

### City of Williamsburg creates Beautification Fund

Across the country, many community foundations have partnered with their localities to support important projects that make their towns a better place to live, work and play— from community gardens in Columbus, Ohio, to planting shade trees and adding picnic tables to parks in Oklahoma City.

In February of 2018, the Williamsburg City Council unanimously approved the creation of the City Beautification Fund, which provides residents a means to support a broad array of projects (those not normally covered by tax dollars), which enhance the visual appeal of the city and improve the quality of life for its citizens. The City provided seed money to establish the City Beautification Fund at the Williamsburg Community Foundation, and the fund will make its first grant in 2019.



*Credit: City of Williamsburg*

“As a member of City Council, I supported the fund’s inception,” said Barb Ramsey. “As a resident I have and will continue to support it financially. I urge other community members to contribute to this wonderful opportunity for enhancing our city.”

Anyone can support the City Beautification Fund. To learn more, contact the WCF office at 757-259-1660, or simply write “City Beautification Fund” on the return envelope when you send your gift.

### Connecting with Causes that Matter to You: Donor-Advised Funds

At WCF, you can create a **Donor-Advised fund**, a kind of “charitable checking account.” You receive a tax deduction in the year your gift is made, then make distributions from the fund to the causes you care about, on your own schedule. You can choose to support causes locally or nationally through your fund. Because of the 2017 tax reform, some people have used their donor-advised funds as a way to “bunch” charitable giving in one year in order to maximize tax savings.

“We use our donor-advised fund to support the Williamsburg Community Foundation, local school scholarships, college funds, environmental causes, faith-based projects, and medical research, among others” notes Roger Schultz, who has been a longtime WCF supporter along with his wife Beth Scharlop. “With the help of WCF staff, it’s very easy to direct our funds to designated recipients, and also to track our contributions for tax purposes.”

There is no fee to set-up a donor-advised fund, and it just takes one simple form. Contact the WCF office to learn more: 757-259-1660.



“It feels good to be part of a community-based program that improves the lives of everyone in Williamsburg.”

## Virginia Artists to bring Public Art to Local Spaces

**Triangle Arts & Culture League (TACL)** was founded in 2015 with the mission to support and promote public art, in all its forms, so that quality art experiences are accessible to everyone in our region. TACL has raised more than \$100,000 to date.

Last year TACL was approached by a donor who wished to designate a contribution for public art from his donor-advised fund at the Williamsburg Community Foundation. That \$25,000 gift was matched with additional funding from TACL to purchase two bronze statues by Virginia artists for the City of Williamsburg.

***Fraga Magna Rotobilia*** (Latin for “large strawberry cart”) is by **Merrilee Cleveland**, a graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago. She owns her own metal foundry, so she not only designs her sculpture, but casts it herself. The man (Mercurio) will be 5 feet tall, and the strawberry will be 27” tall. We think the piece has great humor is a conversation-starting subject for public art. This piece will be placed near the library.

The second statue, ***Cedar Waxwing No. 914***, by Eastern Shore artist **David H. Turner** will be placed in Bicentennial Park, located at the corner of Nassau Street and Newport Avenue. Turner is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and has several pieces on the campus and throughout the area. The 31” bird will rest on twigs that are 8 feet tall. We think the air and movement that is captured in this piece make it appealing for public display.

Cleveland and Turner hope to deliver their art in time for Grand Illumination. Learn more about Triangle Arts and Culture League at [www.TACL-va.org](http://www.TACL-va.org).



*Cedar Waxwing No. 914*  
by David H. Turner

## From IBM to WCF — Encore Fellow David Hand



**Encore Fellowships** matches skilled, seasoned, professionals with social sector organizations in high-impact, paid assignments. Encore identified Williamsburg Community Foundation as a match for David Hand, who had recently relocated to Williamsburg from Chicago.

“IBM offered an opportunity to wrap up my career by engaging me as an Encore Fellow working directly at a local non-profit” David says. He worked full-time for Williamsburg Community Foundation from June through mid-October.

“My work at WCF was to apply a business process consulting knowledge and IT systems assessment to improve the back office processes. I was glad to be able to leverage my experiences at IBM and employ those skills to benefit the community.”

David started his working career in 1978 with Amoco (later BP), and worked for IBM since 2002. He is not new to the social sector, however; in Chicago he served in a variety of ways supporting a non-profit called Midtown Education Foundation that helped guide urban youth to be inspired to transform lives, families and communities.

At its September meeting, the board commended David for his work. “Like many nonprofits, WCF is always looking for ways to become more efficient and provide even better service to our community partners,” said Ron Lodzieski, Chair of the Board of Trustees. “We are so grateful to David and to IBM for working with us.”

To learn more about Encore Fellowships, visit [encore.org/fellowships](http://encore.org/fellowships).

## 19 Fall Grants—Making a Difference in our Community

Thanks to your support, WCF awarded 19 grants totaling \$61,567 to local nonprofits in October, 2018:

### Health & Community Wellness

**Avalon: A Center for Women & Children:** To upgrade the shelter's HVAC systems.

**Hope Family Village:** Technology support grant for this new nonprofit focused on housing and support for people with mental health conditions and their families.

**Postpartum Support Virginia:** Public awareness campaign about postpartum depression.

**Williamsburg House of Mercy:** Mobile Food Pantry, a twice-monthly distribution of fresh, nutritious food.

**The Arc of Greater Williamsburg:** To offset the cost of two new vans to transport clients to Arc activities.

**United Way of Greater Williamsburg:** For feminine hygiene products for low-income women and adolescents.

### Senior Services

**Senior Living Foundation:** Free adult day program where seniors can participate in stimulating activities, giving respite to their family caregiver.

**BikeWalk Williamsburg:** In partnership with the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists, Cycling Without Age provides seniors the opportunity to enjoy a ride in a "tri-shaw."

**Peninsula Agency on Aging:** The RIDES program provides safe, reliable transportation to seniors.

**Williamsburg Area Faith in Action:** Door-to-door transportation for seniors 60 and older.

### Children & Young Adults

**Bacon Street Youth & Family Services:** The Bridges Project is a peer-to-peer mentoring program to help students transition from 8th to 9th grade.

**Williamsburg- James City County Community Action Agency:** 1) All-Star Dads empowers young fathers to become more involved in their children's lives. 2) Project Discovery supports first generation college-bound students with post-secondary education planning.

### Environment & Conservation

**American Hiking Society:** Alternative Spring Break program, which will bring college-aged volunteers to York River State Park to maintain trails and facilities.

### Arts & Culture

**Opera in Williamsburg:** For *The Diary of Anne Frank* by Russian composer Grigory Frid, free performance.

**Williamsburg Contemporary Arts Center:** Regional Juried Exhibit open to all Virginia artists - all media styles.

**All Together:** For a two-day workshop lead by Dr. Ysaye Barnwell (formerly of Sweet Honey in the Rock).

**Williamsburg Choral Guild:** Presenting 'Lux', featuring a five-movement work for orchestra and chorus.

**Williamsburg Music Club:** for three vocal performances, which take place during the free monthly musicales.



Thanks to our Grant Lunch Sponsors Union Wealth Management & Berkeley Realty Property Management!

# Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter...Forever.

## Williamsburg COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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Nancy Cote Sullivan, *Executive Director*

## Community BREW-B-Q

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Community Brew-B-Q on Nov. 8! Over 70 people came out to learn about Williamsburg Community Foundation!



Thank you to Vernon Geddy & Old City Barbecue for hosting this event!