2015 At a Glance

**ASSETS**
$683 MILLION

**TOTAL FUNDS**
904

**GIFTS**
$67 MILLION

**GIFTS RECEIVED**
2,320

**GRANTS**
$36 MILLION

**GRANTS AWARDED**
4,924

**NEW FUNDS**
83

**NONPROFITS SUPPORTED**
1,919

**ABOUT THE COVER**
Local students pictured at Haxall Point mural wall. Clockwise from back left: Olivia Phillips, Prakrit Shukla, Charlie Forst, Krisuan Johnson, R.J. Matthews, Mary Beth Hallett and Elliott Sebastian.

**Our Mission**
The Community Foundation serves and inspires people to build philanthropy for our region and to engage in our community.

**Our Values**
We work closely with donors and community partners to fulfill our mission by:

- Promoting a regional perspective,
- Developing and sharing community knowledge,
- Collaborating towards common goals,
- Demonstrating inclusiveness and respect, and
- Achieving transparency, accountability and efficiency.
Message to the Community

At the heart of every community are its people. The same is true for The Community Foundation. We are honored to serve and connect philanthropists who want to change Central Virginia for the better and community organizations that help make it happen. With the support of our talented and insightful board, led by Tom Chewning, we aim to provide good stewardship to good intentions. As we work together to consider new ideas, engage in future-focused discussion and create sustainable solutions, we are constantly reminded that people with passion are our greatest strength.

In this report, you will see what happens when a community unites for the greater good. Children are exceeding expectations against great odds. School lunchrooms are being transformed by the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables. Individuals and organizations alike are inspired to leverage their talents and resources to lift up those in need. Each story reflects a spirit of innovation, collaboration and commitment that enhances our ability to align resources for greater impact.

As we celebrate our successes, we know there is more we can do together and these are the stepping stones for opportunities that lie ahead. We are excited about the future. Please let us know how we can help you create lasting change for our community.

Sherrie Brach Armstrong
President and CEO

WHY I SERVE

“I get excited by working with people who are passionate about improving their communities and who use every resource to make it a reality. Philanthropy provides a venue for influencing and participating in meaningful change and there’s no place I’d rather be.”

— Sherrie Brach Armstrong
Students at Bellevue Elementary enjoy fruits and vegetables from the “Garden Patch,” a new salad bar in the school’s cafeteria. This is part of a healthy food collaboration led by Greater Richmond Fit4Kids and funded by Impact 100 Richmond.
Enhancing Healthy Living

While Richmond garners national attention as a top food destination, many of our own residents are living in food deserts or neighborhoods with limited access to grocery stores with healthy, fresh foods. In Virginia, 45% of youth do not even eat one vegetable serving per day. Even more disturbing, this is the first generation of kids whose life expectancy will be shorter than their parents.

In response to the rise in childhood obesity, Greater Richmond Fit4Kids was established in 2010 as an outgrowth of Sports Backers. Scaling its efforts through strategic partnerships, Fit4Kids is improving children’s wellness through hydration initiatives, learning gardens and partnerships with local schools to promote physical activity. Its latest project, Eat Fresh RPS, builds on this momentum by dramatically increasing the amount of fruits and vegetables consumed by students in Richmond Public Schools.

With a grant from Impact 100 Richmond, Eat Fresh RPS is transforming the lunchroom environment. This spring, Garden Patch salad bars were installed in 20 elementary schools and local chefs are training cafeteria staff on new preparation techniques. Children are discovering the delicious and nutritious goodness of strawberries, carrots and sweet potatoes—just a few of their favorites so far.

HEALTHY HIGHLIGHT

As part of its initial launch, Eat Fresh RPS served over 40,000 healthy food samples in Richmond Public Schools. Going forward, the program will serve 10,000 students each school day and over 2 million meals per year.

WHY I GIVE

“Impact 100 gives nonprofits the opportunity to think big. Greater Richmond Fit4Kids was already doing that, with a well-developed plan for Eat Fresh RPS and salad bars ready to be installed. With our collective investment, we are helping provide 2 million healthy meals each year, forever. I’m proud to be part of such an incredible project.”

