$1,860
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$94,844.00	\$257,092.00	\$161,024.00	\$512,960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
DIRECT SERVICES									
<i>Individual Activities</i>									
Assistive Technology Devices	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Audiology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Eligibility Determination (EI Providers)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Health	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Nutrition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Service Coordination	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Transportation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
SYSTEM OPERATIONS									
Administration	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
System Management	\$0.00		\$99,673.00	\$99,673.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Rachel Grimm
Data Collection	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Training	\$0.00		\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Professional Development
Public Awareness/Child Find	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other System Cost	\$0.00		\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Misc.
Subtotal	\$0.00		\$104,673.00	\$104,673.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	\$94,844.00	\$257,092.00	\$265,697.00	\$617,633.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

Section B: Revenues by Source									
SOURCE	Annual Budget	Actual Revenues 07/01 - 12/31	Actual Expenditures 07/01 - 12/31	Mid-Year Balance	Actual Revenues 01/01 - 06/30	Actual Expenditures 01/01 - 06/30	Final Balance	Comments	
Federal Part C Funds	\$94,844.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Federal Part C Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State Part C Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State Part C Retained Earnings	\$257,092.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Local Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Medicaid	\$62,931.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Last year's actual income - \$62,391

Medicaid EI TCM	\$70,537.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Last year's acutal income - \$70,537
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TRICARE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Family Cost Share	\$560.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Last year's actual income - \$560
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
In Kind	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Equal to Other System Cost under Systems Operations (see above section)
Other → Additional local funding to offset deficit)	\$129,669.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Local funds needed to balance the budget - includes transfer from Escrow of \$261.77 (rollover amount from FY24)
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify) →	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	\$617,633.00	\$0.00							
SURPLUS	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00			\$0.00	

Part C LEIS Lead Agency Budget

Infant & Toddler Connection of
 Contract Number 720-4515-04
 DUNS Number
 FFY/SFY

Augusta & Highland
 720-4515-04
 18435412
 FFY23/SFY24

Revision Date → 08/07/24

Section A: Budget, Service Information & Expenditures

	Budgeted Federal Part C Revenues	Budgeted State Part C Revenues	Budgeted Additional Revenues	Budgeted TOTAL Revenues	Actual Expenditures 07/01 - 12/31	Actual Expenditures 01/01 - 06/30	TOTAL Expenditures	Comments
DIRECT SERVICES								
<i>Billed by 15-minute increments/units</i>								
Assessment for Service Planning	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Counseling	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Nursing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Occupational Therapy	\$0.00	\$126,603.00	\$8,000.00	\$134,603.00	\$16,822.97	\$76,366.42	\$93,189.39	Cost of #1 Occupational Therapist (\$126,603 + Contracted Services)
Occupational Therapy - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Physical Therapy	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,899.68	\$2,899.68	
Physical Therapy - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Psychology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Social Work	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Developmental Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,865.46	\$7,051.12	\$12,916.58	
Speech Language Pathology	\$0.00	\$13,646.00	\$16,354.00	\$30,000.00	\$1,698.68	\$1,465.13	\$3,163.81	
Speech-Language Pathology - AT Service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Vision	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$141,899.00	\$89,354.00	\$231,253.00	\$24,387.11	\$87,782.35	\$112,169.46	
DIRECT SERVICES								
<i>Individual Activities</i>								
Assistive Technology Devices	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Audiology	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Eligibility Determination (EI Providers)	\$0.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$13,000.00	\$41,660.09	\$41,200.37	\$82,860.46	
Health	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Nutrition	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Service Coordination	\$92,167.00	\$76,022.00	\$0.00	\$168,189.00	\$72,456.27	\$96,393.59	\$168,849.86	Compensation costs of #2 employees
Transportation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$92,167.00	\$89,022.00	\$0.00	\$181,189.00	\$114,116.36	\$137,593.96	\$251,710.32	
SYSTEM OPERATIONS								
Administration	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
System Management	\$0.00		\$52,654.00	\$52,654.00	\$37,899.40	\$56,324.48	\$94,223.88	Compensation cost of director/coordinator
Data Collection	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Training	\$0.00		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$438.26	\$438.26	
Public Awareness/Child Find	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	\$0.00	\$130.00	
Other System Cost	\$0.00		\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$2,500.00	
Subtotal	\$0.00		\$57,654.00	\$57,654.00	\$39,279.40	\$58,012.74	\$97,292.14	
TOTAL REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	\$92,167.00	\$230,921.00	\$147,008.00	\$470,096.00	\$177,782.87	\$283,389.05	\$461,171.92	

Section B: Revenues by Source

SOURCE	Annual Budget	Actual Revenues 07/01 - 12/31	Actual Expenditures 07/01 - 12/31	Mid-Year Balance	Actual Revenues 01/01 - 06/30	Actual Expenditures 01/01 - 06/30	Final Balance	Comments
Federal Part C Funds	\$92,167.00	\$46,083.48	\$46,083.48	\$0.00	\$46,083.52	\$46,083.52	\$0.00	
Federal Part C Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State Part C Funds	\$230,921.00	\$115,460.52	\$115,460.52	\$0.00	\$115,460.48	\$115,460.48	\$0.00	
State Part C Retained Earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
State Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Local Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Medicaid	\$70,000.00	\$26,639.70	\$13,285.25	\$13,354.45	\$36,291.21	\$49,383.89	\$261.77	Transfer to Escrow
Medicaid EI TCM	\$55,000.00	\$29,848.00	\$0.00	\$29,848.00	\$40,689.00	\$70,537.00	\$0.00	
Insurance	\$1,020.00	\$1,198.62	\$1,198.62	\$0.00	\$514.16	\$514.16	\$0.00	
TRICARE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Family Cost Share	\$500.00	\$505.00	\$505.00	\$0.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$0.00	
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
In Kind	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	
Other (additional funding to offset deficit)	\$17,988.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Other (specify)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
TOTAL REVENUES & EXPENDITURES	\$470,096.00	\$220,985.32	\$177,782.87	\$43,202.45	\$240,448.37	\$283,389.05	\$261.77	
SURPLUS	\$0.00	\$43,202.45			(\$42,940.68)		\$261.77	

Ride With Pride

Staunton

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 1989

Mission:

The mission of Ride With Pride is to serve those in Greater Augusta County, Staunton, and Waynesboro with physical, emotional, and developmental special needs through a wide range of therapeutic equine activities.

Primary activities and programs:

RWP offers a supportive environment for the treatment of cognitive, mental health, physical, social, and emotional needs. RWP utilizes functional riding skills and the rhythmic movement of the horse to achieve individual goals.

Programing:

Therapeutic Riding - horsemanship skills and riding techniques with equine assisted therapy; teaches communication skills with horses and peers; improves horsemanship skills to the best of the rider's ability; physical and mental health benefits.

People Places, Inc. Partnered Group Lesson – for youth who have experienced significant trauma and are learning to trust again (open to community-based foster children). A licensed professional counselor and our PATH Certified Instructor blend classroom and hands-on horse activities. Activities include trust therapy, social skills (emphasizes listening, following directions, asking for help, problem solving, & working as a team), anger awareness (emphasizes listening, relaxation, empathy, & problem solving; whoa-go (combines basic yoga techniques & explores the horse and rider connection; improves balance, strength and flexibility), and cowboy poetry (character building for at-risk youth).

Reading With Horses—a book club for children 6-12 and 13-17 who struggle in school, have a learning diagnosis, or who want more time around horses and peers while having fun talking about their book. Weekly meetings are an hour with group discussions, & time reading with or to the horses in their own space.

