

Housing & Economic Mobility Fund Launches to Support Local ALICE Families

On September 18, more than 100 guests joined us at The Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg to help launch a new fund to support Housing & Economic Mobility in Williamsburg, James City County, and York County.

Economic mobility is the ability for people to move up the economic ladder to build stability, create opportunity, and ensure each generation has a stronger foundation than the one before. This includes support for ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) families—those who work hard but still struggle to get ahead.

Grants from this new fund will be awarded to organizations that help our neighbors move from subsistence to prosperity.

Areas of support include access to safe, affordable housing; transportation; adult education; financial literacy; and meeting families' financial needs.

The evening also included the **Founders Award for Vision and Excellence**, awarded this year to Linda T. Baker and John R. Curtis, Jr. They each were selected for their contributions to the community, as well as their thoughtful leadership and dedication to WCF from its earliest days.

As you think about your year-end giving this fall, please consider supporting the new Housing & Economic Mobility Fund to improve the quality of life for all our neighbors here in greater Williamsburg.



(left) Debbie & Paul Muse “...believe that education opens doors.” (right) Jep & Lis Doley



(left) Jane Beck & Jill Holroyd (right) Denise Koch, Jim Golden, Jayne Barnard, & Jeanne Zeidler



Linda T. Baker and John R. Curtis, Jr., were honored with the Founders Award for Vision and Excellence.

New Fund Will Help Improve WATA Bus Stops

For many local residents, the bus is more than transportation—it's a lifeline to work, school, and community.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the *Greater Williamsburg Transportation Assistance Fund* was created this year with a focus of improving WATA's bus stop amenities.

"We know that something as simple as better lighting or a shelter can change how people use public transit," said Matthew Scalia, executive director of WATA. "We have such a generous community and people often ask me how they can help improve the bus stops. I'm very happy to inform them of WCF and this new fund."

This fund may also provide grants to nonprofit or governmental organizations to purchase WATA bus passes for individuals and families in need.

To make a donation, visit williamsburgcommunityfoundation.org.



Berrymans Support Jamestown 4-H with a Donor-Advised Grant

If you have a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) with WCF, you have the opportunity to use your fund to support special projects or emerging needs right here in your hometown. Mary & Hunt Berryman learned from WCF that Jamestown 4-H was seeking funding for its camps, offering families screen-free, nature-based experiences. They were able to partner with WCF to make the grant from their donor-advised fund to support the subsidized residential camps, ensuring that no child is turned away for financial reasons — what a wonderful gift!



Create Your Own Donor-Advised Fund

With a gift of \$10,000 or more in cash, appreciated stock, or other assets, you can establish a Donor-Advised Fund at the Williamsburg Community Foundation.

It takes just one simple form, and you receive an immediate tax benefit in the year you give — a smart move as several tax provisions are set to expire after 2025, changing how charitable deductions will work.

By opening a DAF now, you can lock in today's deduction and then recommend grants to any qualified nonprofit in the U.S. over time. The Community Foundation handles all the details — distributing grants, filing paperwork, and ensuring each organization meets charitable standards.

To learn more, contact Nancy Sullivan at 757-259-1660 or ncsullivan@williamsburgcommunityfoundation.org.

Your Gifts At Work in Our Community: \$131,532 in Fall Grants

The Williamsburg Community Foundation has awarded \$131,532 in grants to 31 local nonprofits as part of its fall grant cycle, the largest amount ever awarded in a single grant round in the Foundation's history.

This record-setting investment was made possible in part by gifts to the Foundation's 25th Anniversary Campaign, which focused last year on growing the community endowment and field-of-interest funds in order to grow the Foundation's annual support for nonprofits serving Williamsburg, James City County, and York County.

In this latest grant round, awards were made in the Community Foundation's six focus areas:

Arts & Culture: Two grants totaling \$10,000, including Virginia Organizing who will provide simultaneous interpretation at Williamsburg Pride and chapter meetings to ensure Spanish-speaking residents can take part fully.

Children & Young Adults: Twelve grants totaling \$44,379, including The Friends of Foster Care (*below left*), which provides in-home academic tutoring for foster youth and those recently transitioned from care.

Housing & Economic Mobility: Two grants totaling \$7,500, including NATASHA House, Inc., which will deliver trauma-informed services through its HOME program, preparing mothers for homeownership and long-term family stability.

Environment & Conservation: One grant of \$5,000 to Williamsburg Community Growers (*below center*) to prepare new plots with enriched soil and irrigation to expand its community gardening program.

Health & Wellness: Eleven grants totaling \$49,653, including a grant to Olde Towne Medical and Dental Center (*below right*) to buy new EKG and urinalysis equipment to meet increasing demand from uninsured and underinsured patients.

Senior Services: Three grants totaling \$15,000, including Faith in Action Williamsburg, which provides volunteer-driven services, including transportation to medical appointments, food delivery, and in-home assistance, that help older adults remain independent.





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Our Vision:

A **vibrant** community
with a commitment to
ensure that everyone
has the opportunity
to **thrive**.

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Donate to a WCF Fund

Did you know you can designate your donation to a specific fund at WCF? You can choose from dozens of scholarship, community endowment, and field-of-interest funds, including the new Housing & Economic Mobility Fund.

Giving by mail? Simply write the fund name on the memo line of your check.

Giving online? At the top right side of our website, click on “**Donate Now.**” Search for the fund by name or by focus area. You can even support multiple funds in one transaction using the cart feature.

Giving from a Donor-Advised Fund or IRA? Simply note the fund name when recommending your grant or transfer.

Giving appreciated securities? Contact us for stock transfer instructions and let us know how you would like to direct your gift.

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