

# Community Grants Celebration 2025

*Celebrating the heart of a connected and compassionate community.*





Since 1992, we have invested over \$21.5 million in our community through grants, scholarships, and education awards. We are forever grateful for the support of our donors and the dedication and hard work of the many nonprofit organizations that serve our community.

We are honored to award  
**\$571,083 to 143**  
nonprofit organizations  
this year through our  
Community Grants Program!





## *Above What Divides Us: The Practice of Community*

The pages ahead celebrate the nonprofit organizations that are shaping a more connected, compassionate, and resilient region. Some are first-time grant recipients. Others have received our support for many years. Each one takes care of our neighbors—whether by meeting essential needs, enriching our culture, protecting our environment, or those with unique abilities and experiences.

At the Community Foundation, we believe our role is not only to fund this work but to nurture it. We offer more than grants—we offer partnership. Through workshops, nonprofit conferences, Executive Director Discussion Groups, and Coffee Talks, we invest in the capacity and leadership of those who lead with heart and vision.

In a world that often emphasizes what divides us, the nonprofit community models something different. It models practices rooted in care, service, and shared humanity. As you read through this program and learn about each organization's mission, we invite you to reflect on what binds us together.

# Nurturing Educational Opportunities

## **Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation**

Securing resources that strengthen Blue Ridge Community College.

## **Casa de Amistad**

Enriching lives through education and assistance in this multicultural "House of Friendship."

## **Community Child Care**

Providing a safe, affordable, and quality child-care center.

## **Elk Hill**

Enabling children and families to transform challenges into successful futures.

## **Great Aspirations Scholarship Program**

Helping students and their families to pursue their post-secondary goals.

## **Highland Children's House**

Providing quality childcare in a homelike setting.

## **On the Road Collaborative**

Providing students access to educational opportunities and career experiences.

## **Project Grows**

Improving the health of youth through garden based education and access to healthy food.

## **Valley Alliance for Education**

Investing in the Augusta County, Staunton and Waynesboro public school classrooms.

## **Valley Career and Technical Center**

Providing high-quality technical education and career preparation.





# Supporting Our Neighbors in Crisis

## **Blue Ridge CASA for Children**

Advocating for abused and neglected children.

## **Blue Ridge Legal Services**

Providing free legal assistance in civil matters to low-income residents.

## **FairField Center**

Fostering peaceful conflict resolution and restorative justice within our community.

## **Foster Love Ministries**

Improving outcomes for at-risk and foster-placed youth.

## **Kesem at JMU**

College students supporting children through their parent's cancer diagnosis and treatment.

## **Magnolia Rose**

Providing safe spaces for people who have experienced sexual exploitation and trafficking.

## **New Directions Center**

Working to reduce the impact and occurrence of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and stalking.

## **Samuel's Supper**

Providing short-term financial support to families who have a child facing a life-threatening medical crisis.

## **Valley Children's Advocacy Center**

Lowering the impact of trauma for survivors of child abuse and their families.

## **Valley Mission**

Offering shelter, support, hope, and God's love to the homeless.

## **Waynesboro First Aid Crew**

Providing the best quality pre-hospital emergency care and rescue services.





# *Supporting Health Care and Mental Health Services*

## **American Foundation for Suicide Prevention**

Supporting survivors of suicide loss and those affected by suicide.

## **ARROW Project**

Alleviating barriers to mental health services.

## **Augusta Health Foundation**

Inspiring community ownership to advance health and wellness.

## **Augusta Regional Dental Clinic**

Providing quality affordable dental care to underserved members of our community.

## **Health Equipment Loan Program**

Ensuring anyone living in the SAW region that needs durable medical equipment in their home will have access to such equipment.

## **Isaiah 61 Ministries**

Offering counseling to help people find healing, wholeness, and freedom from grief and trauma.

## **Valley Hope Counseling Center**

Providing access to mental health services.



# Taking Care of Our Neighbors with Special Needs

## **The Arc of Augusta**

Providing education, advocacy and services for all children and adults with developmental disabilities.

## **Blue Ridge Packs and Tracks**

Increasing outdoor accessibility through free track chair use.

## **Brain Injury Connections of the Shenandoah Valley**

Enhancing the lives of individuals affected by brain injury.

