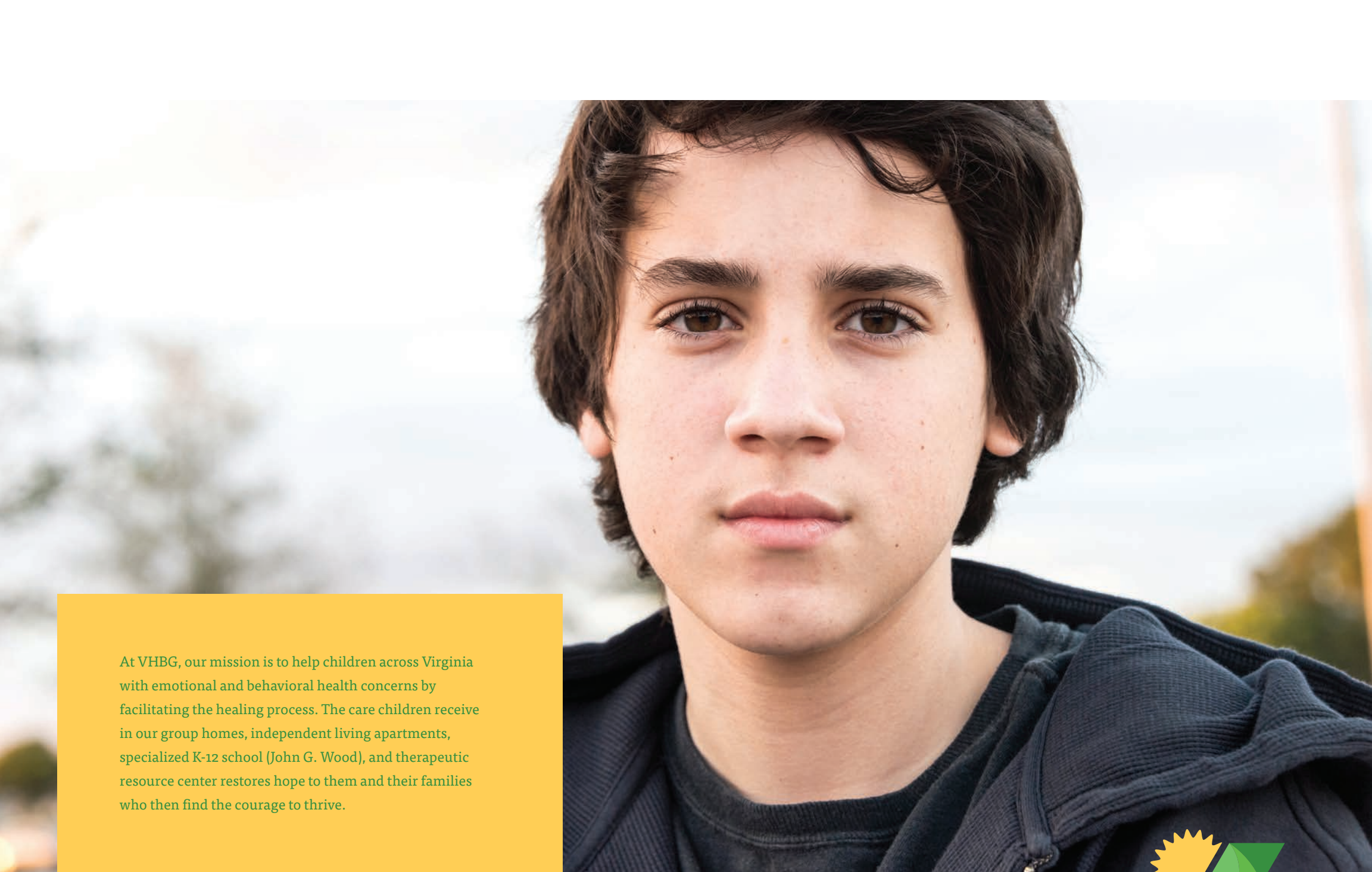




IMPACT

2019 report



At VHBG, our mission is to help children across Virginia with emotional and behavioral health concerns by facilitating the healing process. The care children receive in our group homes, independent living apartments, specialized K-12 school (John G. Wood), and therapeutic resource center restores hope to them and their families who then find the courage to thrive.



our •
mission

For many years, I've felt fortunate to be a participant in VHBG's mission.

