

















np Holiday Trails en Retreat 2018





GRATITUDE REPORT 2019-2020

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Kelly Waters, LCSW, MSW

Dear Friends of VHF,

Each year we present to you, our valued community members, supporters, and advocates, our "Gratitude Report". This report is a summation of a fiscal year's worth of programs, activities, and organizational milestones, all in deep gratitude to everyone who makes it all possible. In many ways, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-2020 issue will be no different than in the past. You will see recognition of individual and organization donors as well as features on programs and services connected to our mission of serving those living with an inherited bleeding disorder through education, advocacy and community.

However, this past year is unlike any other year that we have experienced. As VHF entered the fiscal year in July of 2019, much was as it had been in the past. Camp Youngblood at Camp Holiday Trails was just about to begin (you can see from the photos on the cover that we were off to a great start)! We were beginning a robust revamping of our Volunteer Management Program, starting with our first ever award for Volunteer of the Year announced later that year in December 2019.



We also enjoyed a lot of splashing around in the puddles at our rain-filled second annual Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk, and our first Men's Retreat in Charlottesville brought our community members closer together.

As we entered 2020 and the second half of our Fiscal Year, things were, well, different. The tradition of "Richmond Days," VHF's legislative day at the Virginia State Capitol was disrupted when Governor Northam declared a state of emergency, due to potential civil unrest at the Virginia State Capital, at the same time as our traditional day of advocacy on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Our second annual Medical Symposium was held in March and was the last time we saw you face-to-face as the country soon closed for safety during the worst global pandemic since the 1918 flu.

Since that time, the word of the day, week, month and year has been "pivot." VHF staff, along with our respected industry and community partners, adapted many of our programs to virtual and strived to bring you, our amazing community, together through the world of Zoom - by offering advocacy chats, a support group for new parents, educational meetings, and our statewide annual meeting. The summer was filled with turmoil and change with the pandemic and the global movement toward racial equity and equality. Although we ended the fiscal year on June 30th in a much different place and space than we could have ever imagined, we remain committed to serving the inherited bleeding disorders community.

We are hopeful, and we hope you are too, for what 2021 will bring to VHF and to our community. We will continue to fight alongside you for access to affordable health care. Your resilience, creativity, and commitment to the bleeding disorders community through the past few months has been inspiring to see and we are grateful to have been a part of it. We are so grateful for the continued service of our wonderful volunteers, the donations that keep us a strong, and the continued love of community that we see from each person who attends an event, participates in a webinar or walks in unity with VHF at the Unite Walk. We care and are here for you every step of this journey. With a new year comes new possibilities and opportunities. And we couldn't be more grateful. Thank you!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Sarahbeth Spasojevich Vice President Kathy Mortimer Treasurer Jean Parnell Secretary Daniel Warren

Directors Kate Breitbeil Monika Eiden Tory Gilliam Murai Johnson



Thank you VHF Board of Directors for donating your time and talents! The Board of Directors is the governing body of VHF. Board members meet periodically to discuss and vote on the affairs of the organization, to support the work of VHF, and to provide mission based leadership and strategic governance.

For information about serving on the Board of Directors, contact Kelly Waters at kelly@vahemophilia.org.

MISSION

Dedicated to serving and supporting the needs of those impacted by a bleeding disorder through education, advocacy and community.

VISION

Become the recognized voice and go-to resource for those impacted by a bleeding disorder.

Thank you volunteers!

The VHF Volunteer Program improves the lives of those living with bleeding disorders through supporting development efforts, spreading community awareness, championing advocacy efforts and assisting with programs.

To learn more about volunteering, contact Megan Schowengerdt at megan@vahemophilia.org.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, VHF served approximately 200 households and offered 20 events both in-person and virtual - here are some of the highlights!

