MISSION STATEMENT
TO CONNECT PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES LARGE AND SMALL TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

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What’s that one cause that compels you to action, that motivates you to give as generously as you can, that inspires you like nothing else in this world?

Perhaps it’s a love for children, or animals, or the arts, or feeding the hungry. Perhaps you, yourself, received assistance at some point in your life, from a teacher or mentor, or through a scholarship or support organization, and you’re great desire is to pay that assistance forward. Or perhaps your dream is to honor a loved one by leaving a legacy in his or her name.

Maybe you have a specific, favorite charity that has enriched your life – a beloved church, an alma mater, or a favorite park or historic site. Or maybe there is one organization – or several – that is tackling a particular issue that just tugs at your heartstrings.

At the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, our community is our passion, and our commitment is to help donors with whatever their charitable needs might be.

The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation is a means, not an end. We are a tool for philanthropists of all sizes and all interests, across southeast Virginia, to leave a legacy and to support the causes that are near and dear to them. We help donors identify their charitable goals, understand local needs, and create customized, lasting funds to support our community today, tomorrow, and forever.

On the pages that follow, we recognize and thank all of our 2015 donors, enumerate the names of all their beneficiaries - the wonderful and deserving nonprofits, students, and causes they supported last year.

Every single name in this report has a story to tell, a story of generosity and love, and a passion to help others. We are delighted to share with you some of our favorite stories and photographs from 2015, and only wish we had room to print all the amazing stories of compassion and inspiration that we see every day.

What’s your story? What’s your passion? What legacy for our community do you wish to leave behind you?

As for us, it’s a flourishing community.

**Financial Highlights**

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<th>Total Net Assets:</th>
<th>$11,915,607</th>
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<td>Total Grants Awarded:</td>
<td>$782,902</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Contributions:</td>
<td>$1,008,314.54</td>
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<td>Total Number of Funds:</td>
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The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation was founded by Frank Kirby in the same tradition of community foundations across the U.S. His vision of working together to resolve the common issues of the community was shared by many who knew him. From that vision came the Portsmouth Community Trust in 1965 when Arthur Kirk gave the first $500 gift to the fledging organization. Since that initial gift, the Foundation has invested more than $11 million into organizations and programs that have improved the quality of life for all who live in our community.

Every year we continue to strive to be the community’s foundation – a place where our donors’ philanthropic visions and passion for helping others become a reality, and where we work to improve life in Portsmouth, Chesapeake and the greater southeast Virginia region.

Our region is expansive. Southeast Virginia houses a collection of cities, counties and towns in the greater Tidewater region. Our community has many needs, but it also has generous, resourceful people working to make life better.

Philanthropy is a community investment driven by passionate people. Strong nonprofits are vital to the health of our community because the need for help never stops. Whether you’re concerned about literacy, access to healthcare, the environment or support for the arts, there are effective organizations engaged in finding solutions.

2015 marked a major milestone for the Foundation as we celebrated our 50th year of inception. While doing so, we had ample opportunity to reflect on our mission while continuing to press forward with new efforts to enhance our community.

This year our donors have been remarkably generous, enabling us to award over $780,000 in grants and scholarships. In addition, 4 new funds have been established bringing our total assets to $12 million. We partnered with other local foundations to raise $430,000 in a single day for our local nonprofits during the second annual Give Local 757. This kind of impact on our community is only possible through the generosity of donors like you who are connected by their passion for making a difference.

Moving forward, we believe we can do more through cooperation and collaboration. There is greater power in partnerships, as seen by the continued success of our Match Program in collaboration with the TowneBank Foundation.

Thank you for sharing in our passion as we continue to build a stronger region, now and forever. We do it because it matters, and because we believe in the people - and the potential - of southeast Virginia. Together, we will ensure that the nonprofit sector has the funds and practical tools for accomplishing its visionary work. Please join with us as we continue to work to make our community the amazing place that we all want it to be.
The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation is a non-profit, community corporation that connects people who care with causes large and small to benefit the communities we serve. Founded in 1965, SEVACF helps donors meet local charitable needs in Chesapeake, Portsmouth, and the greater southeast Virginia region by targeting grants and scholarships toward our community’s most pressing needs and promising opportunities.

SEVACF manages a collection of undesignated charitable funds, grant-making funds, nonprofit endowments, and scholarship funds, created by different donors at different times for varying purposes. Donors may create funds during their lifetime or by bequest, for general charitable purposes or for a particular cause or organization that they specify. SEVACF provides tailored services to help individuals, families, businesses, and other groups pursue their charitable goals easily, effectively, and with maximum tax benefit.

Through our two competitive grant cycles each year, SEVACF supports southeast Virginia’s most exciting and most urgent charitable projects. We serve as a catalyst, leading collaborative solutions to key community issues as they arise.

SEVACF also manages designated endowments on behalf of nonprofits through The Match program, providing these groups with sustainable, easy funds for whatever their needs may be while promoting financial stability.

Through our scholarship program, SEVACF has helped many local students pursue their dream of a college education. We’ve been able to award both need-based and merit-based scholarships to the future leaders of our country.

SEVACF’s perpetual endowments are a resource for today and tomorrow. With the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, people who love southeast Virginia can give back to the community they love to help meet today’s pressing needs, while building a source of support for future generations.

Believing that community is more than about geographic locale - each of SEVACF’s programs share, by design, common values. Our overriding goal is to develop a vision, shared by all, of building a sense of community for today, tomorrow, and forever.
at a glance

HOW DOES THE SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION WORK?