After contributing financially for a number of years, I joined the investment committee of the endowment fund in 2016.

VHBG started as an orphanage 174 years ago but now provides transitional living services to youth who have experienced a very difficult life, many of whom have trauma histories and need hope for their future. The objective is to help them learn to heal from their trauma and become productive citizens.

In the time I've spent working alongside VHBG, I've heard many heartbreaking stories of the environments these children come from. Some are coming from broken foster family relationships, and some are coming from a situation where they were living with a relative because the parents are in jail, drug addicts, or physically abusing the child. When children experience such terrible circumstances it can cause them to have emotional and behavioral health challenges that lead them to drug addiction, poor school performance, and/or crime. It's very sad because these kids were just unlucky and dealt a bad hand.

As founder and CEO of Agecroft Partners, I've brought important insight and experience to VHBG. I've been in the investment management industry for 35 years so this is an area where my expertise can help generate an extra one percent per year, and that's another 250,000 dollars that can be spent helping youth in crisis.

As a business-minded man, I see the value of lending a hand to an organization that manages its money effectively to accomplish its philanthropic goals so they can effectively serve children in need.

It's a very well-run organization. I know I'm getting the highest return on my contribution and time because of how well they're run.

I also see the bigger picture beyond the immeasurable importance of helping individual children, VHBG's mission benefits the greater good of the Commonwealth.

If these children turn to a life of crime because their challenges aren't addressed, it can cost the local community a tremendous amount of resources. For example, it costs about 125,000 dollars per year to incarcerate an adult so I'm making the important point that a donation of time or money to help children at VHBG can prevent that outcome.

Though VHBG receives public funding, program fees paid for with public dollars only cover about 50% of what is needed to provide the trauma-informed care children in crisis require. So, **personal contributions are invaluable**. I'm thankful to be in a position to help others and from an emotional and social standpoint, helping these kids is so important. I'm very happy to be involved with Virginia Home for Boys and Girls.



DON STEINBRUGGE
MEMBER OF THE
VHBG FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pictured here: Claiborne Mason,
VHBG President with Don Steinbrugge



Alex (front row left) was adopted by Melanie and Chris Midlin and their daughter Lucy. Melanie, now a special education teacher in Henrico County, was at one time a teacher in VHBG's John G. Wood School where she taught Alex. Alex lived in one of VHBG's group homes and attended JGW School because the trauma of a previously failed adoption process had left her alone with emotional and behavioral health challenges. She needed transitional living space to begin to heal from her trauma. She found this space at VHBG where counselors and teachers like Melanie provided the trauma-informed care she needed. Melanie says that when she met Alex at JGW she said to her husband Chris, "Alex belongs in our family". So after a year of fostering Alex, their dream came true in November of 2019 when she was officially adopted.

my story of hope.

When I first arrived at VHBG I was really mad and upset. I had just heard that the only family I ever knew just gave up on me.

I was introduced to the staff that worked there and at the time my new teacher Mrs. Melanie. I got settled in to my new home shortly after meeting everyone. When I first arrived at my new school I wasn't really happy so I started to act out. The teachers really tried to help me. Mrs. Melanie was always there for me all the time even when I wasn't in school. But a few months later I really had changed. I wasn't acting out and I even won student of the month. Mrs. Melanie was trying her best to get me into public school for my first year of middle school.

At the end of the school year I was told that I was going to public school. I was very excited, and ready for the new challenge. Then I found out that Mrs. Melanie wasn't going to teach at John G. Wood anymore and I was so

upset and angry. I felt like she was my mother when I was with her. I felt like she was there for me and was sad that she wasn't going to be there anymore. Summer came and went, and I asked my social worker often if there was a family interested in me. She knew about Mrs. Melanie and her family wanting me, but did not tell me at the time. She just told me that there were people interested, but didn't tell me much about them.

One day after my sixth grade year started Mr. Cameron told me that he had some news. He asked me what I thought about Mrs. Melanie and her family becoming my family.

My new family has given me hope and given me a place to belong to.