## **Camp Holiday Trails**

Empowering children and teens with medical needs to thrive.

## **Creative Works Farm: Camp LIGHT**

Offering a summer camp for children with special needs and at-risk youth.

## **Dare to Dream Therapeutic Horsemanship Center**

Helping people achieve their potential and develop self-love through the companionship of horses.

## **DePaul Community Resources**

Opening doors to hope and belonging for children, families, and individuals with unique challenges.

## **Infant and Toddler Connection of Augusta-Highland**

Helping families with therapies for infants and toddlers with developmental delays & disabilities.

## **Reclaimed Hope Initiative**

Empowering and strengthening adoptive, foster, and special needs families.

## **Ride With Pride**

Serving those with special needs through therapeutic equine activities.

## **Talking Book Center**

Delivering accessible library services to the blind and print-disabled.

## **VSDB Foundation**

Promoting the growth and welfare of the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind.

## **Wintergreen Adaptive Sports**

Providing opportunities in outdoor sports for people with all types of disabilities and of all ages.

see the  
ABLE  
not the  
LABEL

  
The Arc.  
Augusta

# Cultivating Our Sense of Place

## **Arcadia Project**

Connecting people through culture and creativity.

## **Augusta Agricultural-Industrial Exposition**

Providing experiences for the economic development and agricultural revitalization of our community.

## **Augusta County Historical Society**

Studying, collecting, preserving, and educating about the history of Augusta County.

## **Blue Grass Resource Center**

Enhancing Highland County's quality of life through historic preservation and educational programs.

## **Citizen Soldier Education Foundation**

Remembering and honoring America's citizen soldiers in war and peace.

## **Friends of the Middle River**

Stewarding the enjoyment of the Middle River Watershed through volunteerism and education.

## **Friends of Miller-Jackson Institute for Historical Preservation and Education**

Providing a stage to tell the amazing story of William A. and Queen Elizabeth Miller.

## **The Highland Center**

Preserving Monterey's historic school building as a center for business, youth, and community development.

## **Highland County Fair Association**

Teaching, supporting, and showcasing livestock, arts, and horticulture.

## **Historic Staunton Foundation**

Educating and advocating to preserve and revitalize Staunton.

## **Jones Gardens**

Strengthening local communities through community gardens.

## **Rockfish Valley Community Center**

Providing a facility for activities for the residents of the Rockfish Valley and Nelson County.

## **Rockfish Valley Foundation**

Promoting environmental literacy, conservation, and sustainable land use in Rockfish Valley.

## **Ruritan Charities of Mount Sidney**

Maintaining the Ruritan park grounds, buildings, and playground in Mount Sidney.

## **Shenandoah Green**

Creating an environmentally sustainable community.

## **Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition**

Leading a movement that places trails, biking, and walking at the core of healthy communities.

## **Staunton Baseball**

Promoting good sportsmanship through baseball.

## **Verona Community Center**

Providing a place where the Verona community can come together.

## **Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library Foundation**

Promoting an understanding of the complexity of the life and times of President Woodrow Wilson.





# Investing in Enrichment Opportunities

## **The 3rd Space**

Creating a space for artists to create, collaborate, and engage the community.

## **American Frontier Culture Foundation**

Supporting the Frontier Culture Museum so visitors may have an excellent and affordable experience.

## **Blue Ridge Children's Museum**

Providing families with an interactive learning experience through an exploration of our community's resources.

## **Boys & Girls Club of Waynesboro, Staunton, and Augusta County**

Enabling all young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens.

## **Cinderella Project of the Shenandoah Valley**

Helping local youth in financial need find suitable attire for school events at no cost.

## **Creative Mornings**

Connecting the community through creativity, equitable arts access, and inspiring events.

## **Explore More Discovery Museum**

Engaging young minds through interactive multi-sensory learning experiences.

## **The Free Book Bus**

Enabling all children and young people to have a home library.

## **Friends of the Augusta County Library Foundation**

Providing programming, technology, and collections for the Augusta County Library.

## **Girls on the Run - Central Virginia and Blue Ridge**

Inspiring girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident by running.

## **Girl Scouts of Skyline Virginia**

Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## **Highland County Public Library**

Giving the Highland community access to information and entertainment.

