

Nonprofit Wishlist

Bringing Good People and Good Causes Together. Forever!

Alzheimer's Association Central & Western VA Chapter

The Alzheimer's Association witnesses the devastating impact that a dementing illness has on the entire family from the person diagnosed, the caregiver and even the grandchild living in the home. The stress for all individuals involved is often overwhelming. \$500 would be used to put together a "spa" like day program offering massages, manicures, tai chi exercise session, refreshments and a speaker on managing stress.

Annette Clark, Family Services Director

Angels of Assisi

\$250 allows us to reach out into the undeserved neighborhoods and provide free spay neuter and vaccines to 3 dogs in order to help the family keep the dog over surrendering him/her to a shelter. Through Pets for Life, Angels of Assisi reaches out to the lowest income neighborhoods and provides free spay/neuter and wellness services in order to help people be able to keep their pets.

Matthew Brown, Adoption Center Director

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia

\$500 would provide program certification at the National Conference in June for one employee.

Jessica Turley, Marketing Coordinator

Blue Ridge Independent Living Center

\$500 would purchase two pairs of orthopedic shoes for individuals who have a disability and have no other way to pay for them.

Karen Michalski-Karney, Executive Director

Carilion Children's Adolescent Health

We serve youth ages 10-19 in our 3 teen health centers in the Roanoke Valley. We also offer off-site education to reach at-risk teens in their neighborhoods about important health topics. \$500 would allow us to expand our nutrition series education to Jamestown Place, located within Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority. This neighborhood has a very high childhood obesity rate.

Brooks Michael, Health Educator

Center in the Square

\$250 would provide a scholarship for 35 local school students to visit Center in the Square for a field trip. The scholarship would cover the admission price for an educator to give a guided education tour to our

Can \$250 Help Local
Nonprofits?

How about \$500?

Absolutely! Here's how...

Small grants can make a huge difference to local nonprofit organizations and the individuals they serve. If you would like to grant some of these wishes, please include them on the enclosed Donor Advised Recommendation Form.

aquariums, green rooftop, as well as the Roanoke Pinball Museum. This field trip comes with teacher and student access for SOL-based curriculum guides.

Sara Mackereth, Grants and Foundations Officer

Children's Trust

\$500.00 will allow Children's Trust to double the numbers above, teach twelve children how to Speak Up Be Safe and teach eight adults how to become Stewards of Children!

Teresa Carpentieri, Fundraising Coordinator

Choices Recovery Center

\$250 dollars would provide art supplies for our "Art of Recovery Program" where our members seeking recovery from substance abuse can use the arts to connect with their inner spirit and find the resiliency they need for recovery.

Trish White, Executive Director

Community Youth Program at St. John's

\$250.00 would cover the full cost of our CYP Butterfly Garden in partnership with students from Jefferson College of Health Sciences. The Butterfly Garden program is interactive SOL based learning, that takes our students outside their normal classroom experience. Students will grow butterflies and plant a butterfly friendly garden. This combines SOL standards, computer literacy, research skills (when/what to plant), and public speaking with a final presentation.

Kathleen McEvoy, Executive Director

Craig County 4-H

\$250 would enable one youth to attend a week long summer residential camp, Junior 4-H Camp.

Amber Robinson, Extension Agent

Cultural Arts for Excellence (CAFE)

CAFE is a cultural and academic enrichment program for at-risk middle school students. We offer engaging and educational after school activities such as tutoring, project-based learning, steel drums, dance, photography/videography, and visual arts. Families pay \$15 per week – a total of \$540 per school year – for their child to participate in CAFE Kids. Unfortunately, many families simply can't afford to pay the full fee and many can't afford to pay anything at all. This leads to many of our participants being forced to leave the program. With \$250, a low-income child whose family cannot afford to pay the participation fee can participate in CAFE for 17 weeks - nearly one semester. With \$500, this same child can participate in CAFE Kids for approximately one school year.

Donna Robinson, director@cafearts.org

DePaul Community Resources

\$500 would purchase a 40" LCD monitor for the lobby area to inform and entertain those waiting to meet with one of our social workers or staff members.