I didn't believe him at first, but then realized it was for real. Shortly after that I started having home visits with them and moved into my new forever home on December 19, 2018. My new family has made so many changes for me to be able to get to where I am today. They gave me a new life, a fresh start, a chance to be who I want to be.

I got adopted on Saturday, November 23, 2019. It is not always easy getting adjusted to a new way of life and a new family, but my mom tells me that the best things may not be easy to get to but they are worth it in the end.

I want to thank VHBG and everyone that worked with me, believed in me, and did everything they could to get me to where I am now.

ALEXANDRA MIDLIN, AGE 12

“

I NEVER BELIEVED IT WHEN
I FIRST GOT TO VHBG, BUT IT
TURNS OUT IT WAS EXACTLY
WHERE I NEEDED TO BE.

”



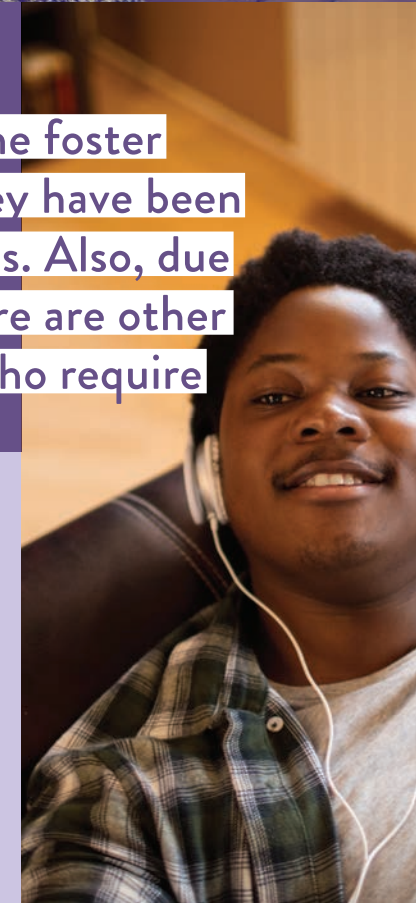
OUR NEWEST PROGRAM LAUNCHED: INDEPENDENT LIVING ARRANGEMENT

Too often, young people leave the foster care system at age 18 before they have been connected to permanent families. Also, due to tragic life circumstances, there are other at-risk young adults (age 17+) who require additional housing support.

Without adequate family and community supports, these youth are at high risk of some dire consequences. In an effort to provide housing and support services for these youth, VHBM opened an Independent Living Arrangement (ILA) on its 30+ acre property in 2018. Since these youth have typically experienced trauma, VHBM's ILA is a natural expansion of our trauma-informed programs. Our skilled staff have extensive experience helping youth transition to permanent homes. ILA fits perfectly within our skill set to teach resilience, and we are stepping up to meet critical housing needs for young adults in the Commonwealth.

Thanks to extensive volunteer support, VHBM can now serve these youth in our four townhomes and two ranch-style homes that have been refurbished. Turning these dwellings that were once used for staff who lived on our campus into homes for young adults who desire to reach successful independence was a perfect solution. This housing is an ideal size and is in close proximity to schools, employment, healthcare, shopping, and entertainment.

As our ILA has evolved, we have become sensitive to the young adult housing crisis and are partnering with other nonprofit human service agencies to help youth transition to permanent housing.



41

YOUTH SERVED
IN GROUP HOMES

AGES 11-17
51% FEMALE, 49% MALE
46% WHITE, 37% BLACK,
12% BI-RACIAL, 5% HISPANIC

100% ATTAINED OR MADE
PROGRESS TOWARD
SERVICE PLAN GOALS AND
100% REPORTED FEELING
SAFE AND COMFORTABLE
IN THEIR HOME

Success of a youth is measured independently and may look and feel very different for each youth involved. For some, this might mean that his or her Service Plan goals were achieved/mastered. For another youth, this might mean that significant family progress was made and the youth can safely return home. In all cases, we've helped determine the next level of care a child needs to continue on their road to permanency.