## **Kiwanis Club of Waynesboro**

Empowering the Waynesboro community to improve the world by making lasting differences in the lives of children.

## **MIMA Music**

Enriching communities through songwriting and music improvisation.

## **RISE Foundation**

Giving voice to the voiceless, strength to the weak, and support for the lost within the Black community.

## **Staunton-Augusta Family YMCA**

Building a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

## **Waynesboro Family YMCA**

Promoting the health, spirit, mind, and body for all.

## **Wildrock**

Promoting nature play for health and happiness.

# Giving Solutions

## *Designed Around You*

We greatly appreciate the generous contributions of our donors, many of whom have created highly-personalized charitable endowments at our Foundation. We welcome the opportunity to learn about your charitable intentions and to explore how we can help you fulfill them.

### ***Lifetime Gifts***

A charitable gift during your lifetime offers valuable tax advantages—and lets you witness the impact your generosity has on the community.



### ***Charitable Bequests***

A gift through your will offers you the ability to create a thoughtfully designed charitable legacy that will serve the community for generations to come.

### ***Retirement Plans, Trusts, and Life Insurance***

Designating the Foundation as a contingent or ultimate beneficiary helps ensure your financial plans first support you and your family, while still allowing for future charitable impact.



### ***Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)***

If you're 70½ or older, you can donate up to \$108,000 each year from your IRA, tax-free, to support or start a charitable fund and satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).

#### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S IDENTIFYING INFORMATION:

Legal Name: Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge

Address: P.O. Box 815 Staunton, Virginia 24402-0815

Employer Identification Number (EIN): 54-1647385



The Community Foundation manages over 200 charitable funds created by individuals, families, and groups with shared interests. We work closely with donors to design each fund around their goals. Some give us discretion to make grants and scholarships within set parameters, allowing us to meet evolving community needs. Others advise us to support specific nonprofits, often through donor-advised funds, where they remain actively involved in annual grantmaking.

***Let's Talk!***

## *How we invest in our community*

Our Board of Directors sets a spending policy for annual distributions from ENDOWED COMPONENT FUNDS, which is presently 4% of each fund's trailing 12-quarter average balance. The full balance of each PASS-THROUGH COMPONENT FUND is available for immediate charitable use. We put these funds to good use in our community through:

### ***Grants***

We award \$1 - 2 million annually in grants to our nonprofit community through our Community Grants Program, Youth Philanthropy Council Programs, and Donor-Directed Grants.

### ***Scholarships***

We welcome applications from high school seniors, as well as adults seeking to continue their education. We award over \$250,000 annually in scholarship support.

### ***Awards***

Through our Dawbarn Education Awards and our Smyth Education Awards, we distribute \$110,000 in cash each year to impactful educators.

### ***Strategic Investments***

Unrestricted Funds allow us to make strategic investments to address critical community needs such as affordable housing and the community's need for emergency relief assistance.





# Supporting the Arts

## **Allegheny Highlands Arts and Crafts Center**

Promoting visual arts through education, exhibition, and marketing.

## **American Shakespeare Center**

Illuminating the plays of Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

## **Beverley Street Studio School**

Providing opportunities to explore the world of visual art.

## **Caravanserai Music**

Promoting compassion through musical performance.

## **Garth Newel Music Center**

Offering Highland County children music and arts experiences.

## **Heifetz International Music Institute**

Developing the potential of every performer.

## **Highland County Arts Council**

Providing cultural enrichment to the Highland community.

## **Shenandoah Valley Art Center**

Increasing the visibility of the visual arts in the community.

## **Silver Line Theatre Exchange**

Building an arts community that is conscious and compassionate.

## **Staunton Augusta Art Center**

Supporting artists and offering arts education.

## **Staunton Media Alliance**

Fostering community through music and broadcast education on 106.3 WQSV.

## **Staunton Music Festival**

Sharing music at historic venues throughout Staunton.

## **Stonewall Brigade Band**

Continuing the legacy of the longest continuously operating community band in the United States.

## **Three Notch'd Road**

Promoting interest and appreciation of Baroque era music.

## **Valley Music Academy**

Demonstrating that music is a powerful means of encouraging cooperation, celebrating diversity, and building self-esteem.