Ben Mayhew, Director of Development

Downtown Roanoke Inc.

Downtown Roanoke Inc. is the management entity of the Historic Roanoke City Farmers Market. The Market is the oldest continuously operating open-air market in the Commonwealth of Virginia that features locally grown plants, fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and cheeses. Over the past few years, DRI implemented the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) which allows recipients each month to use their EBT card on the market. DRI has been working closely with Virginia Department of Social Services to increase access to healthy food options for all Virginians. As part of the program, DRI includes an incentive

for those who use their EBT card on the Market with a match program. Currently, we match up to \$10.00 for those using their EBT per person per day. This program has been extremely successful for our local growers as well as educational for those using the SNAP program. Any additional support for the program (\$250 or \$500) will help us continue the program throughout the growing season.

Tina Workman, President

Family Promise of Greater Roanoke

Once families have secured permanent housing, they may participate in a family mentoring program that helps the family maintain their independence, attain greater economic stability, nurture and support their children, and strengthen the self-esteem of the parents and children. Families in our program often obtain employment that requires uniforms, special shoes, or specific tools. \$500 would enable the six families to purchase these items to obtain and maintain employment.

Marie Muddiman, Executive Director

Family Service of Roanoke Valley

\$250 covers the cost of a 10-week Batterer's Intervention program (minus the cost of intake) for a person who uses violence in intimate partner relationships, providing them with the tools to identify and change their behavior. The participant would attend the group once a week, and complete the program with at least an 85% chance of not entering another relationship in which he abused his partner.

Ruth Cassell, Chief Development Officer

Feeding America Southwest Virginia

\$500 would supply 3,500 meals for men, women and children in the Roanoke Valley who are struggling to put enough food on the table.

Larry Pierce, Grants Administrator

Franklin County Humane Society

\$500 would provide a life saving surgery for a homeless animal.

Jennifer Fleisher, Marketing Coordinator

Free Clinic of Franklin County

\$250 would provide six treatments for our patients who are suffering with Scabies or six Nicotine patch kits for our patients who are trying to quit smoking. Currently we have no source for these medications, so our low income, uninsured patients must purchase them if they are able to do so.

Donna M. Proctor, Executive Director

FREE Foundation

\$500 would provide 6 tub transfer benches to help 6 individuals who are in need but with limited resources. Or would provide 3 sets of batteries for power chairs or power scooters so that 3 individuals can get back to being productive members of our community!

Sonja Schaible, Executive Director

Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway

\$250 or \$500 donation would provide critically needed CPR/First Aide certification for Blue Ridge Parkway volunteers to preserve and restore the beautiful natural resources of our Parkway.

Pam Basham, Assistant Director

Girl Scouts of Virginia Skyline Council

Day camp is a very important component of our outreach program in Roanoke City. This year's camp theme is STEM. \$250 will cover the cost of food for the week and \$500 will allow us to collaborate with Bricks 4 Kidz and offer an afternoon session of motorized LEGO builds.

Melissa Hildebrand, Outreach & Grants Manager

Girls on the Run of the Roanoke Valley

With \$500, Girls on the Run Roanoke Valley could invest in their own safety materials for use at our race. This amount would allow for the purchase of important safety gear, such as visibility vests for course marshals, flags to mark the course, and traffic cones to direct vehicular and pedestrian traffic. While currently we maintain course safety by borrowing these materials from other organizations, because of our commitment to the safety of our young participants causes us to wish we had our own safety gear and did not have to leave such an important component of race day to the generosity and availability of other groups in the area.

Courtney Roberts, Council Director

Good Samaritan Hospice

\$250 would pay for materials to enrich patients' lives in creative ways, such as through knitting, coloring, and making crafts. Our specially trained Family Support Volunteers use these materials to stimulate cognitive awareness and reflexes for our patients who for various reasons have difficulty communicating verbally, perhaps because of a disease such as dementia. The connections formed between volunteer and patient through these activities builds a sense of wellbeing and purpose that are so important to promoting quality of life.