14

YOUNG ADULTS
SERVED IN THE
ILA PROGRAM
AND 100%
ATTAINED OR
MADE PROGRESS
TOWARD THEIR
SERVICE PLAN
GOALS



ART BY JOHN G. WOOD
STUDENT, AGE 10

75

STUDENTS SERVED

15 BETWEEN THE
AGES OF 6-12
60 BETWEEN THE
AGES OF 13-19
13 FEMALE, 62 MALE
57% BLACK, 39% WHITE
4% HISPANIC

Our John G. Wood K-12 specialized school measures success using industry standards and in partnership with our regulatory bodies. These measures are obtained through a variety of assessments that help determine progress and/or challenges according to a student's Individual Education Plan or Individual Instruction Plan.



We are helping students build resilience, improve self-esteem, and develop coping and control skills - all of which lead to a strong future for them, their families and our communities

At VHBG, youth use non-verbal expression as a productive outlet for intense feelings of fear, isolation, sadness, anger, and loss. Each day, our staff create a safe space where youths' feelings can be processed and hope can be restored. Career and Technical Education as well as art is an important part of our curriculum and donors are critical to the supply of needed materials. This year, not only was a brand new kiln donated but the installation, electrical wiring, and kiln supplies were also provided by donors.



100%

GRADUATED OR WERE
PROMOTED TO NEXT
GRADE LEVEL



863
HOURS OF THERAPY

Addressing mental illness in RVA is a critical objective for VHBG not just for the children already in our care, but for the whole community. Depression is on the rise in young people. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in children and adolescents between the ages of 10 and 19 according to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Unfortunately, warning signs often go ignored due to the stigma and difficulty associated with getting help, or lack of education.

In FY19, our Therapeutic Resource Center provided counseling, therapy, and psychiatric services to meet the needs of the youth we serve on campus, as well as those



As a community partner with expertise and qualified personnel, VHBG is committed to early intervention efforts that lead to the prevention of serious mental health issues. Beginning in the summer of 2017, VHBG has provided a series of Youth Mental Health First Aid educational forums free to the public each month. Through VHBG's efforts, 661 people within our community have earned Youth Mental Health First Aid certificates. They now know the risk factors and warning signs of a variety of mental health challenges common among adolescents including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and substance use disorder.

Anyone, anywhere can be the one to make a difference in the life of someone with a mental health challenge – if they know what to do and what to say.

residing in surrounding communities. Our licensed counselors provided 863 hours of individual and family therapy to our clients and their families, working together to reduce dysfunctional symptoms, improve problematic behaviors, and learn new skills for coping and communication. Additionally, staff sponsored and trained four Virginia Commonwealth University Graduate Social Work interns, allowing for additional support and counseling to clients through this professionally guided program.

661

TRAINED IN MENTAL
HEALTH FIRST AID
SINCE 2017

FY19 ATTENDEES
CAME FROM

34

LOCALITIES IN VA:

26% HENRICO COUNTY
20% CHESTERFIELD COUNTY
17% RICHMOND
11% POWHATAN COUNTY
5% PETERSBURG

VHBG events

Philanthropy allows us to provide additional therapeutic services such as an art program, a reading specialist, a psychiatrist, a full-time nurse, technology in JGW classrooms, materials for our Career and Technical Education program, off-campus outings, and a therapeutic neighborhood setting where hope and healing can flourish. Facilities, staff training, grounds upkeep, and unexpected needs also rely on your generous philanthropic dollars. Thank you!



Band Together

Presented by **Heartwood Wealth Advisors**, the 12th Annual Band Together fundraiser 'banded' our community 'together' at the Dewey Gottwald Center to support children in crisis. Attendees, sponsors, and donors helped raise nearly **\$55,000** this year. We especially appreciate the Band Together committee, led by co-chairs and VHBG board members Jessica Dyer and Nikki Powell, for their hard work to make this event a success.

Golf Classic

Our 30th Annual Golf Classic presented by **Richmond BMW** was great fun at The Club at Viniterra in New Kent. The day was a huge success thanks to the many players and sponsors. We are especially grateful for the golf committee led by Rick Mears, for helping raise nearly **\$40,000** for youth at VHBG.

Youth Triathlon

Michael Harlow and his staff from **Endorphin Fitness** and the **Live Red Foundation** hosted our 8th Annual Youth Triathlon on VHBG's campus. This fundraiser, sponsored by **Wawa** and **Patient First**, allowed youth from the community as well as youth living at VHBG a chance to run, bike, and swim their way to victory. Participants and sponsors rallied together to raise more than **\$5,000**.