July 7th – 12th We started the fiscal year with almost 60 campers, ages 7 - 17, attending a week of summer camp at Camp Youngblood at Camp Holiday Trails in Charlottesville, thanks to VHF and in partnership with the Hemophilia Association of the Capital Area (HACA). (See front cover for photos)

August 9th 15 teens from throughout the state enjoyed a fun and educational Teen Retreat Weekend in Virginia Beach, in partnership with HACA. (Photo top right)

September 14th Over 80 community members gathered in Norfolk for an Industry Symposium and an exclusive screening of Bombardier Blood at Nauticus Museum, This film chronicled Chris Bombardier and his mission to become the first person with severe hemophilia to climb the Seven Summits, the highest mountain on each continent. (See back page for photos)

October 20th It was a rainy fall day, but we gathered and celebrated success together despite the weather and had a fantastic time at our second annual Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk in Richmond. Overall, individual donors raised over \$17,000 - this is a 23% increase in fundraising from 2018's walk! You exceeded our goal of \$16,000 from participants and we are so very grateful. (Photo top middle right)

November gth New this year, in partnership with HACA, we offered a Men's Retreat at Wintergreen Resort! Participants enjoyed education and time with other men who encounter similar challenges. All who attended agreed this retreat will now be something for our members to look forward to! (Photo bottom middle right)

December 7th VHF Winter Gatherings were held at Dave & Busters in both Richmond & Virginia Beach. Members celebrated the holiday season with education, games and plenty of time to connect with family and friends! (photo bottom right)









February 8th Our rejuvenating Women's Retreat weekend in Williamsburg was filled with female focused educational programming, and time for community building for women whose lives are impacted by a bleeding disorder. (photo top right)

February 26th - 28th National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF) Washington Days was an opportunity for VHF constituents to travel to DC for a chance to meet with the offices of our Virginia Senators and House of Representatives, and share their stories and advocate in support of federal issues important to the bleeding disorders community. (photo middle top right)

March 7th The second annual Medical Symposium in Richmond provided consumers with the knowledge needed to discuss new and current treatment options, plus have conversations around product safety and how to make tough decisions about medical care. This program also recognized March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month. (photo middle bottom right)

March 8th VHF's last in-person community event was held at Top Golf in Richmond. Members had the opportunity to spend time with an on-site golf pro, learning tips on how to warm up and how to safely practice their golf swing. Golf is a great sport and is recommended for those with bleeding disorders as a good physical activity that the whole family can enjoy! (photo bottom right)

May 21st In partnership with our Virginia Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTC) Social Workers, VHF designed our first virtual First Step support group. We are so grateful to the many mentor families that came together to volunteer their time to this program, and showed their support of families of infants and young children with hemophilia and other inherited bleeding disorders with community connection and education.

June 4th - 20th This year's Annual Education Meeting went virtual! We were able to take one of our largest events of the year and spread it over the course of the month of June. VHF staff, with the help of our supportive industry partners, offered a high level of virtual education, bringing experts from around the state and country on such topics as: Maintaining Joint Health Through Exercise, Beyond Trough Levels: Taking A Closer Look at How to Evaluate Hemophilia B, Wonderful Women of Bleeding, Mental Health 101, and a session just for teens - The Power of Empowerment. We ended it all with an enjoyable community event - a virtual "camp fire" with our friends from Camp Holiday Trails!





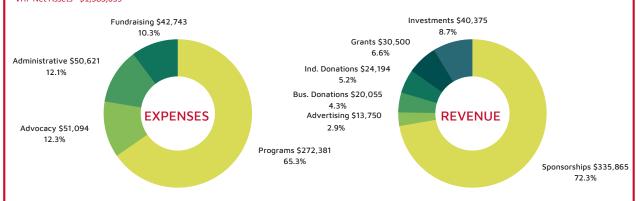
WHERE THE MONEY GOES

From Audited Financial Statements Year Ended June 30, 2020

IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 - 2020, 78 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR WENT TO SERVING THE INHERITED BLEEDING DISORDERS COMMUNITY!