RESOURCES ARRIVE IN THE FORM OF CASH, REAL ESTATE, STOCK AND MORE

WE OPEN THE APPROPRIATE FUNDS ACCORDING TO OUR DONORS’ WISHES

GRANTS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO NONPROFITS AND OTHER WORTHY CAUSES BASED ON THE DONOR’S PREFERENCE

OUR COMMUNITY BENEFITS IN MANY WAYS!
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
as of December 31, 2015

Assets__________________________________________________________
Cash and cash equivalents  944,386  
Investments  9,716,409  
Prepaid Expenses  47,058  
  Current Assets  $10,707,853  
Furniture and Fixtures  47,569  
Software  38,140  
Land/Building—Children’s Home LLC  715,340  
Land/Building—Oasis Opportunity Center  886,514  
Accumulated Depreciation  (435,365)  
  Total Fixed Assets  $1,252,199  
  Total Assets  $11,960,052

Liabilities and Net Assets__________________________________________
Accounts Payable  44,445  
  Unrestricted/Restricted Net Assets  $11,915,607  
  Total Liabilities and Net Assets  $11,960,052

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
year ended December 31,2015

Revenue and other Support________________________________________
Individual/Business  283,202  
Trusts & Bequests  625,113  
Foundation/NonProfit Grants  100,000  
Administrative Fee Income  121,990  
Non-cash Rental Income  295,338  
  Total Revenue and Support  $1,425,643

Investment and Other Income
Interest—Cash Portfolio  1,767  
Interest/Dividend—Investment Portfolio  226,877  
Realized Gain & Loss  8,206  
Unrealized Gain/Loss  (418,074)  
Other Income  4,836  
  Net Investment Income  (176,388)  
  Total Revenue, Gains and other Support  $1,249,255

Expenses_______________________________________________________
GRANTS
Donor Advised/Restricted Fund  472,782  
Unrestricted Funds  310,120  
  Total Grants  $782,902

Program and Fundraising Expenses  719,213  
Total Management and General Expenses  83,653  
  Total Expenses  $1,586,808  
  Decrease in Net Assets  (336,553)

The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation holds itself to high standards of financial management and transparency and operates efficiently for the interest of our community.
ways to give

The types of funds we offer:

**Donor-Advised Fund**
Donors suggest charities of their choice; we vet the non-profit, distribute the funds, and manage the reporting.

**Field of Interest Fund**
For donors who have a particular area of charitable interest. They name the area, and then we do the research and prepare a grant spending plan for that field of interest.

**Designated Fund**
For donors firmly committed to supporting specific charities. They name the charity or charities they’d like to give to and we take care of the investments and regularly make grants to the charities named.

**Organizational Endowment Fund**
The Foundation manages this fund on behalf of a non-profit organization. The non-profit receives annual distributions for unrestricted use and a permanent source of income.

**Scholarship Fund**
For donors as a way to invest in their community’s future and support students with the cost of their education.

**Unrestricted Fund**
Donors can address a broad range of charitable needs, including future needs that often cannot be anticipated at the time their gift is made; we evaluate all aspects of community well-being and award grants to those non-profits on the donor’s behalf.

Other ways to give:

**Bequests by Will**
A legacy of giving. Perhaps the easiest way is to designate the Foundation as a beneficiary with a specific dollar amount, or as a percentage of your estate.

**Gift of Appreciated Stock**
Gifts of stock are reinvested in the community, and qualify for an immediate tax reduction based on the market value. Donors who choose this way to give avoid capital gains taxes that would be due as a result of its sale and establish a charitable fund that benefits the local causes and organizations they care most about.

**Planned Gifts**
Charitable gift annuities and trusts are options that create a donor’s legacy and provide income to them and their heirs. Donors who establish a gift annuity receive an immediate tax deduction, preferential treatment of potential capital gain taxes and a portion of the income they receive may be tax free.

**Annual Support**
Donations to the Foundation strengthens our ability to tackle key issues, develop solutions, and provide services to the people and organizations in our community.
GRANTS: ARTS & CULTURE & RELIGIOUS

GRANT CYCLE GRANTS
We awarded grants from our Foundation funds and field of interest funds to the following arts and culture nonprofits during our two 2015 grant cycles:

BUSINESS CONSORTIUM FOR ARTS SUPPORT— $7,250
The BCAS serves as one of the region’s largest arts supporters. Funding assisted the BCAS with their general operating expenses as the price of goods and services continue to rise. Through annual grants, it helps arts and cultural groups meet the costs of running their organizations. Funding from SEVACF expanded their support and enabled art groups in Portsmouth and Chesapeake to receive grants.

GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS FOUNDATION— $2,500
Reframe the Shame was a 30-45 minute theatrical performance that focused on those battling depression. The project helped to identify, raise awareness, and offer support in decreasing the stigma associated with depression among teens and those in their early twenties.

PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY CONCERTS— $2,500
During their 2015-2016 concert season, PCCI was able to offer three student outreach opportunities to local students through their Star Education/Arts Education Student Outreach programs. At no cost to them, students were exposed to the performing arts through premier concerts at Willet Hall. Many of the students even volunteered to be a part of the learning experience.

SUFFOLK CENTER FOR CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION— $2,500
Black Violin is an American hip hop duo from Florida, composed of two classically-trained string instrumentalists who use their music to reach and motivate youth, emphasizing the power of overcoming obstacles and staying strong against unhealthy temptations. SEVACF’s grant partially funded two performances of Black Violin in which students from Portsmouth, Chesapeake and throughout Hampton Roads were able to attend on a school fieldtrip.

VIRGINIA STAGE COMPANY— $1,500
Through their CULTIVATE education and outreach program, students were given significantly discounted tickets to attend special performances of Mainstage shows in the historic Wells Theatre. For the performances, study guides based on Virginia’s SOL were created and provided to each teacher prior to attending the show.

VIRGINIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA— $1,500
Each year the Virginia Symphony Orchestra presents their annual Young People’s Concerts to Chesapeake 3rd graders and Portsmouth 3rd and 4th graders in response to the minimal exposure these students have to symphonic music. The concerts are full orchestra school day concerts presented to more than 5,000 Chesapeake and Portsmouth public school students at Great Bridge High School and I.C. Norcum High School. These events helped bridge the gap between low income backgrounds and orchestral education.

DONOR ADVISED AND DESIGNATED GRANTS
The following arts and culture and religious nonprofits received grants from donor advised and designated (including organizational and Chisholm House) funds in 2015:

CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA
GREEN ACRES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (RELIGIOUS)
GOVERNOR’S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS FOUNDATION
PORTSMOUTH FLAG ASSOCIATES, INC.

TOTAL: $24,800*
(RELIGIOUS TOTAL EQUALS $300)

Funding Areas of Interest
Total: $477,567
Suicide is the third-leading cause of death among children ages 15-19. The National Institute of Mental Health estimates that approximately 11 percent of adolescents will have a depressive disorder by age 18.

The Hampton Roads community has experienced the loss of several youth over the last 2-3 years, and the loss of its peers has had a tremendous emotional impact on our youth.