Mr. Christmas' Holiday Light Display

2019 marked the 25th year that Frank Hudak (a.k.a. Mr. Christmas) has worked hard to set up his Christmas House light display on Wistar Court to benefit youth at VHBG. To date, he has raised more than **\$135,000** for VHBG by placing a donation box in front of his house that has been on Richmond's holiday tacky light tour for 44 years. This year he raised nearly \$8,000.

Auxiliary

The VHBG Auxiliary, led by Susan Scott, raised nearly **\$5,000** by convening spring and fall card parties attended by people from our community. Card games were played in VHBG's dining hall where guests participated in raffles, auctions, and a fun boutique. Funds raised will provide overall support to help youth at VHBG go on excursions and celebrate special occasions.



a sharing community

Thanks to generous donations of time and in-kind resources, VHBG's campus feels like a neighborhood you'd want to grow up in.

Children usually come to VHBG with troubled pasts. But the minute they step onto our campus, we want them to feel that they're welcome, safe, and that there's hope for their future. Thanks to generous donations of time and in-kind resources, VHBG's campus feels like a neighborhood you'd want to grow up in. Our campus "store" is regularly stocked and organized by volunteers so youth can select clothes, toiletries, toys, and school supplies in a dignified way.

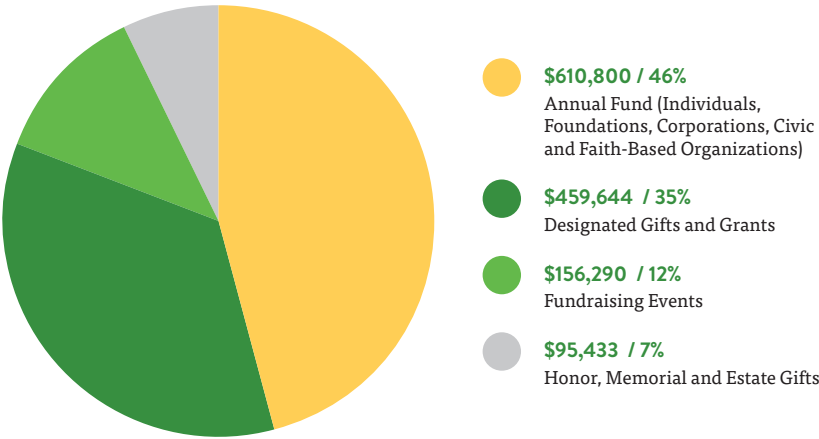
One exceptional example of love from our community was the Lowe's Heroes project. Fourteen Lowe's stores within the Richmond area teamed together to help improve VHBG's campus in 2018 and 2019. Over the course of three-days, approximately 60 Lowe's Heroes worked tirelessly each day to renovate not only our group home kitchens, but the greater campus, in an effort to improve the lives of the youth we serve. The four kitchen remodels included 44 new custom cabinets capped by crown molding, granite countertops,

16 stainless steel appliances, tile backsplash, new sinks and faucets all at no cost to VHBG. They took the time to make sure these projects were done right, going so far as to replace valves, plumbing fixtures, and drywall. All common areas within the four group homes were painted – even the bookshelves. They provided and installed 56 light fixtures and mounted televisions on the walls making them safer for the kids. They steam cleaned the carpets, assembled and moved furniture, and power washed the outside of the homes and walkways on our campus. They also painted every wall in the elementary school. They cleaned the kitchen in the school, organized supplies, and donated and installed rubber mulch in the playground.