When you make a donation to VHF, you are supporting a myriad of programs and services throughout the year that directly impact individuals living with bleeding disorders and their immediate family members. Educational opportunities include an annual education meeting and annual medical symposium, as well as relevant and timely information delivered via our e-newsletter and social media. VHF also participates in national and federal advocacy initiatives, such as Advocacy Training and Richmond Days and the National Hemophilia Foundation's (NHF) Washington Days.

VHF builds community by strengthening relationships and offering support including our valuable financial assistance program, scholarships and Camp Youngblood, a week-long summer camp for kids and teens. Additional financial details can be found at connectva.org/groups/virginia-hemophilia-foundation/financials. VHF Net Assets - \$1,383,659



LYMAN FISHER SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to 2020 recipients: Noah Boucher and Emma Kaiser!

The VHF Lyman Fisher Scholarship was established to honor Dr. Lyman Fisher: a teacher, researcher, and clinician in hemostasis who for many years directed the adult hemophilia program in Virginia. This scholarship provides a one-year award in the amount of \$2,000 for a full academic year.



Noah Boucher "I hope to graduate from Tidewater Community College (TCC) in two years with an Associate's Degree in General Engineering. This scholarship will allow me to graduate with low or zero cost out of pocket. In addition to all the great work you've done for my family and the hemophilia community, I am so honored that I was selected to receive this scholarship. I will work hard at TCC to honor your choice to select me as the recipient of this scholarship."

Emma Kaiser "I am an upcoming junior at George Mason University studying Criminology with a concentration in Law and Society. My college education is very important to me and will allow me to go to law school after receiving my bachelor's degree. Receiving the Lyman Fisher scholarship will help me further my education without as much financial worry. The scholarship will also help ensure that I can further my education and receive my degree. I am very thankful to be able to receive this scholarship."

ADVOCACY REPORT Becky Bowers-Lanier, VHF/HACA Advocacy Consultant

Finding and keeping our voice with our health care providers and policymakers is a responsibility that belongs to all of us.

We each have a role to play to make sure that members of our community have access to the full range of products that keep them healthy and living meaningful, productive lives. While the responsibility falls to all of us, we are blessed to have community members who step up to the plate regularly in advocating for all of us. Thanks especially go to our VHF staff, to our advocacy committee headed by Ann Kendall and Krista Davidson, and to the support we receive from Hemophilia Foundation America (HFA) and National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF) policy staff!

For the past several months, we've had to reevaluate how we advocate, moving into the virtual space for just about all of our work. That means we're becoming experts (or quasi-experts) on Zoom and similar platforms, remembering to "unmute" ourselves and "turn on our cameras" on a regular basis.

Before these changes, in November 2019 we held our inherited bleeding disorders stakeholder meeting, highlighted by presentations from Marvin Figueroa, Deputy Secretary of Virginia Health and Human Resources; Jan Kuhn, Coordinator of the Virginia Bleeding Disorders Program; Nathan Schaefer, VP of Public Policy at NHF; and Miriam Goldstein, Director of Policy at HFA.

The various reflections of state and national policy trends and initiatives helped to inform our advocacy work going into the 2020 General Assembly (GA) session and the ongoing work of Congress. At the beginning of the GA session on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (MLK Day), we typically hold our Advocacy Training and Richmond Days in partnership with HACA, where we visit with our state legislators. MLK Day is usually the largest lobbying day at the GA with many interest groups coming to Richmond. This year, we cancelled for the first time in over a decade! The reason for the cancellation was a larger-than-expected gathering of Second Amendment advocates and a subsequent State of Emergency called by the Governor of Virginia. Little did we know that future advocacy days would soon be changing due to COVID-19.

During the 2020 GA session, VHF worked in two coalitions - the Healthy Market Virginia Coalition and the Healthcare for All Virginians Coalition. Through our efforts, the Governor vetoed three insurance bills potentially detrimental to preexisting conditions, and the GA voted to provide Medicaid adult dental benefits. The benefits were confirmed by the GA in its special session from August-November.

