



2012 Special and Sustaining Program Grants

Special and Sustaining Program Grants to Local Churches/Faith Groups

Reaching Out into Communities

Because the mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, the Virginia Conference has long seen the need to assist churches which are reaching out into their communities. The Common Table, Committee on Ethnic Minority Concerns and Advocacy, and United Methodist Women have combined their resources, including a designated portion of the Church Extension Apportionment, to assist in this work. A total of \$106,750 will be distributed to the mission projects listed on these pages. For more information about a specific project, or how you can assist, contact the appropriate persons listed below; or call Bev Myers in the conference Office of Connectional Ministries at 1-800-768-6040 or (804) 521-1100, ext. 134, or e-mail <BevMyers@vaumc.org>.

Special Program Grants

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

Rising Hope Noonday Meals Program supplements its other ministries by providing a nourishing meal to those who come to Rising Hope for the Noon Day Worship Service seeking spiritual nourishment. The meal is served Tuesday through Friday, and on Sunday.. Contact: Keary Kincannon, 8220 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22039; (703/360-1976); <PastorKeary@risinghopeumc.org>

Silverbrook UMC and Retreat Center offers two retreat opportunities every month at their facility, which is "a step back in history..." combined with "...a little slice of peace and quiet in the midst of nature" - in the middle of suburban Northern Virginia. The retreats serve busy and harried Northern Virginians which include a diverse ethnic population. Contact: Kimberly Barker-Brugman, 8616 Silverbrook Rd., Lorton, VA 22079; (703-690-4159); <pastorkim@cox.net>

ARLINGTON DISTRICT

Bruen Chapel UMC ESL Program offers three 6-7 week sessions of English as a Second Language classes to the community. Contact: Ruth Burgess, 3035 Cedar Lane, Fairfax, VA 22031; (703-560-1665); <pastorbruenchapel@gmail.com>

CHARLOTTESVILLE DISTRICT

Cub Care Packages Nelson UMC is partnering with a coalition of churches and non-profits in its community to provide backpacks of food for hungry children on weekends, holidays and summer vacation when free or reduced-cost lunches are not available. Contact: Pettis VanDerNoot, 5239 Thomas Nelson Hwy, Arrington, VA 22922; (434/263-4082); <pettisken@gmail.com>.

Ready Set Cook (First UMC Charlottesville) is a 12-week culinary arts class whose focus is to create and strengthen job skills for people who seek to improve their position in life by increasing and sustaining employment for the participants. Contact: Phyllis Back, 160 Peregory Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902; (434-977-6981, ext. 288); <backp@acrj.org>

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

Get Smart at Great Bridge UMC serves high school students with a Tuesday after-school program which provides fun, exercise and mentoring. Dinner is served to the students and their families, and is followed with character-building games and activities. The evening concludes with mentors assisting with schoolwork, while parents may attend informative workshops on health, nutrition and fitness; financial planning; and other topics offered by church members. Contact: Wendy Scott, 344 Faire Chase, Chesapeake, VA 23322; (757/376-3864); <wsaag01@aol.com>.

Oak Grove Community Dinner is a free weekly dinner available to individuals and families in the Hampton Roads community which offers food and fellowship. Contact: Kathy Hodges, 472 N. Battlefield Blvd., Chesapeake, VA 23320 (757-547-2319); <kathy@oakgroveumc.org>

FARMVILLE DISTRICT

Blessings in a Backpack serves South Hill Elementary School children whose families qualify for the federal free and reduced meal program and may not have any or enough food on the weekends. Every Friday, students receive backpacks with staples that require little to no preparation. Contact: Kent Wise, 3088 Busy Bee Road, South Hill, VA 23970; (434-447-4335); <pastorkent@hughes.net>

HARRISONBURG DISTRICT

Shiloh UMC Enrich Program serves at-risk children by providing a half-day summer enrichment program which includes two meals and a snack daily. Contact: Lucinda Erbach, 392 Thompson St., Strasburg, VA 22657; (540-465-3382); <luellie392@hotmail.com>

LYNCHBURG DISTRICT

Amherst Cares (Emmanuel UMC) provides food for middle school children who have little or no food on the weekends. Teachers have recognized improvements in academic performance, behavior and attendance since the implementation of this program. Contact: Beth Gamble, 297 Ridge Drive, Amherst, VA 24521; (434-946-7657); <bethgamble32comcast.net>