With support from the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, the Governor’s School for the Arts (GSA) Foundation has been able to develop programs and put together an appropriate curriculum aimed at theory and practice to increase awareness while offering high-quality theatrical experiences to its audiences.

Reframe the Shame, a 40-minute theatrical performance, was designed to identify, raise awareness, and offer support in reducing the stigma associated with depression in young people ages 14-21. This unique production was based on original writings of GSA students taken from interviews from young people suffering from depression. The stories are adaptations of real people that were recorded by staff of the Norfolk State University Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work.

During the performance, some students wore masks as a gesture to the painted faces that hide the powerful feelings inside. In some scenes, the performers acted like puppets on a string. In other scenes, they searched for masked partners whose feelings they would portray. All the meanwhile, speaking those unscripted, raw words of our anonymous youth.

In the words of one anonymous youth, “I feel like sometimes parents don’t want to admit that there is something wrong with their child because it might mean they did something wrong. And the biggest thing is that they realize that they didn’t do anything wrong there’s just a little difference in their child.”

Reframe the Shame has been a collaboration effort among students, professional writers and actors, health professionals and private foundations. The project featured an event offering information, resources and support about the stigma and signs of depression in young adults from a number of partners in the health community including Eastern Virginia Medical School, Sentara Healthcare, and the National Foundation for Prevention of Suicide.

Through this project, the students hope their acting, music and words will reach someone, even if they never know who or how, just by giving voice to real feelings.
GRANTS: CIVIC & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

GRANT CYCLE GRANTS
We awarded grants from our Foundation funds and field of interest funds to the following education nonprofits during our two 2015 grant cycles:

**CHESAPEAKE HUMANE SOCIETY — $2,500**
SEVACF’s grant partially funded Chesapeake Humane Society’s dental care program and pet food pantry program. The dental care program came as a result to seeing a high number of pets with poor oral health. The program helped lower the cost of dental cleanings to those pet owners who could not afford proper dental health for their pets. The pet food pantry provides temporary or on-going assistance with pet food to low-income families.

**ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT — $5,000**
Funding supported the construction of a playground at their Paradise Creek Nature Park in Portsmouth. The playground greatly enhances ERP’s ability to broaden its educational outreach efforts and significantly expand the Park’s reach and use. Along with casual visitors, at least 200 students a week take field trip to the playground.

**HELP & EMERGENCY RESPONSE INC. — $20,000**
After operating at 100% capacity each night since November 2013, the H.E.R. Shelter recently opened the first domestic violence shelter in Chesapeake as a way to expand their services. Opening the new shelter meant that the H.E.R. Shelter was in need of new computers. Funding enabled them to replace their outdated, non-functioning computers that were being used by their Crisis Program staff. The new computers have provided a more efficient function of job duties and services to clients.

**VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS — $2,500**
Student Art Start provided Portsmouth 4th grade students the opportunity to visit the museum at no cost to them. This program, a staple of MOCA’s educational programs, starts in the classroom. Teachers were given materials created by MOCA’s education staff that correlated to the Virginia SOL’s. The materials were integrated into the existing curriculum and were used as an introduction to the students’ field trip to the museum.

**VOLUNTEER HAMPTON ROADS — $10,000**
The Service Enterprise Initiative is a national program that takes nonprofit organizations through a highly developed chance management approach to volunteer capacity in their organizations. In addition to funding the program, SEVACF worked with VOLUNTEER HR to select potential nonprofits who may be good candidates for the program.

**WESTMORELAND CHILDREN & YOUTH ASSOCIATION INC. — $3,000**
As a result of funding, the WCYA was able to replace the lost, damaged, and worn equipment used by their flag football and cheerleading programs, as well as provide each child with his/her own trophy as a symbol of finishing what they started and serving as a memory of what was learned.

YMCA OF SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS — $10,000
Funding supported the construction of a new, state-of-the-art playground at the Effingham Street Family YMCA. The playground improved the community’s access to quality, outdoor recreation opportunities, as well as enhanced the family center’s outdoor recreational activities. The playground has played a vital role in keeping children fit and boosting their self-confidence.

DONOR ADVISED AND DESIGNATED GRANTS
The following civic and economic development nonprofits received grants from donor advised and designated (including organizational and Chisholm House) funds in 2015:

**DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS USA**
**FRIENDS OF THE PORTSMOUTH JUVENILE COURT, INC.**
**HEIFER PROJECT INTERNATIONAL, INC.**
**RAILROAD MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA, INC.**
**SEWAH STUDIOS, INC.**
**THE SALVATION ARMY**

TOTAL: $75,300

**Funding Areas of Interest**
Total: $477,567

- Arts & Culture: 16%
- Civic & Economic Development: 31%
- Education: 5%
- Health & Human Services: 48%
- Religious (<1%)
IMPACT: BOOSTING SELF-CONFIDENCE & KEEPING KIDS FIT

With support from the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, the new playground at the Effingham Street Family YMCA was able to improve the community’s access to quality recreation opportunities and enhance the family center’s outdoor activities.

The playground at the Effingham Street Family YMCA has played a vital role in keeping kids fit and boosting their self-confidence.

Summer Camp at the Y was busy with 200 children enrolled in the 10-week program. The playground, by far, was the most utilized area. Children from 4-12 years old had an opportunity to climb rock walls, swing, slide, and build friendships. Watching the kids play, explore and enjoy the outdoors is very rewarding and parents appreciate what the Y has offered their children.

Children on the playground appear to be happy, social and competitive. Children demonstrated a will to achieve more while on each piece of equipment. The smaller kids enjoyed the swings and liked the interaction between them and their counselor, as they reached higher with each push.

Children played on the hippo and the dinosaur while creating imaginary friends to ride along with them. It was interesting to see the competitive spirit among the older children as they attempted to climb the more challenging rock walls and cross the monkey bars. Each day their strength and endurance was tested and it was noted that they would place challenges with one another.

During the school-year program, kids can’t wait to finish their homework and hit the playground. We know that outdoor play is essential to children’s brain health and development, especially the thinking skills that most affect academic performance. Children don’t deem outdoor play on the playground as exercise but it is. Even during cold weather, the kids are always willing to play outside. One little boy expressed his love for the playground stating, “I am a super hero because I can climb rocks, swing super high, slide down tall slides and hold onto the monkey bars for a long time!” We adults see it as a wonderful opportunity to gain courage, make friends and love nature.
In the heat of early August, a group of Suffolk Public Schools teachers spent five days learning about agriculture and the health of local waterways. Developed and led by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF), the Locally Grown Classrooms professional development course taught these teachers about different agricultural practices and how they affect the James and Nansemond Rivers, and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. With support from the SEVACF, CBF engaged local farmers to provide real-world models and also provided each teacher with a book on square-foot gardening methods and materials to start their own school garden after the course.