Veterans Program –a combination of equine activities, recreation, and socialization, builds trust-centered skills.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

RWP offers clients a supportive environment for the treatment of cognitive, mental health, physical, social, and emotional needs. The program utilizes functional riding skills and the rhythmic movement of the horse to achieve individual goals. People with cognitive, psycho-

motor and behavioral disabilities have shown positive results when therapeutic riding is taught by certified equine therapists. According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023: ACS 5-Year Estimate report, 16.8% of the non-institutionalized population in Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County have a disability compared with the state average of 12.2%. Of this number, 7.9% and 8.1% of local residents have either a cognitive difficulty or ambulatory challenge (9.4% and 1% for the population under 18 years old), respectively, compared to 5% and 6.2% at the state level (4.7% and 0.6% for ages 18 and under). Various community surveys (Augusta Health's 2022 "Community Health Needs Assessment," CAPSAW's 2024 "Community Needs Assessment Report," and the Office on Youth's "2018 Staunton, Augusta County, and Waynesboro Youth Community Needs Assessment") all list mental health as a top community need for the locality. According to County Health Rankings & Roadmaps, top performing localities in the United States have a mental health provider ratio of 320:1 (410:1 overall for Virginia). While Staunton has an exceptional rate of 140:1, Augusta County is significantly behind with 1,220:1, and Waynesboro trails the state rate at 650:1. For clients with physical challenges, RWP uses the movement of the horse to address the patient's challenges, with a focus on improving independence with activities of daily living and increased participation in family, school and community life. The movement of the horse creates a multi-sensory experience that is controlled by a skilled horse handler under the direction of the program director. The three-dimensional movement imparted to the client from the horse's movement creates a pattern that is similar to normal walking. This movement cannot be duplicated in traditional clinical settings. As a result of the horse's movement, the patient makes improvements with balance, strength, coordination, and postural control. RWP provides a unique and effective mental health therapeutic service. The results of a ten-week study on therapeutic riding showed improvements in sense of self-efficacy and self-esteem in participants with psychiatric disabilities. The goal is to create a safe place for the client to engage in activities with a horse to help process feelings, thoughts and reactions. The horse serves as a giant "biofeedback machine" for the client to visualize his/her motives, reactions and abilities. Studies show that therapeutic riding has been helpful for patients in the following areas: assertiveness, emotional awareness, empathy, stress tolerance, flexibility, impulse control, problem-solving skills, self-actualization, independence, self-regard, social responsibility, interpersonal relationships, grief/loss, cognitive disability, ADD/ADHD, autism, personality disorders, anxiety/depression, mood disorders, PTSD, and emotional/physical trauma. Based on the students' needs, RWP's instructors create specialized lesson plans that will help improve muscle tone, joint mobility, balance, coordination, posture, confidence, and self-esteem.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

In 2024, RWP served a total of 160 individuals (duplicated) of which 62 were unique/unduplicated. Seventy-two percent (72%) of the students were under the age of 18. Reported diagnoses include: Anxiety (13); ADHD (13); autism (10); depression (4); two (2) or

fewer clients reported: cerebral palsy, PTSD, sensory processing disorder, disruptive mood disorder, TBI, vision/hearing loss, and fibromyalgia.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

In 2024, RWP clients came from the following jurisdictions: Augusta County (25%); Staunton (32%); Waynesboro (35%); surrounding localities (8%).

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

RWP will conduct the following activities from January – December 2025:

- Conduct four (4) therapeutic riding sessions (145 clients)
- Offer a six-week winter horsemanship session (20 participants)
- Offer one (1) four-week Reading With Horses sessions (up to 6 participants)
- Partner with People Places, Inc. to offer three (3) group sessions (20 clients)
- Conduct at least three (3) community presentations to educate the public about the benefits of equine-assisted health programs.
- To increase participation in the Veterans program, at least one (1) community presentation will highlight this programming.

RWP will administer a client survey to assess the benefits of the various programming. We anticipate that clients will self-report the following outcomes: 75% enhanced social skills, 65% increased self-esteem, 45% reduced anxiety, 30% increase on core/trunk strength, 45% improvement in balance. 2024 survey results: 100% reported increased self-esteem & social skills; 63% reported an increase in core/trunk strength and posture; 63% reported increased ability to stay focused; 50% reported a decrease in anxiety; and 25% reported increased gait, mobility, and balance. The objectives of the 2025 strategic plan were accomplished, and the Board of Directors will be working on a new five-year initiative plan over the next several months.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

RWP is the only therapeutic horsemanship program serving Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County. RWP partners with People Places, Inc. to offer therapeutic equine services for youth who have experienced trauma. The Mental Health Initiative ("MHI," Department of Social Services) provides payment for RWP clients that have a working relationship with a social worker, and RWP provides MHI with instructor's notes for each student.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

Ride With Pride received a multi-year grant in 2022 (\$3,000 per year for general operating). Over the last three years, we accomplished the following:

- Increased our programming with People Places. In the past year, we hosted two group sessions with this partner.
- We increased from three (3) six-week therapeutic riding sessions to four (4) six-week sessions.
- We added a 6-week winter program (horsemanship).
- We increased to 160 clients (duplicated) annually.
- We streamlined our operations for a more streamlined program and developed a more cost-effective budget.

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

My son has been in the Ride with Pride for several years and this program has helped him in so many ways. He has autism and riding helps him be calmer. Riding also helps with his social skills and emotional bonding. The staff and volunteers at Ride with Pride are amazing. They are very patient with the riders and understanding of each child's needs are different. This program has been a blessing to my family. -Christina Davis

My daughter, Kendall, has greatly benefited from your program in overcoming her social anxiety. Since joining, she has become increasingly social and has developed meaningful friendships with both the staff, her peers, and best of all the horses, all of whom she now considers family. The positive environment you foster has not only improved her confidence but has also significantly enhanced her self-esteem. Each session at Ride With Pride has brought out the best in her, encouraging her to engage with others and build lasting relationships. Your program has inspired Kendall to pursue a career as a veterinarian after she graduates from high school. This aspiration reflects the profound impact your organization has had on her personal growth. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to the well-being of the children in your program. Your dedication to therapeutic activities is truly commendable and has made a lasting difference in Kendall's life. - Amber White

"Our 15-year-old son with Autism recently began watching YouTube videos of horseback riding. For his birthday, he wanted to 'ride a horse' . He doesn't have the best gross motor skills, so traditional horse-riding opportunities were not an option. We found Ride With Pride and contacted them to see what was available. They worked diligently to provide a one-on-one experience for our son to ride a horse. He was hooked. Carolyn suggested their summer therapeutic program. which is very adaptive to the individual. Our son is verbal, however, isn't a big conversationalist. When he got on his horse Banjo, he would not stop talking. He was engaged and energized by his experience. He would talk about the riding afterwards and then keep asking when he could go back. The staff was patient with our son and kept it fun while sneaking in some occupational therapy."-Nicole Group

"Our son has been a part of Ride With Pride for 17-18 years! Not only has our son learned about horses and how to relate to them, through the program he has also learned how to confront his anxiety, deal with changes in any situation calmly, and work with others in a positive, constructive manner. He absolutely loves the instructors! They have worked with our son to help him with not only riding, but also social skills, and given him an opportunity to practice good conversation. He has developed confidence in a skill (horseback riding) that he may not have ever tried, had he not been in this program. Ride With Pride is not only therapy and instruction, it's also very fun. -Michelle Knoll

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 3,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

We respectfully request \$3,000 per year for three years for general operating expenses. This multi-year grant makes a significant positive impact on our annual budget, and it is challenging to find grants to fund general operating expenses. If Ride With Pride only receives a partial amount, we will identify additional grant prospects to help cover the deficit; however, it will take time to submit proposals and wait for notification about funding.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 142,720

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Consolidated

Accounts	Budget totals
43300 Donations	\$0.00
43301 Individuals Donations	\$20500.00
43302 Donations-Civic Org/Fnd/Trusts	\$5500.00
43303 Donations-Businesses	\$5500.00
43305 Yearly Corp Sponsor	\$7500.00
43311 Stall Sponsor	\$4500.00
Total 43300 Donations	\$43500.00
43500 Program Income	\$0.00
43531 Spring Session	\$8000.00
43532 Summer Session	\$16000.00
43533 Fall Session	\$8000.00
43534 Winter Session	\$3000.00
Total 43500 Program Income	\$35000.00
43600 Grant Income	\$17000.00
Total 43600 Grant Income	\$17000.00
43900 Fundraising Income	\$0.00
43902 Fall Trail Ride	\$4500.00
43904 Clinics	\$8500.00
43907 Merchandise Sales	\$1000.00
43916 Student Horseshow	\$500.00
43919 Direct Mailing	\$4000.00
43926 Annual Dinner & Auction	\$30000.00
43937 King Clinic	\$2000.00
Total 43900 Fundraising Income	\$50500.00
Total Income	\$146000.00
61000 Horse & Barn Expenditures	\$0.00
60910 Room and Board	\$15270.00
60920 Farrier/Shoeing	\$3200.00
60930 Equipment	\$0.00
60940 Vet/Dental/Medication	\$7000.00
60950 Miscellaneous Barn Expenses	\$200.00
Total 61000 Horse & Barn Expenditures	\$25670.00
62020 Annual Dinner & Auction	\$10000.00
62030 Fall Trail Ride	\$300.00
62040 Horseshows	\$200.00
62051 "Swag"	\$500.00
62070 T-Shirt / Merch Expence	\$1000.00
62095 Clinics	\$200.00
62500 Fundraising Mailing Expense	\$5000.00
Total 62000 Fundraising Expence	\$17200.00
Total 63000 Program Expenses	\$0.00
65000 Operations	\$0.00
65015 Memberships and Dues	\$4200.00
65020 Postage, Mailing Service	\$300.00
65025 Insurance - Liability, D&O	\$9500.00
65040 Office Supplies	\$600.00
65045 Grant Writing Expenses	\$1500.00
65050 Telephone/Water	\$1300.00
65055 Marketing/Promotion/Cultivation	\$700.00
Total 65055 Marketing/Promotion/Cultivation	\$700.00