Mary E. Renwick, Director of Development

Habitat for Humanity in the Roanoke Valley

\$500 would cover the cost to install a wheelchair ramp for a new Habitat for Humanity homeowner with a physically challenged young child. This family's home, which was completed in December 2015, has 4 steps up to the front porch that are too challenging for the child to climb in order to enter her home. A wheelchair ramp will enhance this child's safety and will simplify the family's daily routine.

Jenny Lee, Development Director

Katie's Place

Katie's Place is moving to Downtown Roanoke this Spring in order to focus on community based integration, employment and independence. If KP had \$250, it would completely furnish our new kitchen with dishes, glassware, silverware, Rubbermaid storage ware, pots and pans. If KP had \$500, it would provide a much needed washing machine and dryer for our new location. Having a furnished kitchen and laundry facility will allow us to teach adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities how to ultimately care for themselves and remain in our communities, as independent as possible.

Angie Leonard, CEO- St. Vincent's Home Services--Katie's Place Board Member and Director

Komen Virginia Blue Ridge

\$500 would pay for a diagnostic mammogram for (3) residents living in the Affiliate's 31 city/county region. A diagnostic mammogram is performed when an individual receives abnormal results on a screening mammogram. An uninsured individual will often delay getting a diagnostic mammogram which results in a late-stage diagnosis.

Pam Adams, Mission Manager

Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley

For the past 13 years a full time attorney at the Legal Aid Society of Roanoke Valley has been devoted to offering free civil legal services to low income domestic violence victims. These are generally the most vulnerable individuals, typically women, often with children, desperate to escape a pattern of physically, sexually, and/or emotionally abusive behaviors used by one individual to assert power or maintain control over another in the context of an intimate or family relationship. The services we provide include protective orders issued, divorces, support issues, name changes, property issues and landlord/tenant problems. For \$500 we can counsel and advise eight victims and help them have better, safer lives.

Jan Keister, Administrator

Mental Health America of Roanoke Valley

\$500 would purchase books for 35 elementary-school classrooms in Roanoke City and Roanoke County to use in conjunction with the Barrister Book Buddies. For the past eleven years, Mental Health America of Roanoke Valley has partnered with the Roanoke Bar Association and attorneys who read in classrooms by providing copies of a book on a mental health topic (plus discussion resources) for the attorneys to read during May (Mental Health Month) and then leave in the classroom for children to enjoy again and again.

Diane Kelly, Executive Director

Mill Mountain Zoo

With \$250, Mill Mountain Zoo would provide (2) off site education outreach programs, allowing children to interact with animals outside the Zoo environment.

Katie McKernan, Development and Special Projects Associate

Opera Roanoke

\$250 would help Opera Roanoke cover the travel stipends we offer to our Apprentices who make up the majority of the chorus in our productions. These students come from colleges all around the region to gain performance experience with our Apprentice Artist Program. By participating in our main-stage performances, both Opera Roanoke and the Apprentice Artists benefit, thus benefitting our audiences.

\$500 would allow 25 students to attend our main-stage productions at no cost. Opera Roanoke believes in sharing this art form with people of all ages while keeping ticket costs affordable for our community.

Linda Webb, Executive Director

Pathfinders for Greenways

\$500 would allow establishment of a "Greenway Ambassadors" group to serve on the greenways in the City of Roanoke. A group of caring citizens has been meeting since November, working with City police and staff to establish a neighborhood watch type group that would serve the greenways. These representatives would provide information and direction to visitors, report maintenance issues, encourage greenway etiquette, and provide eyes and ears for managers. Funds would be expended to purchase identifying, safety vests for ambassadors, first aid and bike repair kits, and organizational materials.

Liz Belcher, Making Our Greenways the Best

Points of Diversity, a program of Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

\$500 would create an opportunity for 10-15 middle school educators to participate in training on the impact of bias and prejudice in the classroom. Participants will identify strategies, examine culturally relevant resources and learn skills to develop more inclusive learning environments

Katie Zawacki, chair person, advisory board

Presbyterian Community Center

\$250 would fund the purchase of food to provide meals for parents and children for two Family Nights for the Pathways for Youth after-school program. Family nights are held monthly at the PCC.