Booker T. Washington Elementary School teacher Jenny Owens, a reading specialist and sponsor of the school’s garden club, took part in the Locally Grown Classrooms course, and has since become a mentor teacher for CBF. Her enthusiasm and hard work inspires both her students and fellow Suffolk teachers; she has implemented creative and engaging methods to demonstrate the connections between reading and environmental stewardship and conservation practices. Ms. Owens uses a real-life experience – the school garden – to bring literature and other subjects to life for her students.

Booker T. Washington Elementary is located in a food desert, an area in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good-quality fresh, healthful whole foods. Inspired by her “Locally Grown Classrooms” participation, Ms. Owens decided to replace the school’s flower garden with a raised-bed vegetable garden, and students help plant and grow seasonal vegetables under her supervision. Said Ms. Owens, “The kids think it’s magical to see their seeds come to life. Growing vegetables has connected these kids to their food. They couldn’t believe that you could eat things that didn’t come from a grocery store. Most of our classroom windows face the garden, so the students can see food grow, see where food comes from, and experience how it tastes. If you plant the seed, I think you’re invested in what grows and you’ll try it.”

CBF’s environmental education programs are rooted in experiential learning. Thanks to support from the SEVACF, Locally Grown Classrooms course demonstrated teaching and gardening methods to teachers, and used SOL-correlated concepts to reinforce the connections between land use (farming), polluted runoff, nutrient pollution, and water quality.

Owens’ fellow teachers have embraced the vegetable garden. “This is a part of life,” according to Ms. Owens. “This garden provides a practical reason for learning math and science and how to read.” At Booker T. Washington Elementary, the first grade used the garden’s raised beds to measure foot by foot, and the third graders calculated area and perimeter for square-foot gardening. The fourth grade class incorporated Virginia history and researched Colonial kitchen gardens; they chose appropriate plants to grow, harvested rosemary, dried it in the classroom, and made a traditional Colonial recipe. Kindergarten students celebrated St. Patrick’s Day by reading The Hungry Leprechaun and planting their own potato pods in the school garden; students will have had the opportunity to get their hands dirty and harvest mature potatoes.

This year, Ms. Owens’s garden will feature native collards and local sweet potatoes from Slade Farms in Surry County. And in September, Ms. Owens launched the newest feature: innovative plantings around the garden’s central storm drains to capture and reduce runoff. CBF helped her design a system using farming growbags as biosocks, planted native flowering plants. According to Ms. Owens, “I never would have considered this if I had not worked with CBF and participated in Locally Grown Classrooms, and I am excited to see so many families embracing the garden!”
GRANTS: EDUCATION

GRANT CYCLE GRANTS
We awarded grants from our Foundation funds and field of interest funds to the following education nonprofits during our two 2015 grant cycles:

**CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION— $2,500**
*Chesapeake Classrooms*, their environmental education program in Suffolk, trained 20 teachers from Suffolk, Chesapeake, Portsmouth, and the adjacent western Tidewater school districts. The week-long course equipped the teachers with the knowledge, tools, and skills to use the Chesapeake Bay environment and watershed as a context for learning in their classrooms.

**CHESAPEAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION— $10,000**
Funding was used for Phase I of their project, which included the purchase of new digital equipment to be used in the planetarium. The new equipment replaced the oft-repaired projector with a digital star projector system. Phase II of the program will be to build a new Science/Planetarium Center.

**GIRL SCOUT COUNCIL OF COLONIAL COAST— $2,500**
The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is the program platform that provides a wide variety of life changing opportunities for girls in grades K-12 in South Norfolk. This program allowed girls to participate as part of a traditional troop through weekly interactions that covered topics such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Financial Literacy, and Healthy Living Initiatives that teach about self-esteem and body image.

**HORIZONS HAMPTON ROADS, INC.— $6,000**
Horizons Hampton Roads operates as a full-day, six-week summer academic, cultural, and social enrichment program for low-income children, grades K-8, residing in Portsmouth, Norfolk and Virginia Beach. Horizons aims to provide long-term education gains through their remedial and developmental activities. Through their swimming program at the YMCA of Portsmouth, Red Cross swim instruction was provided to 120 children. The program was taught with a safety first approach supplemented with teaching techniques that developed the skills and confidence in reducing the fear of water.

**PORTSMOUTH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION— $2,000**
The Innovator Grant Program provided teachers at Portsmouth Public Schools with up to $500 to purchase items or services that support new and creative lesson ideas in order to enhance the teachers’ ability to best educate students according to and beyond the stated curriculum.

**SANDLER CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS— $5,000**
In its sixth season, the ACCESS the ARTS program provided financial assistance to at-risk and underserved students in Title 1 schools by covering the costs of the current educational arts programs. The Sandler Center Foundation’s education program supplemented the public schools’ limited funding by providing a cultural arts experience that followed the Virginia SOL’s. Teachers received study guides to be used prior to and after the performances at the Sandler Center.

DONOR ADVISED AND DESIGNATED GRANTS
The following education nonprofits received grants from donor advised and designated (including organizational and Chisholm House) funds in 2015:

**ACCESS COLLEGE FOUNDATION**
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF KING COUNTY**
**CHESAPEAKE BAY ACADEMY EDUCATION FOUNDATION**
**DETROIT POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE**
**EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, INC.**
**FRIENDS OF CHEVRA T’HELM, INC.**
**FRIENDS OF THE PORTSMOUTH JUVENILE COURT, INC.**
**FRIENDS OF THE PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.**
**GENEVA COLLEGE**
**ODU EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**
**PORTSMOUTH ANGLER CLUB**
**THE WILLIAMS SCHOOL**
**TIDEWATER YOUTH GOLF ASSOCIATION**
**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA LAW SCHOOL FOUNDATION**
**WILLIAM & MARY CENTER FOR VETERANS ENGAGEMENT**
**WOODLAWN FOUNDATION, INC.**

**TOTAL: $149,028.27**

**Funding Areas of Interest**
Total: $477,567

- Arts & Culture: 48%
- Civic & Economic Development: 16%
- Education: 31%
- Health & Human Services: 5%
- Religious (<1%)
IMPACT: GIVING HOPE

Seven-year-old Kaylee, fighting cancer for the third time, traveled to New York City to take a radical chemotherapy drug so strong she would need to be completely isolated from all doctors, nurses and family for days. Everything in isolation with her (clothes, luggage, electronic devices, medical equipment) would be so filled with radioactivity that it would need to be destroyed after her treatment. Her mother, who stayed nearby but outside the protective lead walls, became so ill from the radiation, she had to leave for a period of time.