Accounts	Budget totals
65060 Training/Travel/Meetings	\$150.00
65064 Accounting Services(990)	\$400.00
65065 Accounting - NAP	\$6000.00
65070 Miscellaneous Adm Expenses	\$100.00
65090 Paypal	\$100.00
Total 65000 Operations	\$24850.00
66000 Contractor Expenses	\$0.00
66003 Instructors/Supervision	\$12000.00
66005 Marketing - sub	\$1500.00
Total 66000 Contractor Expenses	\$13500.00
70000 Payroll Expenses	\$0.00
72000 Taxes	\$6000.00
73000 Wages-Program Director	\$40000.00
74000 Wages-Barnworkers	\$15500.00
Wages	\$0.00
Total Wages	\$0.00
Total 70000 Payroll Expenses	\$61500.00
Total Reimbursements	\$0.00
Total Expense	\$142720.00
Total Net Income	\$3280.00

Saturday, December 28, 2024 at 4:23 PM EST

Ride With Pride, Inc.

Budget vs. Actuals: 2024 Budget - FY24 P&L

January - December 2024

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
43300 Donations				
43301 Individuals Donations	30,362.44	20,500.00	9,862.44	148.11 %
43302 Donations-Civic Org/Fnd/Trusts	25,038.17	5,500.00	19,538.17	455.24 %
43303 Donations-Businesses	5,473.11	5,500.00	-26.89	99.51 %
43305 Yearly Corp Sponsor	5,500.00	8,000.00	-2,500.00	68.75 %
43310 Donations-Scholarships	100.00		100.00	
43311 Stall Sponsor	1,500.00	7,500.00	-6,000.00	20.00 %
Total 43300 Donations	67,973.72	47,000.00	20,973.72	144.62 %
43500 Program Income		33,000.00	-33,000.00	
43531 Spring Session	6,605.00		6,605.00	
43532 Summer Session	15,770.00		15,770.00	
43533 Fall Session	6,285.00		6,285.00	
43534 Winter Session	5,320.00		5,320.00	
Total 43500 Program Income	33,980.00	33,000.00	980.00	102.97 %
43600 Grant Income	15,749.06	12,200.00	3,549.06	129.09 %
43609 The Brant Foundation, Inc.	2,000.00		2,000.00	
Total 43600 Grant Income	17,749.06	12,200.00	5,549.06	145.48 %
43700 Miscellaneous Income	100.00		100.00	
43701 Miscellaneous Income-Insurance	90.00		90.00	
43800 Interest Income	2,688.47		2,688.47	
43900 Fundraising Income				
43902 Fall Trail Ride	1,395.00	3,000.00	-1,605.00	46.50 %
43904 Clinics	8,569.93	4,000.00	4,569.93	214.25 %
43907 Merchandise Sales		2,000.00	-2,000.00	
43916 Student Horseshow	-91.80	500.00	-591.80	-18.36 %
43919 Direct Mailing	1,605.00	5,000.00	-3,395.00	32.10 %
43920 5K Run	8,259.60	7,000.00	1,259.60	117.99 %
43923 "Swag"	475.00		475.00	
43926 Annual Dinner & Auction	26,698.30	35,000.00	-8,301.70	76.28 %
Total 43900 Fundraising Income	46,911.03	56,500.00	-9,588.97	83.03 %
PayPal Sales	70.09		70.09	
Unapplied Cash Payment Income	1,013.02		1,013.02	
Total Income	\$170,575.39	\$148,700.00	\$21,875.39	114.71 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$170,575.39	\$148,700.00	\$21,875.39	114.71 %
Expenses				
61000 Horse & Barn Expenditures				
60910 Room and Board	11,852.91	15,270.00	-3,417.09	77.62 %
60920 Farrier/Shoeing	3,695.00	2,000.00	1,695.00	184.75 %
60930 Equipment	875.12		875.12	
60940 Vet/Dental/Medication	11,108.44	7,000.00	4,108.44	158.69 %
60950 Miscellaneous Barn Expenses	180.99	200.00	-19.01	90.50 %

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total 61000 Horse & Barn Expenditures	27,712.46	24,470.00	3,242.46	113.25 %
62000 Fundraising Expence	100.00		100.00	
62020 Annual Dinner & Auction	8,199.34	10,000.00	-1,800.66	81.99 %
62030 Fall Trail Ride	51.45	300.00	-248.55	17.15 %
62040 Horseshows	60.47	200.00	-139.53	30.24 %
62051 "Swag"	605.90	500.00	105.90	121.18 %
62070 T-Shirt / Merch Expence		1,000.00	-1,000.00	
62095 Clinics	1,206.59	200.00	1,006.59	603.30 %
62096 5K Run	1,542.44	2,000.00	-457.56	77.12 %
62500 Fundraising Mailing Expense	2,749.06	5,000.00	-2,250.94	54.98 %
Total 62000 Fundraising Expence	14,515.25	19,200.00	-4,684.75	75.60 %
63000 Program Expenses	124.66		124.66	
43630 Scholarship applied	1,710.00		1,710.00	
63010 Therapuetic Horsemanship	51.74		51.74	
63045 Veteran's Program	180.00		180.00	
63080 Bad Debt Expense	160.00		160.00	
63090 Refund of over payment	162.98		162.98	
Total 63000 Program Expenses	2,389.38		2,389.38	
65000 Operations				
65015 Memberships and Dues	5,438.49	3,200.00	2,238.49	169.95 %
65020 Postage, Mailing Service	318.07	230.00	88.07	138.29 %
65025 Insurance - Liability, D&O	9,268.00	9,500.00	-232.00	97.56 %
65035 Volunteer Expenses	64.75		64.75	
65040 Office Supplies	644.94	500.00	144.94	128.99 %
65045 Grant Writing Expenses		700.00	-700.00	
65050 Telephone/Water	1,294.07	1,200.00	94.07	107.84 %
65055 Marketing/Promotion/Cultivation	40.80	700.00	-659.20	5.83 %
65060 Training/Travel/Meetings	150.00	100.00	50.00	150.00 %
65062 Software Fees	3,545.00	1,800.00	1,745.00	196.94 %
65064 Accounting Services(990)		400.00	-400.00	
65070 Miscellaneous Adm Expenses	534.13	100.00	434.13	534.13 %
65090 Paypal	24.07	100.00	-75.93	24.07 %
Total 65000 Operations	21,322.32	18,530.00	2,792.32	115.07 %
65075 Inkind Expenses	145.00		145.00	
66000 Contractor Expenses				
66002 Barnworkers	482.41		482.41	
66003 Instructors/Supervision	10,340.00	7,000.00	3,340.00	147.71 %
Total 66000 Contractor Expenses	10,822.41	7,000.00	3,822.41	154.61 %
70000 Payroll Expenses				
72000 Taxes	5,760.25	5,000.00	760.25	115.21 %
73000 Wages-Program Director	38,095.90	35,000.00	3,095.90	108.85 %
74000 Wages-Barnworkers	27,676.00	14,500.00	13,176.00	190.87 %
7500 Wages-Barn Manager	8,885.10	25,000.00	-16,114.90	35.54 %
Wages	0.00		0.00	
Total 70000 Payroll Expenses	80,417.25	79,500.00	917.25	101.15 %
QuickBooks Payments Fees	6.28		6.28	
Total Expenses	\$157,330.35	\$148,700.00	\$8,630.35	105.80 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$13,245.04	\$0.00	\$13,245.04	0.00%

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Other Expenses				
Other Miscellaneous Expense	117.15		117.15	
Total Other Expenses	\$117.15	\$0.00	\$117.15	0.00%
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -117.15	\$0.00	\$ -117.15	0.00%
NET INCOME	\$13,127.89	\$0.00	\$13,127.89	0.00%

Talking Book Center

Staunton

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 1981

Mission:

The Talking Book Center provides free audio books and other library services and resources to persons who are blind, print disabled, or unable to use standard printed materials.