— Beth Ryan, Impact 100 Health & Wellness Co-Chair
Teaming Up In Service

Many Saturday afternoons, Rob and Elizabeth Hazelton can be found filling water jugs, unloading equipment and creating a soccer practice space with their two sons, Ben and Erich. For almost five years the Hazelton family has dedicated their time, talent and resources to support RVAccess, a soccer program for youth with special needs, all in memory of their daughter Gracie. When Rob and Elizabeth’s daughter passed away in 2012, their family decided to direct all memorial gifts to RVAccess, a program Gracie loved.

Gracie Hazelton’s legacy is found in the faces of the youth the Hazeltons serve on Saturday afternoons. “Spending time with the athletes each week is medicine for my soul,” said Elizabeth. “Seeing the buddies and athletes run to meet each other at the beginning of the program carries me through each week.”

At the recommendation of family friends, the Hazeltons established a donor advised fund to continue their charitable giving. “Since partnering with TCF, we’ve become more involved with the community and talk about philanthropy as a family,” said Rob. “Ben and Erich’s involvement with RVAccess and Youth Philanthropy Project have shown them how they too can give back.”

NOTABLE GROWTH

Since 2013, RVAccess has grown to include soccer sessions at two locations, allowing nearly three times as many athletes and buddies to play the game they love.
Rob and Elizabeth Hazelton volunteer their time to support children with special needs along with their two sons Ben and Erich. Through the RVAccess program, Ben and Erich teach soccer skills to their buddies as they share in the joy of giving back.
The Possibilities Project launched this spring, providing housing, mentors and other support services for the first 10 youths exiting foster care. Tariq says that having a safe, stable apartment is like living a dream while he pursues the next one—a career in health care.
Transforming Lives

For years, Judy and Dick Nelson have involved their daughters and grandchildren in philanthropy through a family fund at The Community Foundation. Recently, their collective passion for serving others was personified when the Nelsons’ daughter Debbi fostered and adopted her youngest child.

Upon learning that Virginia ranks 50th in the United States for the rate at which youth age out of foster care with no permanent families, the Nelson family knew they needed to act. They unanimously elected to support The Possibilities Project, a new collaboration between Children’s Home Society of Virginia and Richmond’s Better Housing Coalition. Leveraging the strengths of both organizations, this groundbreaking initiative provides vulnerable youth with the trauma-informed supports they need to become independent, engaged community members. Services include housing, counseling, mentoring, financial literacy and more.

“The Community Foundation has been instrumental in exploring the interests of our entire family and bringing so many great options to the table. We would not have known about The Possibilities Project without them,” said Debbi. “Given our personal connection to the foster care system, this gift was especially meaningful.”

EARLY SUCCESS

Within the first set of young men and women served by The Possibilities Project, participants have completed career assessments, received paid internships and saved enough money to finance a first car.

WHY WE INVEST

“All three generations of our family wanted to come together to make a single impactful gift. What impressed us about The Possibilities Project was the vision and collaboration displayed by two respected organizations who brought their expertise together to fill a vacuum. The more we have learned about it, the more excited we have become.”

—Dick Nelson, donor
WHY I LEAD

“As we prepare our students to grow, prosper and compete in a global world, it’s not about where they come from, but where they are going. My mantra is that all things are possible and everyone should strive to be a better person today than they were yesterday.”

— Kiwana Yates, Principal, Carver Elementary School

Building Brighter Futures

Carver Elementary School is a gem in the heart of one of Richmond’s most challenged neighborhoods. Over 98% of its students are eligible for free or reduced lunch and a majority live in Gilpin Court, the City’s largest public housing community. Despite these obstacles, Carver students and faculty are excited to come to school each day. A significant reason for their enthusiasm is their principal, R.E.B. award winner Kiwana Yates.

It is not uncommon to see Dr. Yates greeting students by name, giving high fives in the hallway or playing double dutch on the playground. A tireless advocate for Carver, Dr. Yates believes the key to unlocking the potential of her students begins with relationships. “We are family,” she says. “Our teachers, parents and community partners all participate in letting our students know we care and we believe in them. Together, we can achieve great things.”

