The Chisholm House Fund has a rich philanthropic history. Formally Chisholm Hospitality House, it was the inspiration for Fisher Houses at U.S. military hospitals around the world.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Martha Frances Fortson, the Chisholm House Fund is making a tremendous impact on our community. It primarily serves programs to benefit active duty military, their dependents, and veterans. Its grantees have received $297,625 in total grant funding from 2007 through 2019. That is an average of $22,894 from the Chisholm House Fund each year!

Some of its recent grantees are Armed Services YMCA of Hampton Roads, USO of Hampton Roads and Central Virginia, Edmarc Hospice for Children and Comfort Crew for Military Kids.

SEVACF SPOTLIGHT: THE CHISHOLM HOUSE FUND

SEVACF’s new Heritage Fund was opened in 2017 to help sustain the Foundation into the future. The Heritage Fund provides a means for friends of the Foundation to support its long-term mission by making tax-deductible contributions on an annual basis, or remembering the Foundation in their wills by way of a bequest. Gifts to the Heritage Fund will provide much needed annual operating revenue to help sustain the Foundation’s continuing work of promoting philanthropy in Southeast Virginia. We invite you to join our efforts! Contact info@sevacf.org or call 757-397-5424 to discuss this exciting new giving opportunity or to make your gift to the Heritage Fund today!
Dear Friends,

As the holiday season approaches, we reflect on the Foundation’s success throughout the year. Members of our board and staff worked diligently to accomplish our mission to connect people who care with causes large and small. We provide support to benefit needs across a plethora of program areas. Heartfelt donations lead to positive changes in health and human services, education, civic and economic development, arts and culture, and the environment.

Since 1965, SEVACF has helped people who share a common goal of improving life for all in our community and building a legacy through philanthropic giving. Our Board of Directors consists of leading citizens and professionals who know our community’s needs. We go beyond simply making grants that advance charitable activities; we also identify current and emerging issues, stimulate resources to address those needs, and help Southeast Virginia prepare for the future. The types of nonprofit organizations we support vary in size, mission and vision; however, they all are working toward a common goal of creating a better, livable Southeast Virginia.

A gift to SEVACF is an investment in the future of our region. The funds go to work immediately supporting vital services, while also providing sustained support for years to come. Rather than looking towards the next election or business cycle, community foundations always focus on the next generation.

Please join us in recognizing the collective impact and difference we can make together. Call the Foundation to make a tax-deductible contribution by year’s end.

Best wishes for a safe and joyful holiday season!

Sincerely yours,

William H. Oast III
President, Board of Directors

R. Stephen Best, Sr.
Chief Executive Officer

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SEVACF awarded $191,254 in total grant funding to 48 organizations during the spring and fall grant cycles. These grants supported vital services in education, health and human services, the environment, arts and culture, and civic and economic development. We would like to thank the donors who made this possible. To give to the non-profits that participate in our bi-annual grants program, go to https://sevacf.org/give/donate/ and select “The Community Needs Fund”. You may call our office directly at 757-397-5424. Congratulations to our amazing 2019 grantees!

**SPRING 2019:**
- Alzheimer’s Association
- American Red Cross of Coastal VA
- Boys & Girls Clubs of SEVA
- Business Consortium for Arts Support
- Chesapeake Care, Inc.
- ForKids, Inc.
- Friends of the Portsmouth Juvenile Court
- Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast
- Governor’s School for the Arts
- Habitat for Humanity of South Hampton Roads
- Holiday House of Portsmouth
- Hope House Foundation, Inc.
- Hopecam, Inc.
- Horizons Hampton Roads
- Joy Ministries
- Mariner’s Museum and Park
- Mother Seton House
- Nansemond River Preservation Alliance
- Neighborhood
- Norfolk Botanical Garden
- Places & Programs for Children, Inc.
- Portsmouth Reads
- Portsmouth Schools Foundation
- Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Samaritan House
- Shining Light Homes
- St. Matthew’s Catholic School
- Together We Can Foundation
- Virginia Symphony Orchestra
- Westmoreland Children & Youth Assoc.
- Youth Volunteer Corps of Hampton Roads

**FALL 2019:**
- Access Partnership
- Arts Alive! Chesapeake
- Clever Communities in Action
- Comfort Crew for Military Kids
- Communities in Schools of Hampton Roads
- Foodbank of Southeastern VA & Eastern Shore
- Go Rescue Pet Adoption Center
- Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways History Foundation
- Hampton Roads Workforce Foundation
- New Vision Youth Services
- Portsmouth Christian Outreach Ministries
- Portsmouth Community Concerts
- Seven Cities Writers Project
- St. Mary’s Home for Disabled Children
- Starbase Victory
- Virginia Supportive Housing
- WHRO
In 2011, Founder/Executive Director Georgia Obenaus realized a shortage of rescue centers in Hampton Roads. Feeling the pains of the recession, she searched for a good foster home for her dogs. She quickly learned demand far exceeded supply. There was only one local no-kill shelter; only one local rescue had a facility (mostly cats); and home-based rescues could not accommodate her dogs’ foster care needs. Mrs. Obenaus envisioned a safe, no-kill, home environment where rescue dogs receive care for their medical and behavioral needs — a place where “unadoptable” dogs are rehabilitated.

Fast forward to 2019 and meet Tyler! Tyler has a phenomenal success story. Someone found him tied to a park bench suffering from mange. After receiving quality care from Go RESCUE, Tyler is healthy and happy. He is one of at least 1,600 dogs that received fostering at Go RESCUE Pet Adoption Center. It fosters owner-surrendered dogs, and dogs from local Animal Controls and SPCAs. By spaying/neutering the dogs, Go RESCUE greatly decreases the number of unexpected litters, which also contributes to lower euthanasia rates at our local shelters.

Go RESCUE is one of SEVACF’s newest grantees. We are proud of the work Mrs. Obenaus and her team are doing in civic and economic development.

The Chesapeake Humane Society provided costly and otherwise inaccessible medical procedures to families with grant funding from SEVACF. Molly Mae is one of the grant recipients. Molly Mae is an 8-year-old Yorkshire Terrier who suffered immense pain from a major eye infection. Dr. Melissa Turner, Medical Director, performed an enucleation to remove the infected eye. Molly Mae’s surgery and recovery were successful. The board and staff of SEVACF are elated to see the difference we are making in our community. We extend heartfelt thanks to the Chesapeake Humane Society for helping us live out our mission.
MEET THE SEVACF TEAM

SOUTHEAST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
1435 CROSSWAYS BLVD, SUITE 300
CHESAPEAKE, VA 23320

OFFICE: 757-397-5424
FAX: 757-397-7948

WWW.SEVACF.ORG

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