Primary activities and programs:

The TBC extends equitable public library services to patrons who cannot utilize regular print materials in Augusta, Bath, Highland, and Rockbridge counties, and Staunton, Waynesboro, Buena Vista, and Lexington cities. Qualified patrons receive digital audiobooks on cartridges and playback machines specifically designed for individuals with disabilities. The audio cartridges are mailed, the patron reads the book, then returns via the mail. In 2021 the TBC began a Duplication on Demand service, allowing multiple books to be downloaded onto cartridges which cuts down on the wait time for new books. Shipping and use of the service is free for patrons. To ensure that readers with print disabilities in our area have access to books that meet their lifelong learning and leisure reading needs, the TBC maintains access to a cataloged collection of digital audiobooks. Two staff members provide patrons with highly personalized service including reference assistance, downloading digital titles, reading suggestions, and fulfillment of daily book orders. Due to copyright provisions, the National Library Service (NLS) is able to provide subregional libraries like the TBC with access to a more extensive collection of braille and audio materials than what public libraries can provide: 74,000 braille books, 207,000 talking books, 51 audio and 40 braille magazine titles, and over 115,000 titles available for download through the NLS app called BARD. TBC also forges stronger connections between patrons and the community by providing civic information to an audience that has difficulty navigating standard printed information channels. TBC staff publish monthly newsletters in accessible formats to inform patrons of events, available assistive technology, and community services that foster independence and inclusion. These newsletters are mailed to patrons in large print format, as well as emailed as PDF and txt files for screen readers.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

The Talking Book Center provides accessible public library services to local blind and print disabled readers; we provide the opportunity to continue to read and pursue lifelong learning in a format that is accessible to them. Patrons may be blind, develop low vision, have a reading disability, or a physical disability (such as severe arthritis or Parkinson's) that prevents them from reading printed materials. Through the TBC, disabled patrons maintain the ability to access reading materials independently. Receiving service from the TBC gives local residents who cannot use traditional local public library collections the ability to receive reading materials from a local source that provides highly personalized service. Some patrons attempt to transition from regular to Large Print, books on CD, or the local libraries' digital collections

through Libby; none of these formats is fully accessible and some require transportation to the library to receive materials. The alternative to the local Talking Book Center is a referral to a largely automated state agency that is understaffed and provides little person-to-person contact. An automated phone system and receiving a series of books out of order lead to a frustrating experience, whereas patrons of the TBC can call and know that it's someone in their community who answers the phone. Our patrons know that the staff who serve and care about their needs are their neighbors, and that personalized service is why the TBC was named the National Sub-Regional Library of the year in 2018. According to 2020 census estimates, over 3,500 people in the Augusta, Highland, Staunton, and Waynesboro region of the TBC service area have a vision difficulty. As local populations age, we will continue to see an increased need to support those with vision loss. According to the CDC, "A recent CDC study showed that 13.6% of national survey respondents aged 65 years or older reported vision impairment," and 4 in 10 adults are at high risk for vision loss. Census data indicates over 28,000 residents 65 years or older in the SAW and Highland County service area. The TBC strives to better connect with these populations to ensure that readers with disabilities have convenient access to the educational and leisure materials they need in the years ahead. The TBC service is designed to be an equitable public library service for individuals with disabilities. There is no minimum or maximum criteria that dictates patron eligibility other than certification of a qualifying medical issue, so the TBC is able reach a wide range of individuals. TBC does not base service on race, socioeconomic background, education level, gender, or age and it utilizes outreach channels through the public libraries, which also serve a broad cross-section of our local communities. However, many of our patrons are on fixed income Social Security or Disability and have limited financial resources, precluding them from purchasing expensive adaptive technology devices or subscribing to paid audiobook platforms.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

TBC collects circulation statistics on a fiscal year basis (July 1 - June 30) and conducts a patron survey for qualitative data. For FY24, we served 342 patrons and circulated 15,162 items. We distributed 2,000 copies of our newsletter, which shares reading suggestions and local resources for health, educational, and social needs. Surveys indicated an extremely high level of satisfaction, with feedback reporting that:

- 87% of patrons use the resources daily
- 92% of patrons said receiving materials improves their quality of life
- 72% say it helps them feel less isolated
- 85% say it provides them with an activity they can manage on their own

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

79% of patrons served in FY24 resided in Augusta, Highland, Staunton, and Waynesboro.

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

The National Library Service will distribute new technology to patrons later this year: a new version of its standard accessible audiobook player and Alexa-compatible smart device. Staff will be working to prepare current patrons for the updated option while also orienting and troubleshooting new patrons to the new technology. The NLS also ceased the publication and mailing of a monthly catalog to all patrons nationwide. In the absence of a tool that points patrons toward new materials to read, TBC staff have expanded the monthly newsletter to make up the slack. The efforts have been so successful that staff are working on more extensive reader's advisory tools to guide patrons to reading suggestions throughout the year. The TBC has always struggled with public awareness since its services are directed exclusively to people with qualifying disabilities, and we believe that more people would apply for service if they only knew it existed. Our current board is enthusiastic about outreach and is exploring new pathways to promote the TBC to potential users: targeted ads, communications to tax preparation offices and health care providers, and more. With new board members from Rockbridge and Bath Counties, we hope to reinvigorate our patron registration in those areas.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

The Talking Book Center is a unique public library service which provides audiobooks to patrons via the US Postal Service along with a fully accessible app. Local public libraries offer digital collections including downloadable audiobooks, but patrons must have technology to download the books such as tablets and internet, along with the additional knowledge of how to use the devices. CD audiobooks are also available, but patrons must own a CD player and they are not provided at local libraries. The local public libraries also do not currently have a delivery method to provide resources to patrons at home, limiting services to those with limited transportation. The TBC coordinates with local public libraries for outreach and several library representatives are ex-officio board members. The TBC newsletters also provide local information relevant to patrons such as meal delivery services or community wellness programs.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

Despite being a public library services, the TBC is not fully funded by the municipalities it serves: it also relies on the fundraising efforts of the board of directors plus grants and financial gifts from generous community members. The multi-year Community Grant awarded to us in 2023 has augmented the other funding sources and provided stability so that the TBC can operate as normal each year to meet the critical information needs of blind and print disabled readers. Thank you for the ongoing financial support as we pursue that mission!

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

Our patrons consistently say that finding the Talking Book Center service is a game changer that improves their quality of life after losing their vision. In their own words, here is the impact the TBC has on local readers with disabilities:

"[I've] been an avid reader my entire life and books are like old friends I have lost. The [TBC] has reunited me with those old friends and is very important to keep mind active and my spirits up."

"Listening to Talking Books adds tremendous value to my life, as a widow living alone"

"Senior citizens and low vision persons are able to continue enjoying books and personal subjects even after they felt that possibility was gone. Thank you."

"That is means the world to avid readers who can no longer see well. It helps fight depression and is in fact inspiring!"

"My Dad is in a nursing home and visually impaired and this service has allowed him to do something that he loves in a way that he can still be somewhat independent! It is really a priceless service for my dad and for his family! Thank you!"

"Use it daily after my husband's stroke (part of his speech therapy is to listen and try to repeat a section at a time)"

"I always say TBC is like going back to college- so many fascinating things to learn- I'll have to live to 150!"

"TBC is the best since automatic washing machines!!"

"This service is a lifesaver"

"The Talking Book Center is a godsend for the visually impaired"

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 8,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

General Operating purposes (no restrictions on its use)

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

The TBC requests funding from eight localities, conducts fundraising activities, and accepts gifts from private donors in addition to requesting the 2025 Community Grant support. Should those avenues be partially funded, the TBC will have to reevaluate its preliminary proposed budget for next fiscal year, make up the difference with its savings, and reduce expenses. The primary expense is staff, and the board is reluctant to reduce hours, which would directly impact the level of service. Other expenditures would be the first in line to be reconsidered.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

By relying on the National Library Service for the audio books and equipment, the TBC is able to leverage the resources of a rather impersonal and faceless federal service to provide intensive, patron-focused local service that is unparalleled. It extends the "last mile of service" to connect local residents with a large federal program. People often think of libraries as centered around books, but the TBC – like local public libraries – is centered around people and their needs. We are passionate about advocating for the needs of our readers who are disabled, and the TBC is often an unquantifiable quality of life service for those who are referred to us. We hope that if our communities think that traditional public library services are critical to the health and education of our residents, that they will join us in supporting the accessible public library services that the TBC is uniquely positioned to offer.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$ 75,270

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Our auditor has asked us to include the \$16,000 of in-kind donations provided by the City of Staunton in our budget each year. This is the value of the space, utilities, equipment, IT support, and more. However, no actual cash transactions take place (no revenue received/raised and no expenditures paid) in relation to this noted \$16,000 amount, which is why we did not include it in the operating budget question above.