Stay tuned for the 2021 GA session beginning January 13, 2021. It will be held virtually, which means a new experience for all!



CONTRIBUTIONS

Below are individuals who have made a financial contribution in FY 2019-2020. VHF is so grateful to you all. If we inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our apologies.

Patron Friend | \$1,000+

Jeff & Christine Krecek John Parron

Sustaining Friend | \$500-\$999

Marty & Natalie Kaszubowski Kevin & Dorothy O'Connor Steven & Sarahbeth Spasojevich Michael & Barbara Wheatley

Supporting Friend | \$250-\$499

Lamont Banks Wesley & Debbie Baugher Laura Boyd Colin & Krista Davidson TJ & Monika Eiden Tory Gilliam Frederick & Carlene Harmeling Bethany Hunter Marquita Reinhardt & Brandon Taggart Dianne Rust Tom & Candy Spasojevich Michael Fatsi & Polly Stephens David & Mary Valentino

Contributing Friend | \$100-\$249

Casey Benson Stephanie Bingler Zack & LeAnn Bordone Flula Borg Paul & Frances Brayshaw Kate Breitbeil Jim & Fran Brooks Matt Campbell Alison Conley Charles & Susan Cowell Deborah Davis Mari Droney & Sue Lahet Thomas Eiden Patricia Falls Marc Gilgannon Pamela Gleason Diane Interdonato **Troy Jamison** James & Murai Johnson Michael Lee Charles & Donna Meyer Randy & Kathy Mortimer Jane Newman

Lonnie Norcutt Jonathan & Betty Passick Bryan & Lisa Pearson Nichole Phillips Kelli Plusch Shereen Ramos Richard Rath Carol Rose Mike Scantlin Donald & Beth Smith Fredi Smith Edwin & Teresa Smith Barbara Smith Samuel & Bonnie Spasojevich David & Theresa Stone George & Cyndi Stone Sue Tucker Lisa Vance Deeann Wagner Eric & Amy Walker Reginald & Luicianne Warren Jennifer Watts Megan Whiteaker Davida & Wesley Wickline Allen & Barbara Young

Friend of VHF | \$5-\$99

Alex Adams Katrina Addison Tara Alexander Ava Allen Ranesha Allen Gary & Linda Anderson Judy Bagato Michelle Banton Victoria Barnhill Suman Bhatia Brvan Blackwell Carla Boucher Shea Bradlev Walter & Susan Branam James Breitbeil Kevin & Tanya Brennan Kenneth & Heather Brinkley Edmund & Amanda Brooks Aaron & Eileen Bunn Rachel Bunn Robyn Cathcart Leesa Christian Heather Conner

Alison Conners Katie Cooper Steve & Sarah Covert Michael Craciunoiu Kevin Crider Holle Cuje Jackie D'Alton Melissa Dart James Davis Stanley Davis Louise Denkins Dustin Derrick Andrea Dharamsi Paula Diefenderfer Jacqueline Dietz Bev Doud **Becky Dubois** Lauren Dunn Jeanette Dupree Wendy Eubank Shelly Evans Sarah Fey Brad & Kendall Fitzpatrick Michael Gardner Dwight & Kathleen George Dana Gifford Jessica Graham Scott & Shannon Gravitt Thomas Gray Dennis & Lisa Hancock Justin Hardv Tami Harlan Frances Herring Tyechia Hogan David Hubbert John Hudnall Karen Jackman Sarah Jarandeh Sasha Jean-Noel Tara Jenkins Matthew Johnson DJ Jones Rhonda Jones Jessica Jones Aaron Jordan Demet Karail Soykan Karail Roxane Kays Barbara Kearney Vance Kerry

CONTRIBUTIONS

Below are individuals who have made a financial contribution in FY 2019-2020. VHF is so grateful to you all. If we inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our apologies.