Under Dr. Yates’ leadership, student attendance has improved from 77% to 93%. In 2015, Carver also earned the distinction as a Title I Highly Distinguished School for exceeding accountability benchmarks and achieving at least 85th percentile on reading and math SOL tests.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Carver Elementary School is one of 9 schools in Virginia designated as a Title I Highly Distinguished School. The school exceeded all state and federal accountability benchmarks for two consecutive years and achieved at least 85% pass rates on reading and mathematics SOL tests.
Teacher Evette Cartwright reviews plant and animal cells with her 5th grade science class at Carver Elementary. Evette received the R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence last year to further her own learning through firsthand study of geophysical flows in Jamaica and Hawaii.
2015 Highlights

RVA Snapshot

The Capital Region Collaborative was developed to bring leaders together across sectors to create a shared vision for the Richmond region. After collecting insights from thousands of area residents about our greatest challenges and aspirations, eight priority areas were identified—coordinated transportation, education, healthy community, James River, quality place, job creation, social stability and workforce preparation. The RVA Snapshot, funded in part by The Community Foundation, is our first look at baseline data in all eight categories. By knowing where we are and where we need to go, the report will help foster informed public discourse, guide allocation of resources and monitor progress towards common goals.

Regional Rivers Plan

Richmond has long-considered its proximity and access to the James River one of its most cherished assets. More than one-third of all Virginians rely on the river and its tributaries for water, commerce and recreation. Therefore, it is no surprise that the James River was named as one of the region’s top eight priorities. The James River Association, with support from an anonymous donor advisor, developed a Regional Rivers Plan. The plan offers a roadmap—or a strong current—for expanded public access, new opportunities for river recreation and entertainment, and appropriate riverfront development.
SisterFund

SisterFund is the vision of six friends whose shared love of the Richmond community led them to explore how they might amplify their impact. The newest of the Foundation’s three giving circles, SisterFund allows members to pool their time, talent and resources to make a larger collective investment in the empowerment of African American women and girls. “Our goal was to create an experience that speaks to our philosophy. We can do more together than we can individually,” said co-founder, Cynthia Newbille. Thirty members strong and still growing, SisterFund will award its first grant this fall.

Richmond 2015

All eyes were on Richmond for 10 days last fall as bicycles and brightly colored jerseys whizzed by thousands of spectators. An early supporter of Richmond 2015, The Community Foundation was proud to partner with other business and community leaders similarly committed to sparking positive energy and change in the region. The UCI World Cycling Championships not only created an opportunity to showcase the people and places that make Richmond special, but also created economic opportunity and contributed to our growing culture of active living.
Supporting Organizations

Commonwealth Foundation for Cancer Research
Jane & Arthur Flippo Endowment Foundation
Jenkins Foundation
Ann K. Kirby Foundation
The Pauley Family Foundation
R.E.B. Foundation

Program Affiliates

NextUp RVA
Partnership for Nonprofit Excellence
Barbara J. Thalhimer & William B. Thalhimer Jr. Family Fund

Regional Affiliates

Gloucester Community Foundation
Mathews Community Foundation
River Counties Community Foundation

Staff

Sherrie Brach Armstrong, President & CEO

A complete staff list is available on our web site at www.tcfrichmond.org.

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Confirmed in Compliance with National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations.
2015 Grants by Type

- Competitive Grants: 11% TCF & Affiliates
- Donor-Directed Grants: 3% Supporting Organizations
- Nonprofit Endowments at TCF: 73% TCF & Affiliates

2015 Investment Performance

- 1 Year: 1.66%
- 3 Years: 7.37%
- 5 Years: 7.38%

AVERAGE GIFT

- $28,057

NONPROFIT ENDOWMENTS AT TCF

- 29

1 YEAR

- 1.66%

3 YEARS

- 7.37%

5 YEARS

- 7.38%

- TCF/Spider Management Company net returns
- 70% MSCI AC World / 30% Barclays Aggregate