## **Wayne Theatre Alliance**

Enhancing cultural and economic life through the historic Wayne Theatre & Ross Performing Arts Center.

## **Waynesboro Symphony Orchestra**

Providing opportunities for instrumentalists to share in the joy of music-making.

## **Wintergreen Performing Arts**

Inspiring audiences, students, and professional musicians through the power of music.

# *Developing Life Skills for Better Outcomes*

## **Augusta County Pathways Program**

Increasing government efficiency, lowering recidivism, and promoting environmental health in Augusta County.

## **The Bridge Ministry**

Transforming men's lives through recovery support, mentorship, and skills for family and community reintegration.

## **Fight Like a Grrrl Club**

Building strength, resilience, and independence in girls through self-defense training.

## **Here to Stay Wintergreen**

Empowering seniors with services and support to safely age at home.

## **Just Neighbors**

Providing high-quality immigration legal services to low-income immigrants, asylees, and refugees.

## **Learn English and Reading Now**

Teaching English and literacy to adults in our community.

## **Love Forward Foundation**

Empowering youth who have faced adverse childhood experiences, especially from parental incarceration.

## **Love No Ego Foundation**

Providing real-world development for youth and young adults, to help them to overcome challenges and find purpose.

## **NewBridges Immigrant Resource Center**

Engaging immigrants, connecting cultures, and building community.

## **Salute of Virginia**

Building a future where veterans thrive in their civilian lives.

## **Shenandoah LGBTQ Center**

Strengthening the LGBTQIA+ community through advocacy, education, programs and safe spaces.

## **Valley Program for Aging Services**

Empowering people 60 and over with opportunities to lead engaged lives.

## **Vector Industries**

Providing employment to people with diverse abilities.





# *Taking Care of our Animals*

## **Animal Care Assistance Program**

Providing financial assistance to low-income residents for veterinary care of their companion animals.

## **Bat Conservation and Rescue of Virginia**

Providing education to ensure the future of Virginia's bats and preserving their habitats.

## **Cat's Cradle of the Shenandoah Valley**

Ensuring a safe and compassionate community for cats in our area.

## **Elegius Mini Equine Sanctuary**

Providing permanent housing and care for miniature horses, ponies, donkeys and mules who have been abused, neglected or abandoned.

## **Friends of Staunton Augusta Waynesboro Animal Shelter**

Supporting our local animal shelter and other organizations that support companion animals in our community.

## **Highland County Humane Society**

Providing a range of humane assistance to meet the needs of Highland County's animals and their families.

## **Hope's Legacy Equine Rescue**

Rescuing, rehabilitating and adopting out all breeds of horses, donkeys, and mules to new, well-matched homes.

## **Humanitarians of Pet Education**

Educating the public about pet overpopulation and finding homes for orphans and strays.

## **The Mosby Foundation**

Caring for critically sick, injured, abused and neglected dogs.

## **Rockfish Wildlife Sanctuary**

Rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing orphaned and injured wildlife that are native to Virginia.

## **Wildlife Center of Virginia**

Providing education about our environment, and a hospital for native wildlife.





*UNITY IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH  
MINISTRY REACHING OUT TO HELP  
OUR NELSON NEIGHBORS*



# *Providing Access to Basic Necessities and Healthy Living*

**Blue Ridge Area Food Bank**

Providing nourishing food to our neighbors.

**Central United Methodist Church**

Working to alleviate hunger and poor health.

**Central Virginia Farm Workers Initiative**

Providing seasonal farm workers with resources.

**Disciples Kitchen**

Feeding the hungry in Waynesboro.

**Embrace**

A community center where resources are shared.

**Gateway Homes**

Providing transitional housing for those seeking independence.

**HERO**

Supporting our neighbors experiencing housing insecurity.

**The LIFEworks Project**

Supporting those needing assistance to live better lives.

**Martha's Meals on Wheels**

Providing hot meals for our homebound neighbors.

**The Neighbor Bridge**

Providing food, clothing, and supplies to families in need.

**Piedmont Habitat for Humanity**

Bringing people together to build homes.

**Renewing Homes of Greater Augusta**

Repairing homes for low-income and disabled homeowners.

**Rugged Hands Outreach**

Providing home repairs and improvements.