Friend of VHF | \$5-\$99 cont...

Amy Key Karen Kirsch Andrea Kish Sarah Knight Amanda Knoepp Betsy Knop Weston & Kimberlee Koerner Vivek & Marian Kshetrapal Janice Kuhn Kristen Lahocki Amy Lambert Michael Larson **Robin Laubscher** Noah Laurence Dana Beers & Elizabeth Leftwich Paul Lerner Kristen Lewandoski Jennifer Lillehei Padee Ly Christina Major Hallie Mason Gita Massey Virginia Mathurin Susan Mays James & Virginia McCauley Renee McCurry Trenton McDorman Kenneth McElderry John & Patricia McFadden Cynthia Michener Linda Mills Andrea Mims Robert & Barbara Morton Anthony & Kimberly Moyers Allison Mullens Pamela Mullins

John & Vicki Nachman Heather Nassaur Lara Nichols Stacey Noble Melinda Nolte Amanda Norman Arvena Nowell Carole O'Keefe Charles Oshields Stephanie Owen LaToya Pace Becky Palik Melissa Park Jean Parnell Melanie Paschal **Rosie Pinkerton** Beth Plummer Josh & Temesha Pollock Barbara Pollock Lisa Prado Lisa Ransone Tanya Reagan Leigh Renkar Lauren Ricci Kathy Ridenour Richard & Brenda Robertson Justina Rollins Megan Ruedas Lisa Saba Ila Santimauro Jean Satterwhite Donald Saxer Teresa Scantlin **Rachel Schoultis** Megan Schowengerdt Anita Schwartz Dan & Susan Seftick

Margaret Shelton William & Rachel Shifflett Sonya Shrewsberry Elizabeth Skaggs Vicky Hawk & Shelby Smoak William & Karen Steiner Marie Summers Tim & Jill Swinger Jamison Taggart Jessica Teran Michael Therrien Pat & Jane Thiegs Joe Towner Brandy Traver Leslie Traylor AnnMarie Tussey Tamara Tyler Albert & Marijane Valentino Tameeka Vance Allison Vaughan Shannon Wagner Dennis & Anne Walker Trov Wallace Sarah Waniewski Daniel & Lydia Warren Cary Washburn Kelly Waters Jerry & Michele West Elaine Whiteaker Adam Wilkie Kristin Williams Larry & Deborah Williford Betty Winter Kathryn Young Linda Yuan



VHF LEGACY SOCIETY

You can be a part of VHF's Legacy Society by remembering VHF in your estate plan or will and directly impact the lives of people living with inherited bleeding disorders. You will also touch the lives of those who might someday be affected – your special gift to us will have a lasting impact. For more information call 804-740-8643 or email info@vahemophilia.org.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Below are organizations which have made a financial contribution in FY 2019-2020. If we inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name, please accept our most sincere apologies.

Accredo AmazonSmile AMF Bakery Systems **Bayer Pharmaceutical** BioMarin **BioMatrix** Capital One Services LLC Colburn-Keenan Foundation Inc. **CSL** Behring **CVS** Caremark **CVS** Pharmacy Diplomat **Dominion Energy** DrugCo Health/DDP Pharmacy,Inc. East Hanover Women's Church -Softball League Genentech

Grifols Hemophilia Alliance Foundation Hemophilia Fed. of America (HFA) Home Depot Hoos at Home (UVA) Kroger Cares Markel Corporation Marriott Matrix Health Medexus National Hemophilia Fnd. (NHF) Novo Nordisk, Inc. Octapharma USA, Inc. PayPal GivingFund Pfizer Prime Education LLC Queen of Virginia Skill & Ent. LLC

Sanofi Sanofi US Services, Inc. Spark Therapeutics Inc. Superior Biologics, Inc. Takeda West Charitable Trust



FACEBOOK DONORS AND FUNDRAISERS

VHF would like to sincerely thank each of our generous Facebook donors and fundraisers who used the platform in the last fiscal year. We have limited data available from that platform, so please forgive us if your name is not included in our list of donors. Together, you helped raise over \$2,500 for the mission of VHF!