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Mike [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Talking Book Center Staff and Volunteers,

I am writing to thank you for the wonderful assistance you have given me this past year and to tell you how much I have enjoyed reading the wonderful books and magazines you have sent me.

Reading is my main hobby and what I do when not engaged in family activities or watching my beloved Redskins/Commanders. It has been a real Godsend when I travel as the machine goes wherever we go. Whenever I am inactive enroute somewhere as well as at a distant stop, the disc allows me to enjoy the time reading.

You have always helped me when I called with questions and got me interesting books on whatever subject I was interested in.

A contribution to help the Center has been enclosed and I wish that I could send more.

In closing, I would like to thank you once again for what you do for me and all the other visually impaired citizens whom you serve.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

Revenues		
	Localities and municipal funding*	\$22,400
	In-kind space use	\$16,000
	United Ways	\$1,500
	Grants	\$8,000
	Friends Groups	\$7,300
	Civic groups and clubs	\$650
	Gifts and bequests**	\$35,420
Total		\$91,270
Expenditures		
	Personnel	\$71,000
	In-kind space use	\$16,000
	Fees & licenses****	\$620
	Audit, Form 102, SCC filing	\$825
	Postage/shipping	\$25
	Fundraising Costs/Supplies	\$200
	Printing/Publications	\$200
	Supplies	\$200
	Travel	\$2,000
	Advertising/outreach	\$100
	Promotional conferences (table events)	\$100
Total		\$91,270
**Includes memorials and churches		
*City of Staunton provides in-kind donation of space, IT support, basic equipment, etc. that was valued at \$16,000 by auditors in 2009.		
****LGL, Google Workspace, QB Online		

The Talking Book Center

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

July 2023 through June 2024

	<u>Jul '23 - Jun 24</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Unrestricted Support			
4100 · Localities	18,900.00	34,900.00	-16,000.00
4200 · United Ways	1,626.00		
4250 · Friends Groups	7,000.00		
4300 · Service Clubs	600.00	0.00	600.00
4350 · Foundations/Grants	10,000.00	7,000.00	3,000.00
4450 · Churches	500.00		
4700 · Memorials	200.00		
4900 · Fundraisers			
4910 · Outside Fundraisers	1,146.94		
4900 · Fundraisers - Other	675.32	0.00	675.32
Total 4900 · Fundraisers	<u>1,822.26</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,822.26</u>
4000 · Unrestricted Support - Other	15,097.28	11,000.00	4,097.28
Total 4000 · Unrestricted Support	<u>55,745.54</u>	<u>52,900.00</u>	<u>2,845.54</u>
5810 · Interest earned	739.60		
5830 · Unrealized Gain/Loss-Investment	15,795.62		
Total Income	<u>72,280.76</u>	<u>52,900.00</u>	<u>19,380.76</u>
Gross Profit	72,280.76	52,900.00	19,380.76
Expense			
6000 · Payroll Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
6200 · Staff Payroll	69,537.21	69,000.00	537.21
7400 · Fees & licenses	116.87	700.00	-583.13
7500 · Professional fees	1,255.00	675.00	580.00
7600 · Conference & Workshop Expenses	25.00	275.00	-250.00
7900 · Meeting expenses	25.00		
8100 · Postage/shipping	10.21	25.00	-14.79
8200 · Printing/publications	0.00	200.00	-200.00
8400 · Supplies	0.00	200.00	-200.00
8500 · Fundraising Costs/Supplies	54.72	200.00	-145.28
8700 · Travel	282.24	1,000.00	-717.76
8720 · Advertising	34.48		
8730 · Promotional Materials	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Total Expense	<u>71,340.73</u>	<u>72,375.00</u>	<u>-1,034.27</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>940.03</u>	<u>-19,475.00</u>	<u>20,415.03</u>
Net Income	<u><u>940.03</u></u>	<u><u>-19,475.00</u></u>	<u><u>20,415.03</u></u>

VIA Centers for Neurodevelopment

Charlottesville

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 1996

Mission:

To empower people to embrace the strengths and meet the challenges related to autism and neurodevelopmental disabilities by providing compassionate, evidence-based services throughout their lives.

Primary activities and programs:

Our programs and services are built around the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis and employ professionals in the fields of behavior analysis, special education, speech-language therapy, clinical psychology, and occupational and physical therapies. VIA's highly trained, professional staff deliver compassionate, effective, evidence-based instruction and clinical practice through three core programs. VIA's Day Schools – at our Charlottesville, Roanoke, Lexington, and Lynchburg locations – are year-round schools for students, ages approximately 6-22, who require more specialized attention than what can be provided in a public school setting. Students work one-on-one with special education teachers, behavior analysts, and registered behavioral technicians to improve learning, communication, behavior, and social skills. Some students are able to transition back to their public school after receiving specialized services, whereas others will spend their entire academic career at VIA. The Adult Services program is a day support program for adults over the age of 22. In the full-time program, adults participate in job training, life skills development, social engagement, and behavioral consultations with staff to client ratios ranging from 1:1-1:3. This level of support means that VIA has a profound impact on each consumer, creating individualized plans to overcome the challenges they face. Each activity focuses on building independence, so our adults have the opportunity to gain employment, be more autonomous in a supportive living environment, and engage in their community. Behavioral Health Service (BHS) provides a range of services for children needing help with school readiness, social skills, emotional regulation, daily living tasks, and/or managing difficult or aggressive behaviors. A key component of BHS is our School Coaching and Consultation services. VIA provides support for school districts and private schools to ensure they are equipped to best serve their students with different needs and keep them at their home schools.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

Increased awareness of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), improved screening and diagnostic services, and increased access to those diagnostic services has led to a striking increase in ASD diagnoses – the CDC recently reported that 1 in 36 children are diagnosed with ASD today, as opposed to 1 in 150 children in 2000. The National Survey of Children's Health revealed

Virginia to be among the 10 states with the highest reported ASD diagnoses among children, with 3.5% of children reported to have a diagnosis between 2016-2019. These trends are in line with what we witness every day in our work, particularly as the number of children and adults joining the waitlist for VIA's services has increased dramatically in recent years. These needs are reflected in the school system, bolstered by state reporting that shows that there is an increase in students being served in Early Childhood Special Education. Specifically in Nelson County, it proves to be difficult to get mental health services and in-home providers to travel and support the needs of our students and families. Nelson County has one Behavioral Specialist to serve the entire county, and can typically only support an individual student once per week - VIA's added capacity offers support multiple times per week. Additionally, some families report lack of reliable transportation to take their children to services and providers. This is coupled with long wait lists at area hospitals such as UVA and VCU, making it unreliable and untimely for students to receive medical diagnoses of a disability. This places schools on the front line of support services for students with disabilities, or pre-diagnosis students displaying challenging behaviors in need of additional support. While schools become the center for support for students with disabilities, there is a nation-wide teacher shortage, resulting in hired special education teachers not having the training and experience they once had. Many times, these teachers are provisionally licensed and need substantial support with classroom management and significant student behaviors. As such, VIA's School Coaching & Consultation services become a critical anchor in support services for Nelson County Public School students.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

Since our founding, VIA has grown from serving just four families in Charlottesville to serving over 500 families annually across the state. VIA's commitment to evidence-based services means that staff tracks each individual's behavior and progress toward their overall goals during the fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). Students' progress is tracked along unique metrics around behavior, academic, social skills, and self-care goals. Over the last eight years, School Coaching & Consultation Services has impacted 12 school divisions, 50 school buildings, and 74 classrooms. In FY24 alone, the program served 9 divisions, 23 schools, and 32 classrooms. As training is a key program component, school staff are taught how to more effectively work with their students at large. Therefore, the skills that educators learn through the intensive coaching they receive extends to students who have other challenging behaviors outside of an autism diagnosis, building capacity across all students' needs.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

100%

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

VIA's newly adopted Three-Year Strategic plan outlines several organizational goals:

Compassionate, Evidence-based Programs & Services: Develop, refine, and replicate a continuum of model programs that truly move the needle for the people VIA serves.