Karen McNally, Executive Director

Renovation Alliance

\$500 would complete one to two projects through our Emergency Home Repair program. The Emergency Home Repair program (EHR) allows up to \$500 in project related costs to address an urgent home repair need of a low-income homeowner residing in the Roanoke Valley. The average cost of project completed through the EHR program is \$380. The most common urgent repair needs include heating system malfunctions, plumbing leaks, and roof leaks. Renovation Alliance engages skilled and non-professional volunteers to complete these projects within 1 to 2 days of the need arising.

Kendall Cloeter, Executive Director

Roanoke Ballet Theatre

Roanoke Ballet Theatre provides a ballet outreach program to schools free of charge. The professional company will travel to a school and perform a 20 minute informative Lecture Demonstration explaining ballet, performing repertoire, answering questions and explaining the other aspects of performing such as shoes and costumes. \$250 would pay for the gas to get to the schools, props and rehearsal time.

Costumes are the most expensive part of any ballet.

William Smith, Director of Development

Roanoke Children's Theatre

Most Americans believe the arts are vital to providing a well-rounded education but in a study by Americans for the Arts, two-thirds of public school teachers believe the arts are getting cut. As part of its educational outreach mission, Roanoke Children's Theatre offers SOL-compliant in-school residencies that use theatre as a way to enrich the curriculum in reading, writing and social studies. RCT residencies serve almost 3,500 students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades, of which 60% are economically disadvantaged. \$500 would purchase a portable multimedia projector/camera that can be used as part of classroom residencies. RCT currently does not have a projector/camera and feels that the projects and classwork would benefit.

Debra Brauch, Development Director

Roanoke Valley Horse Rescue Inc.

\$250.00 would help repair old fencing to make it safer in areas which the horses are turned out.

Patricia L. Muncy, President/Founder

Roanoke Valley Reading Council

Working with the Pediatric Services and Child Life Specialists in the NICU at the Roanoke Memorial Hospital, the RVRC sponsors a program, Books for Babies, which provides a book to each family of a premature baby. The purpose of the book, wrapped as a gift, is to encourage reading aloud to the newborn. Reading aloud is not only an opportunity for the caregivers to bond with their baby throughout the course of their hospitalization, but it is also essential for achievement of a child's full developmental potential. \$250 would purchase 125 hardcover books for distribution in the NICU.

Tamara Teaff, Books for Babies

Roanoke Valley SPCA

We are working to establish a need-based scholarship fund for our annual Veterinary Science Summer Camp, a program that captivates the youth by introducing the field of veterinary medicine as a potential career path through applied education. We believe that within our mission, it is our responsibility to help foster the next generation of veterinarians. We also believe in eliminating economic barriers to increase

access to humane education, and promoting upward mobility for all of the youth in the Roanoke Valley. Investing \$500 into this fund will provide assistance for 4 students to attend our week long, full day camp.
Tim White, Development Coordinator

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southwest Virginia

The average stay at the Ronald McDonald House in Roanoke is two weeks and the cost for a family for one night is \$15. \$500 would provide funds to purchase video and sound recording equipment and video editing software to help share our families stories. "Tell Us Your Story" is a new program that gives families the opportunity to voluntarily share their experience. The videos are posted on our YouTube channel and shared via web and social media. Sharing experiences helps our House get the word out to the region about our services and support for families in need.

Jeanne Bollendorf, Director of Community Development

Saint Francis Service Dogs

Saint Francis Service Dogs is currently operating using a slow, antiquated server system, which is unable to function properly. The sluggish server is preventing the staff from performing with utmost efficiency, and ultimately taking time and energy away from our mission. \$500 would cover half of the cost of a new server and would provide a safer and more productive system with which we can accomplish our goals.

Niki Voudren, Development Director

Salem Food Pantry

The Salem Food Pantry provides snacks to all the 20 elementary and 20 preschools in Roanoke County and Salem. Each school receives at least one box of 100 snacks each month school is in session. These snacks are used by children who are unable to afford snacks during snack time. \$250.00 would allow the Pantry to pay for 9 boxes of snacks.