RICHMOND DISTRICT

Belmont UMC Youth Outreach Program reaches into the nearby Broad Rock community to mentor youth, providing leadership training, social skills, Christian character education, life skills, academic assistance, and opportunity for community service projects, college tours and other relevant experiences. Contact: Larry Cochran, Barbara McDougalk or Marie Coone; (804/275-6336); <belmontumcrichmond@gmail.com>

Celebrate Recovery (New Song UMC) is a ministry that focuses on the Twelve Steps and Eight Biblical Principles, with key emphasis on Jesus Christ, to help people deal with various types of dependency. It incorporates dinner, worship and share groups. Contact: Heather Shaheen 7450 Colt's Neck Rd., Mechanicsville, VA 23219; (804/559-6064); <hshaheen96@gmail.com>

Centenary UMC Walk-in Ministry partners with other downtown Richmond churches to offer a noontime meal to the growing street population. Centenary offers Friday lunch, and now also offers a warm foot soak, massage, pedi-care and clean socks for the tired feet of the poor through its "Bless My Sole Footwashing Ministry," as well as offering Tuesday and Thursday morning sidewalk greeters with coffee and a smile. Contact: Ann Davis, 411 E. Grace St., Richmond, VA 23219; (804/648-8319); <cent.davis@verizon.net>

Food & Clothing Ministry of Belmont UMC, supported by volunteers from the church and the community, embraces the changing neighborhood by offering food and clothing assistance to those in need in the community. Contact: Larry Cochran (804/275-6336); <belmontumcrichmond@gmail.com> or <lcochran6@verizon.net

Lakeside UMC Neighborhood Outreach is a ministry for neighborhood outreach to a diversified immigrant and low-income community, providing help with not only spiritual needs, but also with other personal and acculturation issues such as Immigration and Naturalization Service concerns, legal and medical assistance, job search assistance, affordable housing and crisis management. Contact: Nancy Robinson, 2333 Hilliard Rd., Richmond, VA 23228; (804/873-1487); <nancyrobin7856@aol.com>.

ROANOKE DISTRICT

Newport Cares Backpack Ministry provides weekend meals for Eastern Elementary and Middle School students who are identified by the school. Contact: Morris Fleischer, PO Box 133, Newport, VA 24128; (540/544-7183) <nmoumc@pemt.net>.

Shalom Zone: Grace Ministries is a ministry to the disenfranchised of downtown Roanoke with an emphasis on the recovering community, the immigrant

community and marginalized people. It offers help with immigration and Fair Housing law, jail ministries and worship opportunities, and education and nutrition opportunities. Contact: Don Edwards, esq., 4819 Golfview Dr., Roanoke, VA 24019; (540/266-7262); <donedwards.esq@gmail.com>.

STAUNTON DISTRICT

Greenville UMC offers an after-school program which supplements the one offered by the local elementary school, which has had to reduce the number of days it offers due to budget cuts. The program serves neighborhood students who are struggling with the Standards of Learning tests by offering this free program, which includes free transportation. Contact: Joyce Hinton, 3111 Lee Jackson Highway, Staunton, VA 24401; (540/337-0118); <gumcoffice1@verizon.net>.

Sustaining Program Grants

ARLINGTON DISTRICT

Grace Ministries seeks to engage and empower the low-income immigrant community in northern Virginia through the distribution of food, clothing, school supplies and over-the-counter medications; by providing families with emergency funding for utility bills, rent assistance, medical and pharmacy bills; and providing vocational training in high-demand occupations. Contact: Martha Real, 13600 Frying Pan Rd., Herndon, VA 20171; (703/793-0026); <mreal@florismc.org>.

EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

Agape Christian Children's Community Center provides a healthy nurturing environment for the at-risk children of the small rural ethnic minority community of Horntown through a preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds that is open 11 hours daily, Monday through Friday; after-school program for kindergarten through second grade; and Vacation Bible School during the summer months. Contact: Brenda M. Child, 12021 Robinson Ferry Rd., Broadnax, VA 23920; (434/848-3329); <dougchild@telpage.net>.