Staff Capacity & Culture: Make strategic investments in VIA's culture to enhance staff professional growth, secure leadership capacity, and ensure VIA is a great place to work.

Economic Viability: Innovate advancement strategies and enhance revenue sources to expand VIA's mission.

Optimal Environments & Facilities: Ensure purpose-built facilities and improve educational and clinical settings to enable the best outcomes

Strategic Alliances: Engage in mutually beneficial partnerships to further VIA's service mission.

Specifically within School Coaching & Consultation, FY25 goals include program enhancements that stay true to its collaborative coaching model and foster internal expertise within school divisions, while reconfiguring certain program elements. Success within the program looks like keeping students in their least restrictive environment, whether that is supporting a positive transition to VIA Day School or preventing outplacement and staying within a public school environment. Over the course of three years, at least 36 Nelson County students will be supported by VIA's program, including at least 3 Early Childhood Special Education classes, 3 adapted classes, and others, as needs arise.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

In the Central Blue Ridge, school districts are our greatest partners and collaborators for the School Coaching and Consultation Services, as VIA contracts directly with school districts (such as Nelson County Public Schools) to provide our essential services within their schools and classrooms. While other organizations may provide services to people with disabilities, such as occupational, physical, or speech therapy, VIA is the only organization in the region employing Board Certified Behavioral Analysts that push into the school system to fill critical service gaps for students in need. Additionally, unlike other outside providers, our emphasis is on staff coaching and building in-house capacity in public schools at all levels to generate sustainable change within the system itself.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

Not Applicable

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

Hayden Ellis, a 22-year old recent graduate from VIA, embodies the impact VIA has on the community. Through the wrap-around approach of School Coaching & Consultation to our Day Schools, VIA empowers students to thrive in their least restrictive environment and to build off of their strengths. Our culture of care is organization-wide, extending from our VIA Day Schools to the public school classrooms our compassionate staff push into - like those in Nelson County. Ask Shannon Ellis what word comes to mind when thinking about how VIA changed her son Hayden's life, and she'll say: dignity. "VIA gave him his dignity—he can go out and be in public and be a part of his community," she said. "Hayden always had significant behavioral issues," said Shannon. "We would get in the triple digits [of reported incidents] on a daily basis." Hayden was enrolled in public school from kindergarten through fourth grade in Bedford County, but his behavioral challenges became so intense that the family realized they needed other options. "That's where VIA came into the picture," said Shannon. "You hear about life changing moments that you experience, and VIA was one of them," Shannon said. The Ellises learned about VIA's evidence-based practices from staff members and implemented them at home. Hayden was also learning how to be a part of his community, volunteering at the local YMCA and working part-time at Upper Crust Pizza. Shannon was also able to see her son experience friendship for the first time at VIA. "Things have become more meaningful for Hayden, things like friendships," she said. "When he was in public school I never heard him talk about friends. Socially the relationships Hayden has developed at VIA are significant, both with the staff and the students. He still talks about kids who graduated a few years ago. He was able to foster relationships—things we just never got to see before." "What was the VIA difference for the Ellis family?" "They made such an investment in Hayden," said Shannon. "You know, just the fact that they didn't give up on him. We know he is a challenge. He's got a great little personality, but he's a challenge. And [that commitment] says a lot about the VIA faculty and staff. On our last day, I was crying, Damien was crying, the whole staff was crying. Those tears were just rolling. It's so comforting to know people care about your kiddo." She added, "VIA really focuses on the successes of their students. Speaking as a parent of a child with special needs, the negative comes at you constantly. One thing we really appreciate is that VIA focuses on the things he can do and builds from there." Hayden embodies the impact we seek to achieve in School Coaching & Consultation Services: empowering students through their strengths, with dignity, to succeed in their best-suited learning environment. This is the same expertise and care we bring into Nelson County Public Schools.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

Three-year Community Grant commitment (2025-2027)

What is the annual amount of the three-year grant you are requesting?

\$ 10,000

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

A specific program or capital expenditure

If applicable, please describe the specific program or capital expenditure for which you are seeking support and why it is important to our community.

As previously described, School Coaching and Consultation services is a critical component of our Behavioral Services. VIA's School Coaching and Consultation Services provide support and guidance to teachers and schools in meeting the needs of students with various neurodevelopmental needs. Utilizing evidence-based principles to promote positive behaviors and learning outcomes, this program includes coaching, professional development, and consultation to build capacity within schools themselves and create inclusive, supportive learning environments. Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBAs) push into classrooms to provide ongoing support, and offer training opportunities on ABA, trauma-informed and compassionate care, assent-based teaching, skills-based treatment, and data analysis to drive decision making. These resources develop in-house capacity at schools to address problem behaviors as they arise for any student in need, even beyond those with a formal diagnosis. Thus, creating a more inclusive classroom environment for all students across all needs.

If applicable, what is this program or capital expenditure's total budget?

\$ 462,533.96

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

VIA's near 30-year history of successful growth has been achieved through fiscal responsibility. Our current financial position is strong, operating at a surplus across the organization. Our school services consistently generate revenues greater than their operating expenses, contributing to broader financial stability for the organization. VIA's diverse revenue stream includes local school divisions, Medicaid waivers, insurance, and fundraising efforts. We have a modest endowment that, as it grows, will fuel programs and services well into the future. State funding has also consistently made up a significant portion of our revenue. Despite our strong financial position, school district funding only covers a portion of the expenses that the program incurs, and contract revenues vary each year depending on school district budgets. Additional funding is available for students transitioning from public schools to VIA's Day School, and vice versa, but doesn't extend to push-in classroom support. In order to meet our ongoing needs, VIA's advancement team is focused on building relationships with individual and organizational donors through outreach, stewardship, grant writing, and fundraising events specifically tailored to support our School Coaching and Consultation Services. Additional funding, like that requested from the Community Foundation, will help us to not only meet the needs of the classrooms we serve but also plan for additional program expansion in the future.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

While we have specifically attached the School Coaching & Consultation Services budget, VIA's overall organizational budget for FY25 is \$24.5M. The FY25 budget for School Coaching & Consultation Services across our service areas is \$462,533.96, only slightly higher than FY24. In FY24, Nelson County was billed \$16,448.10 for our services. At a rate of \$179/hour, a grant from the Community Foundation for Central Blue Ridge would provide a critical 55.8 hours of service to Nelson County Public School students and staff per year – across three years, that is over 167 hours of evidence-based, compassionate service.

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

See above.

Mrs. Margaret Clair, Chair
Central District

Mrs. Janet Turner-Giles, Trustee
North District

Mr. George Cheape, Trustee
East District



Mrs. Shannon Powell, Vice Chair
West District

Mr. Ceasar Perkins, Trustee
South District

Dr. Amanda C. Hester
Division Superintendent

Nelson County Public Schools

January 27, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Rachel Reutinger, and I am the Director of Special Education and Student Services for Nelson County Public Schools. I am writing this letter to affirm the ever growing partnership between Nelson County Public Schools and VIA Centers for Neurodevelopment (VIA). The mission of Nelson County Public Schools (NCPS) is to educate students to become skilled, responsible, productive, and enlightened citizens who contribute to society. In doing so, we recognize the value of integrating key community partners and providers into our school environments, to meet the needs of each and every child, so they may become the most empowered and capable versions of themselves as possible. Our collaboration with VIA is an essential part of achieving this ambitious goal.

We fully endorse VIA's application to the Community Foundation of Central Blue Ridge to support NCPS' successful delivery of special education in classrooms. Through this proposal and program, NCPS teachers, instructional assistants, and caregivers will be empowered by the Coaching and Consultation services that VIA provides. NCPS classrooms will receive additional capacity from Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCABAs). Not only does this expand the capacity of our special education program and provide essential services to students each week, but it also offers critical professional development to our teachers and staff to be better equipped to support students exhibiting behaviors of concern in the long term. The skills our staff learn from VIA's BCBAs and BCABAs extend beyond a single student-teacher relationship, and contribute to more inclusive classrooms across our district.