Through the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation’s grant and the Roc Solid Ready Bag program, Kaylee and her sister were sent on a shopping spree to fill a rolling luggage bag with toys, games and electronics to keep her occupied and pass the time while she was in total isolation. In a desperate situation, Roc Solid was able to create memories for Kaylee and her family that are filled with smiles, joy and hope.

MENTORING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

For some families, they attempt to get out of poverty, but ultimately, it becomes futile to try. This is why the Westmoreland Children & Youth Association (WCYA) focus on the children to give them hope for a better future.

There are three brothers the WCYA has mentored for several years. They’re ages are 6, 10, and 12 years old. They live under very bleak circumstances. However, they participate in the WCYA’s sports and mentor programs. They belong to a local church where they are junior ushers. The relationship with Mr. Hines and Mr. Robert Walker, President, has developed through time.

Mr. Hines and Mr. Walker mentor the boys and meet with them every other week. The brothers rise early on Saturday mornings to get picked up for haircuts along with other boys. The barber is gracious to allow discounts for them, which Westmoreland pays for. As part of their etiquette training, the boys all go to breakfast at Golden Corral with Mr. Hines and Mr. Walker. They also work in the Little Sprouts Community Garden with Mr. Hines. It’s a full day of mentoring; one that in hopes will provide a better future for these boys.

For the brothers, their story is similar to those also living in bleak circumstances. Home is not always a safe haven with a hot meal, a warm bed, and close friends near by. No; for the brothers, it’s a move to a neighboring city where they would be without their mentors, Mr. Hines and Mr. Walker. It’s a place where they are sleeping on mattresses on the floor.

Funding from the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation provides the necessary resources to enable the WCYA to intervene in less than ideal circumstances such as this one. Thanks to the work of Tyrone Hines and the WCYA, they were able to speak to the Deacon of the church where the boys ushered and got things moving toward relocating to other housing. The WCYA is in the process of obtaining quality affordable beds for the boys. Though the family and home situation are difficult, the brothers are motivated to do better by the relationship they have with their mentors, Mr. Tyrone and Mr. Walker. They impress the public with their good manners, and despite their circumstances, they do very well in school.

This is their struggle. Positive early childhood development is critical and this is why the WCYA does what they do. It is their hope that these three brothers and the others will be encouraged to do better in life with the support, role models, sports, mentor experiences and cultural/educational activities the WCYA offers. Westmoreland will continue to provide quality programs, services and experiences to achieve positive outcomes for children and youth with the support of foundations such as SEVACF.
**GRANTS: HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

**GRANT CYCLE GRANTS**

We awarded grants from our Foundation funds and field of interest funds to the following education nonprofits during our two 2015 grant cycles:

**BON SECOURS MARYVIEW FOUNDATION — $5,000**

The Bon Secours Hampton Roads Care-A-Van is a free mobile health clinic that has been serving the underserved and uninsured in our communities. Its services include primary care and wellness, prenatal care and education, children’s immunizations and school physicals, just to name a few.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF EASTERN VIRGINIA INC. — $2,000**

At the time of their grant request, CCEVA had already served 1,302 Portsmouth residents and 492 Chesapeake residents. Funding enabled them to expand their program and provide approximately 258 hours of subsidized care for their In-Home Respite clients in Portsmouth and Chesapeake.

**FOODBANK OF SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA — $4,050**

Through their BackPack Program, children facing hunger before weekends and/or during school breaks were provided with bags, discreetly placed in their backpacks, containing five nutritious, child-friendly, non-perishable, nutritious food.

**FORKIDS, INC. — $2,500**

The Chesapeake Transitional Housing Program was able to provide transitional housing for families in Chesapeake who, while in emergency shelter, were identified as having high barriers to housing stability.

**GOODWILL OF CENTRAL AND COASTAL VIRGINIA, INC. — $2,500**

Funding enabled Goodwill to seek a new Skills Trainer to provide job readiness, financial education, and computer skills training to residents of Portsmouth and the surrounding communities.

**NORFOLK CASA, INC. — $2,000**

Our Community/Our Kids, in collaboration with Chesapeake CASA, recruited, trained, and placed highly vetted community volunteers to advocate for 160 children who are navigating the legal and social services systems due to abuse and neglect.

**PORTSMOUTH SELF SUFFICIENCY PROJECT — $5,000**

Funding provided a portion of the required community contribution for HUD’s Continuum of Care funding that supports a comprehensive network of prevention, emergency services, and care and training for self-sufficiency.

**ROC SOLID FOUNDATION INC. — $3,000**

The Solid Support Program offers Roc Solid Ready Bags to families in children in Hampton Roads who have just been diagnosed with cancer or a life-threatening illness. The bags provided all the essentials for an extended hospital stay, including blankets, toiletries, a preloaded debit card, and quarters for the vending machines.