Jenny McCormick, Executive Director

SARA, Inc.

\$250 or \$500 would enable SARA, Inc. to make much needed safety and security enhancements to our office. For \$250, we could purchase and have installed 4 new motion sensor flood lights around the outside of the building as well as a dusk-to-dawn porch light. With \$500, not only could we improve the outside lighting, we could purchase and have installed reinforced door jamb locks and hinges to prevent the front and back doors from being able to be kicked in.

Teresa Berry, Executive Director

Science Museum of Western Virginia

\$250 would give our organization the ability to purchase the SMART Notebook collaborative learning software suite. This software supports the "smartboard" technology found in every classroom in Roanoke city, in addition to a majority of locality classrooms. The students and educators that we serve would benefit from curriculum that is more customized to fit the needs of individual classrooms.

Rachel Hopkins, Executive Director

Taubman Museum of Art

\$250 is needed by the Taubman Museum of Art to purchase a variety of sensory and tactile objects, games and books for Art Venture our interactive area for all families, pre-toddler and 2-5 year old classes, Alzheimer specialty hands-on tours, and visually impaired visitors.

Holly DiGangi, Deputy Director of Development

The National Kidney Foundation Serving Virginia

\$250 educates 8 doctors on the latest research and care. \$500 screens 20 people for kidney disease risk factors.

Megan Boyd, Interim Community Outreach Coordinator

The Rescue Mission of Roanoke

\$250 would provide a week of summer day camp at Camp Jubilee for two school-aged children staying in our Family Shelter. Area churches take turns hosting 8 weeks of summer camp at Jubilee, which includes wooded trails, 2 playgrounds, farm animals, a low-ropes course, and a creek to splash in. The day camp frees parents staying in shelter for work, job interviews, case management meetings, etc.

Amy McArthur, Development Associate

Transitional Options for Women

We have women coming to us with only the clothing on their backs. \$500 would provide bus passes, personal items including bras, panties, socks and female personal products, shampoo, soap and dental products. These items makes a huge impact on personal esteem for our women.

Dorothy Owsley, Executive Director

Virginia Community Action Reentry System, Inc. (VA CARES)

VA CARES is Virginia's statewide reentry network that provides cognitive-behavioral therapy, peer support groups, educational workshops, job search support, and other services to help ex-offender become productive citizens. In order to ensure that ex-offenders reach stability, VA CARES provides participants with up to \$200 in emergency assistance funds. These funds must be used to pay for things that will directly increase their post-release stability, such as clothing to attend a job interview, public transportation to get to and from work, and housing. A \$200 stipend can be crucial to helping an ex-offender make it from release to his or her first paycheck without re-offending. VA CARES will match a \$250 contribution with \$150 to provide TWO ex-offenders with emergency assistance funds. With a \$500 contribution, VA CARES will match \$100 to provide THREE ex-offenders with emergency assistance.

Ann Fisher, Executive Director

Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.

The Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation, Inc. is an independent not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) foundation dedicated to securing private and public funds for student scholarships. The College's service region includes the cities of Roanoke and Salem, Roanoke County, Craig County, southern Botetourt County, and Franklin County.

•\$250.00: Supporting Virginia Western's Student Book Assistance Fund puts knowledge directly in a student's hands. With the ever increasing cost of textbooks, the Book Assistance Fund can make the critical difference to achieving access to higher education. International students particularly need this help, as they are ineligible for federal financial aid.

Amanda Mansfield, Donor Relations Coordinator

YMCA of Roanoke Valley

\$500 would allow 5 of the neediest children from Fairview, Morningside, Hurt Park, and Monterey Elementary Schools access to 10 exciting weeks of summer camp, free to them and their families. Children in our camp will have FREE breakfast and lunch daily; life-saving swimming lessons; participate in drama and music programs, arts and crafts projects, golf lessons, and other amenities of camp life. Children will also have the opportunity to attend weekly educational and recreational field trips to points of interest in the Roanoke Valley.

Jackie Grant, Sr. VP of Operations