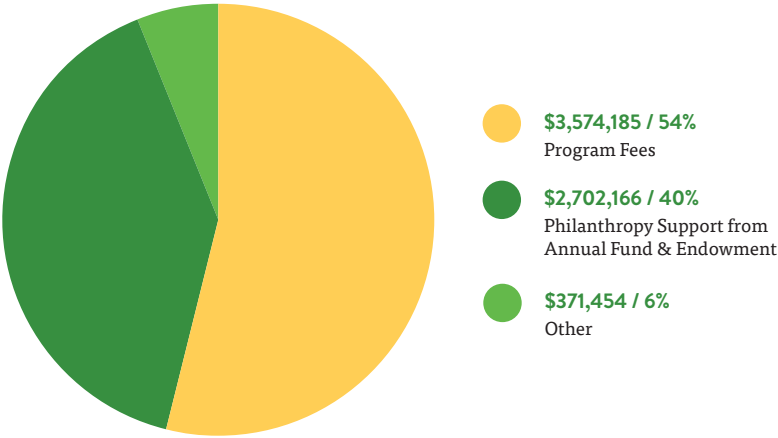
Exterior projects included the installation of four 9' paver benches, painting a shed and flowerboxes, pruning bushes and trees, and planting over 260 plants. In addition to all supplies needed to complete the aforementioned tasks, they donated all yard tools, extra paint and painting supplies, fans, coolers, electrical supplies, step ladders, brooms and mops, buckets, work gloves, and more. In 2019, they completely renovated a house for our ILA program, the JGW Elementary School kitchen and playground, remodeled 16 group home bathrooms, and built a pergola for our pool. They also power washed buildings, planted rose bushes, deconstructed a chain link fence and cleared bamboo.

Our Lowe's Heroes are truly heroes to VHBG for such a massive effort, but also to the youth who observed this effort. Youth saw grown men and women working tirelessly on their behalf without any expectation of receiving something in return.

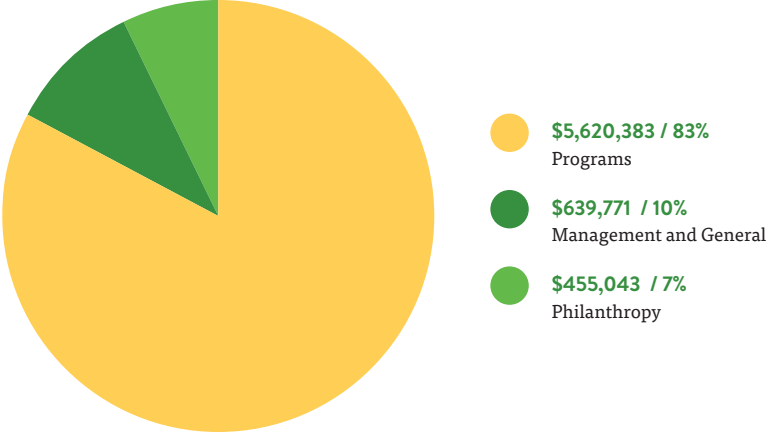
Philanthropy Revenues



Operating Support



Operating Expenses



Comprehensive Campaign

VHGB's successful Comprehensive Campaign is entering its implementation phase. Thanks to the generosity of donors, VHGB will embark on a \$1 million renovation of our Dining Hall in the spring of 2020. With a modern kitchen and upgraded equipment, our John G. Wood School will be able to provide a new, elective 280-hour course in culinary arts and food service management that will combine academic skills with vocational training. The program will incorporate the National Restaurant Association's ServSafe® certification program into the curriculum, providing the students with a nationally-recognized certificate in safe food handling. We envision a total renovation of our outdated kitchen into a complete, modern commercial kitchen that is ADA compliant, colorful, well-illuminated, and welcoming to students and guests alike. It will be constructed for training and education, and will also be used to provide daily meals to school students. Other enhancements to the building include a renovated multi-function dining room, upgraded classrooms and office space, and mechanical and electrical repairs. We are truly grateful to the following philanthropic partners for making this dream a reality.

Mr. and Mrs. Tiff Armstrong
The Cabell Foundation
Mr. Alan R. DelForn
Dominion Energy
Charitable Foundation
Harrison Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Loving

Mr. and Mrs. Steven A. Markel
Marietta McNeill Morgan &
Samuel Tate Morgan, Jr. Trust
Mary Morton Parsons Foundation
Richard S. Reynolds Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. E. Claiborne Robins, Jr.

Thank
You.

SUPPORTERS

Gifts from October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019

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\$25,000+

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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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James & Baker Society
\$5,000- \$9,999

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Amelia & Meadow Society
\$2,500- \$4,999

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\$1,000- \$2,499

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\$500- \$999

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