**DONOR ADVISED AND DESIGNATED GRANTS**

The following health and human services nonprofits received grants from donor advised and designated (including organizational and Chisholm House) funds in 2015:

**AMERICARES FOUNDATION, INC.**

**BOBBY TRIPODI FOUNDATION**

**BON SECOURS HAMPTON ROADS FOUNDATION**

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO PROTECT THE ELDERLY**

**DOWNTOWN BOXING GYM YOUTH PROGRAM**

**EDMARC, INC.**

**FOODBANK OF SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA**

**FORKIDS, INC.**

**GOLDEN FUTURE FOUNDATION**

**GUIDING EYES FOR THE BLIND, INC.**

**HOLIDAY HOUSE OF PORTMSOUTH, INC.**

**KROGER COMPANY**

**LAMINATION SERVICES, INC.**

**LOGANS ELITES INC.**

**OASIS OPPORTUNITY CENTER**

**PORTSMOUTH AREA RESOURCES COALITION INC.**

**PORTSMOUTH HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.**

**PORTSMOUTH TRIAD PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS**

**STARFISH FAMILY SERVICES, INC.**

**STEPHEN TULLOCH FOUNDATION**

**THE CHILDREN’S CENTER OF WAYNE COUNTY**

**THE FOLDS OF HONOR FOUNDATION**

**TOWNEBANK—GREAT BRIDGE**

**TRUE FREEDOM, INC.**

**UNION MISSION MINISTRIES**

**UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, INC.**

**UNITED WAY OF SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS**

**WESLEY COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER, INC.**

**TOTAL:**

$228,439

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**Funding Areas of Interest Total: $477,567**

- Arts & Culture: 16%
- Civic & Economic Development: 31%
- Education: 48%
- Health & Human Services: 5%
- Religious (<1%)
OUR PROGRAMS: THE MATCH

In 2014, we unveiled our new endowment program, The Match, which calls on local nonprofit organizations to start endowment funds with the Foundation.

The ultimate goal of The Match is to create a million dollars worth of endowed funds over a five year period, which in turn, will create a strong, sustainable, nonprofit community in southeast Virginia. The Match will also supply nonprofit organizations with guidance and support towards building effective boards and fundraising.

HOW IT WORKS

Upon establishing their endowment fund, a nonprofit must pledge to raise between $20,000 and $50,000 over a one-year period. Once their pledged fundraising amount is met, we and the TowneBank Foundation will together match their money raised, doubling their endowment.

These organizational endowments will promote financial stability by allowing the nonprofits to be less dependent on personal donations or government grants, which can often be inconsistent and unpredictable. The funds will also be invested by SEVACF, saving the organizations the time and expense of having to pay an investment firm, and they will grow to provide income to help fund future projects, needs and operations.

WHO’S BENEFITTING?

In 2015, the Elizabeth River Project became our first organization to achieve their pledge goal and reach their match. With headquarters across from the High Street Ferry Landing on the Portsmouth waterfront, the Elizabeth River Project leads community-wide action to restore the environmental health of the Elizabeth River. Consequent to meeting their match, the Elizabeth River Project’s Board of Directors plan to use disbursements from their SEVACF endowment fund for education programs at the Paradise Creek Nature Park, which they opened in 2013, and serves as Portsmouth’s third largest public park. They hope to teach people of all ages how to improve the health of our home river. “We are so proud and so excited to have met the challenge match,” said Marjorie Mayfield Jackson, Executive Director, Elizabeth River Project.

The Portsmouth Public Library Foundation joined The Match and met their pledge goal in December 2015 with the purpose of developing an endowment fund to help ensure a perpetual source of funds for enriching the programs of the Portsmouth library system.

“We applaud each of these organizations on a job well done and look forward to assisting each of them in their efforts to give back to their community in meaningful ways for years to come,” said R. Stephen Best, Chief Executive Officer, Southeast Virginia Community Foundation.

In 2016, SEVACF and the TowneBank Foundation will welcome two additional organizations to join our program as we continue to work together to build self-reliant organizations.

Every year, in their scholarship applications, students use these words to tell us their dreams of attending college.

Who are these students? They are from every background, every neighborhood, all with a variety of interests and passions. We support future doctors, engineers, politicians, musicians and artists. We help graduating seniors who have their lives ahead of them. There are students at the very top of their class, and students who work so hard just to pass. But they all share that dream of improving their lives through education.

The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation has 16 scholarship funds, established by donors who are committed to education, and often named in the honor or memory of a loved one. In 2015, we awarded nearly $63,000 in scholarship grants, and helped 32 students in Chesapeake, Portsmouth, and the greater southeast Virginia region. Students are evaluated by an advisory committee based on a written application, test scores, transcripts and interviews. This year individual scholarships ranged from $250 to $3,500 and were awarded to students in each of the three high schools in Portsmouth, Western Branch High School in Chesapeake, and other high schools throughout the region.

Above: Students pose for a picture following the Today’s Scholars & Tomorrow’s Leaders Scholarship Reception held at the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame
Behind every one of our scholarship recipients is a generous and passionate soul, helping to make dreams come true.

On June 16, 2015, the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation co-hosted our annual Today’s Scholars & Tomorrow’s Leaders Scholarship Reception with the Beazley Foundation. The event was held at the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame where dozens of students across Hampton Roads were recognized for their accomplishments.

For many of the recipients, they are a first generation college student whose hard work, dedication, and willingness to give back to their community has led them on a path to success.

The reception concludes a month-long celebration that includes graduation and other special events dedicated to the graduating seniors. For SEVACF and the Beazley Foundation, the reception is an opportunity for donors to meet their recipients and their families. “Being able to meet the scholarship recipients and their parents at the annual reception given by SEVACF enables the donors to connect with their scholarship recipients in a meaningful way,” said Donna Saffold, Reception Coordinator.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

J. Hunter Brantley, Jr. had a passion for education and a deep appreciation for members of the Armed Forces who sacrifice so much to protect our freedom.

In 2000, Hunter Brantley and his wife, Lois, established the Armed Forces Scholarship Fund at the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, an award of $2,000 to assist children of an active duty, enlisted Navy or Coast Guard personnel at the E9 or below level who is stationed in Portsmouth. Donna Saffold, their daughter, now oversees the selection committee along with four Command Master Chiefs, two from the Navy and two from the Coast Guard. Scholarship winners are selected based on academic achievement, participation in school activities, and volunteer efforts in their community.

“I learned so much from them [her parents] about the value of giving and am blessed to be able to carry on their legacy,” said Donna. To her, working with SEVACF to carry on the legacy of her parents has been a rewarding experience.
Give Local 757 is a small moment in time each year when our region can come together and shine a very big spotlight on our nonprofit community.

More than $400,000 was raised in a single day for 155 local nonprofits during the second annual Give Local 757. The 24-hour online fundraising event held on May 5 at 12:00 noon to May 6 at 12:00 noon was co-hosted by the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, Peninsula Community Foundation and Suffolk Foundation. The Give Local 757 total includes the money raised through online donations during the one day event, as well as additional funds raised by the nonprofits through match challenges and checks that were deposited through Langley Federal Credit Union. It also includes $70,000 in prize pool money contributed by each of the participating foundations and awarded to the various nonprofits. Together, the nonprofits’ donations totaled to over 5,000 gifts with 36% of people giving to a particular organization for the first time.