This program would not only impact teachers, but also our division and community as a whole. This partnership allows for our students to remain in their least restrictive environment, and to thrive in a learning space that is inclusive of each of their needs. I ask that you respectfully consider this proposal and the positive impact it would have on Nelson County Public Schools. Should you have any questions, or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (434) 260-7646.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel Reutinger". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rachel Reutinger
Director of Special Education and Student Services

**VIA Centers for Neurodevelopment
School Coaching & Consultation Services**

FY25: July 2024 - June 2025

General & Administrative Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	438,270.67
Facilities	447.21
Office Expenses	76.14
Professional Services	22.65
Information Technology	1,572.42
Vehicle Expenses	\$6,300.00
Other	\$7,200.91
Total General & Administrative	\$453,890.00
Staff Development & Training	\$2,920.47
Program Expenses	\$5,723.49
Total Expenses	\$462,533.96

**VIA Centers for Neurodevelopment
School Coaching & Consultation Services**

FY24: July 2023 - June 2024

General & Administrative Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	429,065.67
Facilities	447.21
Office Expenses	76.14
Professional Services	22.65
Information Technology	1,572.42
Vehicle Expenses	\$10,619.18
Other	\$8,700.91
Total General & Administrative	\$450,504.18
Staff Development & Training	\$2,755.16
Program Expenses	\$5,399.52
Total Expenses	\$458,658.86

**VIA Centers for Neurodevelopment
School Coaching & Consultation Services**

FY25: July 2024 - June 2025

General & Administrative Expenses

Salaries & Benefits	438,270.67
Facilities	447.21
Office Expenses	76.14
Professional Services	22.65
Information Technology	1,572.42
Vehicle Expenses	\$6,300.00
Other	\$7,200.91
Total General & Administrative	\$453,890.00
Staff Development & Training	\$2,920.47
Program Expenses	\$5,723.49
Total Expenses	\$462,533.96

VSDB Foundation

Staunton

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION:

Founded in: 2010

Mission:

The mission of the VSDB Foundation is to provide support and promote the growth, progress, and general welfare of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind (VSDB) and education of the communities served by VSDB.

Primary activities and programs:

The VSDB Foundation provides support to create, expand, and maintain educational programming for the students of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind. We provide ongoing annual operating support for the CROPS program and the VSDB Educational Urban Farm – funding comes from the VSDB Foundation general operating fund, community donations, and private foundations. We conduct fundraising for capital projects to benefit student educational programs and campus life. Most recently, we raised funding for the VSDB Blind Soccer team to purchase necessary equipment (including team benches), and we paid the registration fees and travel expenses for four students and 2 staff members to attend Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama and for six students to compete in the 2023 USABA Youth National Goalball Championships in Austin, Texas. VSDB's Blind Department Athletics Director, shares, "For our students who are visually impaired and/or blind, Goalball not only gives them gift of sport, but more importantly a sense of belonging and the ability to create memories that they may not get to experience otherwise. Youth Goalball Nationals gave each one of our students physical, social and mental/emotional opportunities that challenged them to grow and develop in ways that they didn't expect." We assist VSDB staff in implementing innovative programming, and we continue to support the expansion and enhancement of the Independent Living Apartments (ILA) program, the only program of its kind in Virginia. The ILAs facilitate the development of critical skills for adult life and provides hands-on learning in a supervised apartment setting.

Community need(s) your organization exists to address:

The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind provides a superior education for students who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/vision impaired, deafblind, and deaf or blind with other disabilities. Our welcoming, fully accessible learning environment fosters self-confident students who are contributing citizens and life-long learners. At VSDB, students share equal experiences and challenges and, often for the first time, feel equal to their peers, make friends, and become leaders. At no cost to families, the comprehensive, state-aligned education programs serve students from birth through 21 or until they "age out" of Special Education Services. VSDB offers PreK-12 education with both residential and day options. VSDB's multi-year high school program expands on the traditional four-year high school program to provide students access to a full array of transition services that prepares them for life after graduation.

Established in 1839, VSDB is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is accredited by AdvancEd under the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI). To be formally admitted into VSDB and its educational programs and services, a student must:

Be identified and served for Special Education services through a disability category of either Hearing Impairment/Deafness, Visually Impaired/Blindness, Deafblindness, or Deaf/Hearing Impaired or Visually Impaired/Blindness with other disabilities.

Be between the ages of 2 and 22;

Be a resident of Virginia;

Be referred by the local school division in which the student resides.

During the 2024-2025 academic year, the Virginia Department of Education reports that statewide 1,049 students have a hearing impairment, 483 have a visual impairment, and 23 students are deaf-blind. While public schools are the right academic and social fit for many of these students, a large percentage would thrive in VSDB's 24/7 learning environment. VSDB's goal is to increase enrollment by raising awareness of its programs, educating stakeholders and establishing VSDB as a positive LRE option, and offering unique programs such as the Independent Living Apartments and CROPS.

GRANT DETAILS:

Based on how you measure your organization's impact, please share with us the magnitude of your work.

VSDB's current student body is comprised of 67 students, a 12% increase from the previous year, from elementary to high school level (12 preschool & elementary students, 22 middle school, and 33 high school). Forty (40) students are deaf/hard of hearing and 27 are blind/vision impaired). Forty (40) students are residential, returning home on the weekends, and 27 are day students. VSDB offers rolling enrollment, and staff update student demographics on a monthly basis. VSDB Foundation funding support of school programs benefits all students.

What is the approximate percentage of your organization's work that benefits the communities of Staunton, Waynesboro, and/or the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson?

20 students (29%) Staunton 9%; Waynesboro 7%; & Augusta Co 13%).

Please share your organization's goals and objectives for 2025, or if you prefer, your long-range goals and objectives.

In 2025, the VSDB Foundation will focus efforts to:

Manage USDA Farm to School grant for the CROPS program (VSDB Educational Urban Farm & Greenhouse).

Support the real-world experience of the work-based learning program through fund raising targeted to provide student stipends for work done.

Provide funds for unique hands-on life experiences beyond the classrooms to support language development and world knowledge.

Support the needs of the athletics program (uniforms, equipment, travel expenses, etc.).

Continue ongoing marketing efforts to increase awareness of VSDB for both the public awareness and the admissions process.

To the extent that other nonprofit organizations and agencies provide services in our region that are similar to your services, please share how you coordinate and/or differentiate your services.

One of the oldest schools in the Commonwealth, VSDB was established by an act of the Virginia General Assembly on March 31, 1838. VSDB is unique in that all students must be referred to VSDB through their local school system. There is no cost for students to attend VSDB. Students range in age from pre-K to age 21-22 years old as they age out of Special Education Services. Once admitted, students gain full access to unique educational programming as well as social and cultural experiences beyond that offered at public schools. VSDB works closely with the Department of Aging and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) and the Department of the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) to coordinate Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). Through these partnerships, we connect students with programs hosted by these agencies throughout the year, expanding their access to critical resources and opportunities that support their transition to post-secondary success.

If your organization received a 2024 Community Grant, what was the impact of that grant on how your organization serves the community?

N/A

Tell us a story that best illustrates the impact your organization has on our community.

A Success Story: Empowering Students Through Inclusion.

At Nu-Beginning (VSDB Work-Based Learning program site), success is defined by the meaningful job tasks and opportunities we provide for our students, and John Matheny's leadership in our work-study program is a shining example of this. As a key partner, John fosters inclusion, professionalism, and independence for students like Lydia, Courtnee, and Sultana, making a lasting impact on their lives. Lydia Courtnee and Sultana completed an unpaid work experience in the 2023/2024 school year. From the start, John set a tone of respect and equality. During orientation, he emphasized that while this was an unpaid experience, the students were integral members of his team and would be treated like any other employee. This

approach instilled pride, responsibility, and a sense of belonging in the students. What makes this story truly remarkable is John's unique and deep investment in the work-based learning program. He tailored his processes to meet each student's abilities, communicated creatively and clearly, and taught new skills and restaurant-related vocabulary to prepare them for future opportunities. When challenges arose, John devised simple yet effective solutions, such as taping weight targets to scales for visual matching and using non-slip materials to stabilize bowls during food preparation. These thoughtful adaptations helped the students build confidence and master practical skills. John's dedication extended beyond daily tasks. On the last day, he conducted exit interviews, gathering feedback on the students' experiences and suggestions for improvement. He concluded the program by presenting each student with a personalized letter of reference and welcoming them as lifelong members of the NuBeginning family. This success story highlights the rare and transformative impact of having someone as deeply committed as John in a work-based learning program. His leadership goes beyond mentorship—it builds a foundation for independence, confidence, and success. With continued grant funding, NuBeginning can create more stories like this, empowering students to thrive and achieve their potential.

GRANT REQUEST

Are you requesting a single-year grant or three-year grant commitment?

2025 Community Grant (single-year grant)

What is the single-year grant amount you are requesting?

\$ 2,959

Do you wish to use this grant for General Operating purposes or a specific program or capital expenditure?