**SAW Habitat for Humanity**

Building and restoring homes.

**The Salvation Army - Staunton**

Meeting human needs in His name.

**The Salvation Army - Waynesboro**

Meeting human needs in His name.

**Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association**

Providing emergency financial assistance.

**Staunton Housing Corporation**

Providing safe and affordable housing.

**Unity in Community**

Serving Nelson County neighbors in need.

**Valley Supportive Housing**

Housing those with disabilities or issues.

**Verona Community Food Pantry**

Providing food to those in need.

**Virginia Hunters Who Care**

Providing high protein food for those in need.

**Waynesboro Area Refuge Ministry**

Showing Christ's love by sheltering the homeless.



# All the Funds that Fund This Fun!

Today we have the honor to present \$571,083 to 143 amazing nonprofit organizations and agencies through our 2025 Community Grants Program. This originates from the following funds within the 200(+) funds administered by your Community Foundation. Each fund reflects the charitable interests of the generous community members who created them over the past thirty-three years.

## **UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

*Donors who establish unrestricted funds understand that community needs and nonprofits change over time. They have given the Foundation discretion to decide how to distribute their funds.*

Cauley/Richardson Staunton/Augusta County Endowment Fund  
H.E. Coiner Trust Fund  
Lewis M. Coiner Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
Community Foundation's Board Directed Endowment Fund  
Robert E. and Barbara B. Cox Charitable Fund  
Kelling Unrestricted Endowment Fund  
McKee Foods Corporation Unrestricted Fund  
Bill and Lisa Moore Unrestricted Fund  
Warren and Jean Mundy Unrestricted Fund  
Leonard and Jane Penland Unrestricted Fund  
Penland Endowment Fund  
L. Dal and Jane F. Simmons Unrestricted Fund  
J.B. "Gus" Stombock Family Fund  
J.B. "Gus" Stombock Memorial Unrestricted Fund  
James P. Whitworth Fund  
White Family Fund

## **DONOR ADVISED FUNDS**

*Some donors actively advise us on their fund's grants each year and partner with us on our response to Community Grants Program applications.*

Leonard and Elsie Chittum Memorial Fund  
The Jamin Fund  
Lumos Foundation  
McKee Foods Corporation & their Stuarts Draft Employees  
WISE Fund

## **FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS**

*Many donors design their funds around their interests in our community which guides our use of these resources.*

A.P. Boxley, Jr. & Rachel Barksdale Boxley Memorial Fund  
*For children in the Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Community*  
The Cheerful Giver Fund  
*For food insecurity, homelessness, & animal welfare*  
Coyner Endowment for the Elderly  
Lucy Coyner Endowment Fund  
*For dental services*  
Walter and Marelia Dixon Memorial Fund  
*For historic preservation*  
Maryanne Moffett Memorial Fund  
*For spay & neuter services*  
Charles & Jacqueline Frankfort Fund  
*For beautification & waste reduction, childhood development, elderly, family stability, housing stability, and library resources*  
Peggy and Lloyd Gochenour Endowment Fund  
*For basic necessities*  
James and Joyce A. McDonald Fund  
*For emergency services and health care*  
Meadows Fund for the Intellectually Disabled  
Montebello/Nelson County Fund  
*For charitable causes in Nelson County*  
Sweet Family Farm Endowment Fund  
United Nursery Fund for Early Child Care and Education

We deeply appreciate the contributions of each one of our donors. We have made every effort to make this list complete and accurate. If you notice a mistake or an omission, please accept our apologies and call us at 540-213-2150.

# Community Foundation Leadership 2025

## Board of Directors

Tony Davenport , Chair

Ashlie K. Howell, Vice Chair

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Boyce Brannock

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Legal Counsel and  
Director of Nonprofit  
Relations



**Chris Lassiter,**  
Director of Engagement  
and Inclusion



**Miriam Burrows,**  
Director of Educational  
Programs

## Our Mission

To enrich the quality of life by responding to needs and inspiring philanthropy in our community.

Special thanks to Mid Valley Press, Kate Simon (photography), and our incredible community that makes our work possible.



P.O. Box 815, Staunton, VA 24402 | 540-213-2150 | [info@cfcbr.org](mailto:info@cfcbr.org)



*Connecting people who care with causes that matter.*