The top fundraiser was Isle of Wight Academy, coming in first place with 522 gifts totaling to $12,790 and an additional $14,000 in prizes. Alternatives, Inc. came in second and raised $12,498 from 465 donations and an additional $6,000 in prizes.

Nationwide, nearly 180 community foundations participated in the giving day event in partnership with Give Local America, and collectively raised $68.5 million in one day. The third annual Give Local 757 will take place on May 3, 2016.

### 2015 GIVE LOCAL 757 HIGHLIGHTS

- **$430,000** total raised
- **$208,404.77** given to Southside nonprofits
- **$70,000** prize pool funds awarded to participating nonprofits
- **$2,673** average raised per nonprofit
- **155** participating nonprofits
- **5,500** total gifts made
- **36%** first time donors
- **50** states participated
our funds

**DONOR/COMMITTEE ADVISED FUNDS**

3603 COUNTY STREET, LLC
BRADLEY COLES MEMORIAL FUND
CHERRY FAMILY FUND
CHILD & FAMILY FUND OF PATRICK & KAREN CALLAHAN
CREECY FAMILY FUND
DICK AND DONA WOOD FUND
DON, SUSAN, AND KATHLEEN COMER FUND
DR. C. DICK PARK FUND
EARL INDUSTRIES CHARITABLE FUND
FLEMING FAMILY FUND
GRIFFIN FAMILY FUND
HERBERT K. & CAROLYN K. BANGEL FUND
NEAL & JEAN DAVIS FUND
PAUL & CAROLYN GOTTLIEB FUND
PAUL K & SHIRLEY K ROBINETT FUND
PORTSMOUTH SHERIFF’S COMMUNITY FUND
RANDOLPH MACON LAMDA CHIL ALPHA FRATERNITY CORP. FUND
ROB & NATALIE SIMS FUND
TAPP FAMILY FUND
WARD & BRUCE ROBINETT FAMILY FUND
WILLARD & BETTY MOODY FUND
WILLIAM COLLINS HILL MEMORIAL FUND
WILLIAMS FAMILY FUND
WOOD FAMILY FUND
VIOLA FAMILY FUND

**DESIGNATED FUNDS**

ARThUR & MARTHA CHERRY FUND
BERNARD GRIFFIN, SR. MEMORIAL FUND
COLLINS PROJECT FUND
E.B WATSON/TBF/SEVACF DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT FUND
EDMARC HOSPICE FOR CHILDREN FUND
ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT/TBF/SEVACF DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT FUND
FIRST CITIZEN DESIGNATED FUND
FORT NELSON CHAPER NSDAR FUND
FOSKEY-VANDYCK MEMORIAL FUND
FRIENDS OF FRANKLIN FUND
JOHN & BARBARA HILL FUND
LEE & HELEN GIFFORD FUND
LYNN B. DUTTON DESIGNATED FUND
MEDICAL TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE FUND
NEAL & JEAN DAVIS FAMILY FUND
PORTSMOUTH CEDAR GROVE CEMETARY FUND
PORTSMOUTH INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT FOUNDATION FUND
PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND
PORTSMOUTH SERVICE LEAGUE FUND
SCHWETZ LIBRARY FUND
ST. JOHN’S/LONDON HOUSE FUND
TIDEWATER YOUTH GOLF ASSOCIATION FUND
TOWNEBANK/SEVACF CHALENGE FUND
TRINITY/LONDON HOUSE FUND
UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN FUND
VOLUNTEER HAMPTON ROADS FUND

**FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS**

CHISHOLM HOUSE FUND
CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS FUND
MERRIMAC KIWANIS LEGACY FUND
SHULER FAMILY FUND
our funds

ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDS
ELIZABETH RIVER PROJECT FUND
ELIZABETH B. WATSON FUND
FRIENDS OF CHEVRA T'HELIM FUND
USO OF HAMPTON ROADS AND CENTRAL VIRGINIA FUND

SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS
CYCLE FOR SURVIVAL VB

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS
COMMUNITY NEEDS FUND
EUSTIS FAMILY FUND

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
ARmed FORCES SCHOLARSHIP FUND
BARBARA HOWARD OTR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
C.H. JORDAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
C.S. SHERWOOD SCHOLARSHIP FUND
DWIGHT & DOROTHY HUMPHREY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
EASTERN AMATEUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND
FOSKEY-VANDYCK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

GEORGE F. BOGDAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND
HORACE SAVAGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND
JARROD B. SHIVERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
JOSEF D. COLLINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IFPTE LOCAL #1 MCELFRESH SCHOLARSHIP FUND
MIKE MORELAND HUMANITARIAN ROTARY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
TYRONE HINES SCHOLARSHIP FUND
WILLIAM CLARE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
W. CLAYTON ROBERTSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

NEW FUNDS THIS YEAR

ERP/TBF/SEVACF DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT FUND
E.B. WATSON/TBF/SEVACF DESIGNATED ENDOWMENT FUND
ELIZABETH B. WATSON ENDOWMENT FUND
CYCLE FOR SURVIVAL