ELIZABETH RIVER DISTRICT

Club Sandwich serves children from neighboring low-income, at-risk, transient families. These children receive the love and compassion of Christ through the mentoring, tutoring and caring of the director, church members and volunteers. Contact: Debbie Winn or Joann McClung, 288 East Little Creek Rd., Norfolk, VA 23505; (757/587-2996); <joannmclung@cox.net>.

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Wesley Community Service Center provides Christian-based witness through such programs and services as congregate and home-delivered meals; emergency support services; youth development; representative payee and guardianship services for the mentally challenged; individual and family support services, as well as social action/advocacy on behalf of the poor and disadvantaged in the south side of Portsmouth. Contact: John G. Hatcher Jr., P.O. Box 1396, Portsmouth, VA 23705; (757/399-0541); <wesleys@exis.net>.

HARRISONBURG DISTRICT

Lighthouse Center for Children and Youth provides before- and after-school care and a preschool program for the economically depressed community, including hot meals to subsidize the children's nutritional needs. Contact: Sheila Morris, director, P.O. Box 34, Elkton, VA 22827; (540/298-5309); <Lighthouse4kidzz@aol.com>.

LYNCHBURG DISTRICT

Park View Community Mission seeks to meet the increasing physical and spiritual needs of the homeless and needy of the community with bagged groceries, weekly meals, Bible study and fellowship. This mission is leading to a new multicultural faith community, more representative of the current community around the church. Contact: Rev. Phil Showers, 2420 Memorial Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24501; (434/845-8468); <Phil2_13@yahoo.com>.

RICHMOND DISTRICT

Black Methodists for Church Renewal strengthens the ethnic local churches by training its youth in order to realize the inclusivity of the General Church. Contact: Willard H. Douglas, P.O. Box 26941, Richmond, VA 23261; (804/321-4222); <Douglas546@aol.com>.

Kids' Club of Central UMC provides a safe, fun place for children to learn about Jesus with their friends and neighbors, and serves as a springboard for other outreaches in the neighborhood such as an Easter egg hunt, Super Bowl party, camping opportunities and Vacation Bible School. Families of participating children desire to be a part of what is happening at Central UMC because of the positive experiences their children are having at Kids' Club. Contact: Sandy Harmon, 1211 Porter St., Richmond, VA 23224; (804/288-3063); <sandy@wrightdunn.com>.

Sherbourne Food Pantry provides food and spiritually nurtures needy residents and neighbors in the community where the need for food is very apparent. Contact: Sandy Sahnnow, 2619 Sherbourne Rd., Richmond, VA 23237; (804/559-0705 or 804/921-2187); <sahnnows@comcast.net>.

ROANOKE DISTRICT

Hispanos Unidos provides help and guidance for increasing numbers of the Hispanic community in the greater Roanoke and New River valleys in all areas: housing, jobs, immigration issues, assistance in dealing with bureaucracy, teaching basic shopping techniques, etc. Contact: Rev. Dave Rochford, 19 Cedar Ridge Dr., Daleville, VA 24083; (540/992-3030); <pastor@stmarksmethodist.com>.

UMC Community Outreach Program of Roanoke provides a safe and nurturing environment for children and families in inner-city Roanoke who are in need of resources not available to them through other channels, exposing them to Christian values and teaching. Tutoring, Christian education, enrichment activities and guidance; as well as a clothes closet, school supplies and evening meals are provided. Contact: Rebecca Parsons, 305 Mountain Ave., SW, Roanoke, VA 24016; (540/324-3103); <beck12_98@yahoo.com>.

West End UMC was a declining inner-city church which has chosen to engage its multicultural community with an urban ministries program, with the goal of once again becoming a community church. This initiative includes the church's youth group, which has greatly increased in size and is ethnically diverse. Contact: David Tanner, 1221 Campbell Ave. SW, Roanoke, VA 24015; (540/344-0206, 540/989-3250); <dtanne-rea@gmail.com>.

STAUNTON DISTRICT

Greenville United Methodist Women (UMW), through its "Food on Fridays" program, provides food for needy children on weekends and holidays, and connects children and their parents to much needed community resources. Contact: Beth Haynes, 823 Wagon Shop Rd., Middlebrook, VA 24459; (540/377-6220); <gumcoffice1@verizon.net>.