VHF is a member of CHC: Creating Healthier Communities' workplace giving campaigns in Virginia. Thank you to the following individuals who pledged support through the 2019 statewide CHC Campaign: Heather Brinkley, Kelly Cartwright, and Kamala Lannetti. We'd also like to thank Mandy Baker, Michael Baker, and Charles White for their workplace giving in 2019 through United Way of South Hampton Roads.

VHF has been approved to participate in the 2020 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign, running through January 15, 2021. To donate to VHF with the state employee campaign (Local Government and Schools United Way) direct your donation to #06043.



Make a monthly gift to be part of our Hope Society - a special group of people who are committed to VHF's future by giving hope to those living with bleeding disorders. Your support will make a big impact with our families! Sign up for a monthly gift today and find out other ways to give at vahemophilia.org.

Thank you to our 2019 - 2020 members: Wesley & Debbie Baugher, Jeff & Christine Krecek, Donald & Beth Smith, Steve & Sarahbeth Spasojevich, Sarah Waniewski, and Michael & Barbara Wheatley

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM Join us in congratulating the 2019 VHF Volunteer of the Year: Amy Walker!

Volunteers are the "lifeblood" of any non-profit organization – VHF included. Volunteers are the people who step forward to work at events, sit on committees, and volunteer to serve on our board of directors. VHF began a focus in earnest in FY 19-20 to enhance and improve our Volunteer Program - beginning with the creation of our Volunteer of the Year Awards Program. Four volunteers are recognized in a calendar year for their outstanding commitment to the mission of VHF and are nominated for the Volunteer of the Year Award. Our Executive Committee of the Board of Directors considers each nomination and then the award is given in December of that calendar year. Below, please check out our first nominees for this annual program. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers for the time, talent and dedication they give to the organization. The impact on our community is immeasurable!

Debbie Baugher Debbie has served on the VHF scholarship committee since 2018 and is a familiar face as a day-of event volunteer at several major events throughout the year. Her youngest grandson, Ray, has severe Factor VIII deficiency.

"I'm so grateful to the VA chapter for the support they have provided to our family. From soft sided helmets for an active little guy learning to crawl and walk to all of the educational dinners and meetings for families living with bleeding disorders here in Virginia. I feel it's my privilege to give back to the Community that gives so much to us."

Temesha Pollock Temesha served on the Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk Committee in 2019 and was recognized as our top individual walker, raising \$1,573 before walk day. Her team set a goal of raising \$1,000 in 2019 and ended up raising \$1,935!

"Since my oldest was diagnosed six years ago, I have been fundraising for our local chapter through the walk. My inspirations for my walk team, The Pollock Boys, are my kids. I want them to know that although they have hemophilia, they have the biggest team of supporters!

Steve Spasojevich Steve serves as Chair of the Finance Committee, which provides oversight and guidance for the fiscal administration of VHF. He also is a consistent top fundraiser for the Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk.

"VHF is very important to my family. We have benefited greatly from the educational programs, family events, and through connections to other families within the hemophilia community. I volunteer and fundraise as my way of showing gratitude for all they've done for my family."

Amy Walker Amy is the Program Committee Chairperson, new family mentor and go-to nurse and infusion support educator at Camp Youngblood, Teen Retreat and First Step Programs. She also fills in as the VHF representative at educational dinners in the Hampton Roads area. You will see her and her family participating in numerous VHF events throughout the year – especially Richmond and Washington Days - the Walker family has a passion for advocacy and sharing their stories!

"I volunteer with VHF because the community has become our family. My joy is to see kids and families with more education, independence, and confidence in caring for their bleeding disorder. I am excited to support new families and help them see they are not alone." **Congratulations Amy!**

























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