A specific program or capital expenditure

If applicable, please describe the specific program or capital expenditure for which you are seeking support and why it is important to our community.

ACHIEVE, VSDB's work-based learning program, provides students with a variety of opportunities on and off campus to explore career choices that spark their interest. On-campus opportunities provide an introduction to the work of work in a familiar, supportive environment. Off-campus, VSDB partners with the Staunton community to give students hands-on experience in a variety of job sites. VSDB job coaches support the transition from school to work to ensure individual student needs are met. Through real life experiences, in a work setting, VSDB students increase awareness of employment options, develop self-advocacy skills, and build independence and confidence. Off-site hosts include Nu-Beginning Farm Store, Food Lion, Papa John's Pizza, Goodwill, Hampton Inn, and the YMCA. Approximately 15 to 20 students aged 16+ participate in work-based learning annually. The program consists of 2-period class timeframe for the entire academic year. Students first prepare for work placement through six (6) to eight (8) weeks of classroom instruction. Students then transition to the work

site for four (4) days per week for one hour and 45 minutes per day. Students are evaluated on the following indicators:

- Preparedness for the job.
- Uses proper equipment for the task.
- Demonstrates ability to follow instructions.
- Demonstrates efficient work speed/thoroughness.
- Demonstrates workplace safety and follows workplace rules.
- Demonstrates effective communication skills.
- Demonstrates critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Demonstrates teamwork skills. Seeks and accepts help and follows constructive criticism.
- Demonstrates a positive work ethic.

The VSDB work-based learning program's collaboration with the work site Nu-Beginning Farm Store equips students with a comprehensive set of skills and experiences that are directly transferable to future employment and entrepreneurial endeavors. Participants gain hands-on training in a variety of essential areas, including:

Food Service and Culinary Skills: Students develop expertise in food preparation, safety protocols, measuring and weighing ingredients, and understanding culinary vocabulary, all of which are foundational for careers in the food service industry.

Workplace Readiness and Soft Skills: By engaging in real-world work environments, students build critical soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and time management, while fostering confidence in their abilities.

Small Business and Entrepreneurship Knowledge: Students gain valuable insights into the operations of a small business, including vendor relationships, inventory management, and catering logistics. These experiences nurture entrepreneurial thinking and problem-solving skills.

Technical Proficiency: Participants learn to operate commercial dishwashing equipment and master dishwashing techniques, ensuring they are prepared for roles in professional kitchens.

Customer Service Excellence: Working directly with customers allows students to develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of customer satisfaction, a key component of any successful business.

This program not only provides students with practical skills but also helps dismantle barriers to employment by demonstrating their capabilities to potential employers. It empowers students with disabilities to contribute meaningfully to their communities while building a foundation for lifelong success.

If applicable, what is this program or capital expenditure's total budget?

\$ 3,259

If your organization is awarded a 2025 Community Grant that is only a partial amount of the total funds you have requested from the Foundation this year, how will this impact your intended use of the funds?

A grant from the Community Foundation will support the collaboration between VSDB's work-based learning program and our community partner, Nu-Beginning Farm Store and will help create equitable opportunities for a marginalized group, fostering inclusion, independence, and confidence in the next generation of skilled workers. If the grant is only partially funded, we will prioritize the refrigerated sandwich prep table (\$1,099) and the refrigerated glass display case (\$549). We will then identify additional grant prospects to assist with the remaining balance for equipment.

Optional: Is there anything else you would like for us to understand about your organization, or how you would use a 2025 Community Grant that you have not yet covered in this application?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

What is your total operating budget for your current fiscal year?

\$

Optional Budget Narrative: Is there anything about your organization's budget that you would like for us to know?

Optional: If applicable, is there anything about your program or capital expenditure budget that you would like for us to know?

Nu-Beginning Farm, Inc.
221 N. Lewis Street
Staunton, VA 24401
540-886-1534
January 27, 2025

Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge
ATTN: Lora Hamp, J.D., Legal Counsel and Director of Nonprofit Relations
117 South Lewis Street
P.O. Box 815
Staunton, VA 24402

Dear Lora Hamp and Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge,

I am writing in support of the VSDB and VSDB Foundation proposed Community Foundation Grant. As someone who has worked with the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind for three years and interacting with 15 students, I can see first hand the impact the work study program has on the lives of the participating VSDB students. We at Nu-Beginning Farm Store have had the opportunity to watch the students come out of their shells of uncertainty and blossom into confident and competent members of our team as well as ambassadors to the community at large. Under the support and guidance of VSDB teachers and staff, interpreters, VSDB Foundation and transition specialists, our involvement with the work study program has offered the students the opportunity to grow their workplace skills and generate conversations with our customer base about the students' challenges and victories over those challenges.

Our work study students are given real life applications, interviews, orientations, training, discipline and exit interviews all with a concentration of preparing these students for life skills and employment and beyond graduation. But the students aren't the only ones to benefit from this program. Team Nu-Beginning learns and grows with each individual viewing tasks from a different perspective, brainstorming ideas from the student's viewpoint and an increased product mix for our customer base. Our team is always available to assist, answer questions or challenge the students beyond their self imposed limitations. In return we receive a sincere "thank you" for a newly developed skill set, a request for us to look at a prom picture or an opportunity to pose for a group photo.

Thank you for considering this proposal. Given the success of this program to date, the partnership between VSDB, VSDB Foundation and Nu-Beginning Farm Store can continue to grow for the good of the students with the added help of this grant. Growing the program to allow the students to do more, to immerse themselves in a real life safe working environment is paramount to the individual's success as an adult.

Sincerely,

John Matheny

John Matheny
President, Nu-Beginning Farm, Inc.

**VSDB FOUNDATION
2025**

Revenue

Interest/Gains	223,316.00
Donations	15,000.00

Expenses

Horticulture/Farm	140,000.00
Contract workers	5,000.00
MOU with VSDB	10,000.00
Interpreters	4,000.00
School Requests	46,116.00
Insurance	2,400.00
Employee expense	22,800.00
Miscellaneous	8,000.00
TOTAL REVENUE & EXPENSES	\$ 238,316.00

\$ 238,316.00

VSDb FOUNDATION
2024 Actual Budget

Revenue

Interest/Gains	276,949.00
Donations	23,750.00

Expenses

Horticulture/Farm	126,559.00
Contract workers	2,175.00
MOU with VSDB	12,350.00
Interpreters	3,687.00
School Requests	74,125.00
Insurance	2,352.00
Employee expense	15,833.40
Miscellaneous	20,576.00

TOTAL REVENUE & EXPENSES	\$	300,699.00	\$	257,657.40
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VSDB Foundation		
SPECIFIC PROGRAM/CAPITAL BUDGET		
VSDB Work-Based Learning program		
Primary Income Categories	Budgeted	Explanation (if necessary)
Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge	\$ 2,959.00	For the equipment at the Nu-Beginning Farm Store work site.
Walmart Foundation	\$ 300.00	For the adapted kitchen equipment for use at any food service work site.
Total Income:	\$ 3,259.00	
Primary Expenses Categories	Budgeted	Explanation (if necessary)
Refrigerated sandwich prep table	\$ 1,099.00	For Nu-Beginning Farm Store: To allow students the ability to assemble sandwiches, salads or other items in a dedicated and organized prep area. This will build basic skills of food safety, organization and sanitization all in a smaller area.
Refrigerated glass display case	\$ 549.00	For Nu-Beginning Farm Store: To create a dedicated area during the school year to showcase the products made by the students. It will build self confidence and pride in their work.
Magnetic Whiteboard, Calendar	\$ 22.00	For Nu-Beginning Farm Store: to serve as a communications center for daily, weekly or monthly projects, including catering jobs. It would allow for written communications, project planning and time management.
Mobile Work Office Work Station	\$ 1,289.00	For the Nu-Beginning Farm Store: To serve as a centralized work station and a centralized communication center. It will provide a routine "check in check-out" area for each work day. It will also serve as a central area for teaching inventory control using our POS system.
Adaptive kitchen tools	\$ 300.00	Cut resistant gloves, rocker knife, multi-purpose cutting boards, Dycem roll, wheel cutter, tab can opener, one-handed peeler and clamp, pot handle stabilizer, food chopper,
Total Expenses:	\$ 3,259.00	
Net Income (Loss):	\$ -	
INSTRUCTIONS: Replace the items in RED with your organizations' information. Please use the income and expense categories that make the most sense for your organization. Consider including separate categories for specific income and expenses of \$5,000 or greater. Smaller source of income and expenses can be		