"My family and I have been truly blessed. Our desire is to be active and impactful members of our community through our giving" - Darryl & Tiffany Tapp
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor Contributions</th>
<th>$1,500-$1,999</th>
<th>$10,000-$19,999</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kroger Stores</td>
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<td>Monarch Bank</td>
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<td>United Way of South Hampton Roads</td>
<td>Herbert K. and Carolyn Bangel Advised Fund</td>
<td>Herbert K. and Carolyn Bangel</td>
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<td>$500-$999</td>
<td>$2,000-$2,499</td>
<td>$20,000-$49,999</td>
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<td>Sis Nash Memorial Fund</td>
<td>Herbert K. and Carolyn Bangel Advised Fund</td>
<td>Susan G. Robertson</td>
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<td>Richard E. H. Wentz</td>
<td>Cheryl P. McLeskey</td>
<td>The Elizabeth River Project</td>
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<td>William H. Oast, III</td>
<td>Franklin Asset Management, LLC</td>
<td>Townebank Foundation</td>
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<td>RJ and Mary Louise Nutter</td>
<td>P. Ward Robinett, Jr.</td>
<td>Portsmouth Public Library Foundation</td>
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<td>QVC Inc.</td>
<td>$5,000-$7,499</td>
<td>Valerie H. Burkett</td>
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<td>Priority Toyota</td>
<td>W.F. Magann Corporation</td>
<td>$100,000 or More</td>
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<td>Harrison’s Moving &amp; Storage Co., Inc.</td>
<td>Paul A.M. &amp; Carolyn Gottlieb Advised Fund</td>
<td>Georgia T. Flournoy Unitrust #3</td>
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<td>First Team Toyota</td>
<td>Timothy S. Culpepper</td>
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<td>First Team Honda</td>
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<td>Cavalier Ford Lincoln</td>
<td>ESG Enterprises Inc.</td>
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<td>I.C. Norcum Class of 1964</td>
<td>Don &amp; Susan Comer</td>
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<td>AHP Development, LLC</td>
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<td>Portsmouth Flag Associates, Inc.</td>
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<td>Newtown Building Supplies, Inc.</td>
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<td>Anonymous Donor</td>
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<tr>
<td>$7,500-$9,999</td>
<td>McLeskey &amp; Associates, LLC</td>
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notables from the year

P. Ward Robinett, Jr., the Interim Chief Executive Officer for the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, announced his retirement at the end of 2015. Under Ward’s leadership, SEVACF obtained full accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board (see right). Ward has been very influential in developing SEVACF as a driving force bringing about positive change within the community. Not to mention, Ward has positioned the Foundation in such a way to foster future growth and development.

Ward’s career has been a model to follow. Prior to SEVACF, Ward worked in the banking business, a career that spanned more than 43 years. He is best known as the founding president of TowneBank Portsmouth where they rose to the number one spot in deposit market share among all financial institutions in Portsmouth. During this time, Ward was also named First Citizen of Portsmouth in 1989.

A native of Portsmouth, Ward has been very dedicated to his hometown, serving on City Council for eight years, on the board on Bon Secours Hampton Roads, and as a trustee of the Beazley Foundation, among other leadership positions.

His time is now spent between Florida, Montana and Virginia with his grandchildren. Although no longer in an official capacity, Ward has graciously offered his advice and expertise in the months following his retirement. We wish him well.

In 2015, the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation received accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

“Meeting the National Standards accreditation is a rigorous, comprehensive process,” said R. Stephen Best, Sr., Chief Executive Officer, Southeast Virginia Community Foundation. “This accreditation is a significant accomplishment that demonstrates our commitment to excellence, stewardship, and leadership throughout the region.”

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations program requires community foundations to document their policies for donor services, investments, grant-making and administration.

With this achievement, we remain part of an elite group of community foundations who have met the nation’s highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability. The National Standards seal affirms that our Foundation’s management aligns with nationally recognized practices and distinguishes us from other community foundations that have not yet met these rigorous standards. Our donors, professional advisors, and others can be rest assured that when partnering with SEVACF, they are partnering with a qualified, trustworthy philanthropic partner.
welcome aboard

The Southeast Virginia Community Foundation has been fortunate to have received board members who are truly “difference makers.” No exception to the following, who were added to our Board of Directors in 2015, and have been instrumental in moving the levers of community philanthropy to improve lives in southeast Virginia.

CAROLYN BERNARD

With over four decades of education–related work experience, Carolyn is now retired and living in Chesapeake. During her professional time, she served in several different educational roles in the Chesapeake Public School System, with her latest position being Principal of Grassfield High School. Carolyn now holds volunteer positions with the Chesapeake Sports Club, the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals, and the Virginia Foundation of Educational Leadership, just to name a few. Carolyn is excited to add the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation to her repertoire.

MICHELLE BUTLER

Having joined TowneBank back in 2006, Michelle is now Senior Vice President of Private Banking at the bank’s Churchland location. Before working at Towne, she acquired 14 years of banking experience as Vice President of Premier Banking at Bank of America. Michelle is an active volunteer, having held board positions with Volunteer Hampton Roads, Western Branch Athletic Club, and the Suffolk Partnership for a Healthy Community. Currently, Michelle is on the board for the Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Virginia’s Portsmouth Unit.

STEPHEN KORVING

Stephen is currently the President, Managing Partner, and Co-Founder of Korving & Company LLC, where he works with individuals and businesses to help them manage their wealth. Before founding Korving & Company, Stephen worked at both UBS and Cambridge Associates. In addition to serving on the SEVACF Board, Stephen serves on the Portsmouth Museums Foundation Board of Directors. He is also a member of the LEAD Hampton Roads Signature Class of 2015. In the past, he has served in volunteer positions with PARC, Inc., Kiwanis Club of Churchland, and Noblemen of Norfolk.
For 50 years, our leaders have firmly believed that Community Foundations must have a powerful ambition to make a difference. And that ambition carried forward at the end of 2015, when R. Stephen Best, Sr., retired Fire Chief for the City of Chesapeake, assumed the position of Chief Executive Officer of the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation. His appointment by the Board of Directors, followed the retirement of then Interim Chief Executive Officer P. Ward Robinett, Jr., who served with distinction during his tenure with the Foundation.

The Foundation’s mission, to connect people who care with causes to benefit our communities, has resonated with Steve since that inaugural day he took office. He, along with the staff and Board of Directors, have taken those words to heart and have been working diligently to ensure that we will continue to serve our community in meaningful and impactful ways.

Our mission, and all of the challenges it implies, has been the driving force in bringing about positive change. We’re currently in the process of reviewing and developing products that will provide our donors and nonprofits with the resources they need to fulfill their charitable vision and empower them to do great things for the community. Donors can be confident that our excellent stewardship, prudent oversight and financial management strategies, will help to ensure that grant-making resources are available now and for future generations.

On behalf of the Southeast Virginia Community Foundation, we offer a heartfelt thank you to the entire community for your confidence and support these past 50 years! The Board of Directors and staff greatly appreciate the confidence our donors have provided by entrusting your charitable dollars and allowing us the privilege of helping you to share your legacy and passion for our community. We remain grateful for the honor of serving our community in the past and we look forward to the next 50 years with excitement and anticipation as we work together to strengthen our partnerships and direct our resources to provide maximum impact in the community with the highest degree of honesty, integrity and respect. We invite you to join us in this mission!