



**CHARLOTTESVILLE  
FY 25 VIBRANT  
COMMUNITY FUND  
REPORT**

**MARCH 6, 2024**

**Panel Members:**

**Toni Barskile  
Matthew Murphy  
Maurice Walker  
Sam Spencer  
Ella Jordan  
Lindsey Munson  
Kirby Hutto  
Jean Perry  
Latara Ragland  
Dr. Cathy Ames Turner  
Nicole Hawker  
Adam Courville  
Reggie Allen  
Taylor Harvey-Ryan  
Alan Peura**

**Sherica Jones-Lewis  
Emma McMahan  
Nicole Richardson  
Maggie Guggenheimer  
Rob Hull  
Kim Jacqueline  
Mara Sprafkin  
  
Misty Graves, staff  
Hunter Smith, staff  
Reggie Allen, Staff**

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## INTRODUCTION

### BACKGROUND:

The Vibrant Community Fund has continued to evolve and change to best meet the needs of citizens and local non-profit organizations. Some highlights from the FY25 process include:

- Offering broad funding priority areas: Education, Youth and Family, Economic Impact and Jobs and Health and Public Safety. Applicants had the option of choosing more than one priority area. New and Emerging organizations were folded into these groups and were reviewed under the context of being a new organization or new to this process.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion continued to be an over-arching theme in the application process.
- Feedback sessions were held after the FY24 process to get applicable feedback from applicants as well as reviewers.
- Housing specific applications were removed from the Vibrant Community Fund process and were reviewed in a separate process.
- Continuing to recruit review team members to reflect the population of Charlottesville and to provide as much diversity in backgrounds as possible; stipends are provided for participation.
- Specific training for review team on conflict of interest and methods to evaluate applications, including regular office hours from staff.
- Application questions were edited for clarity and simplification based on applicant feedback.
- Minor changes to application evaluation tool.
- Including a 'Fundamental' category for programs deemed essential to operate. These program applications are reviewed by City staff.

Review of the Vibrant Community Fund process is ongoing and will continue for future fiscal years. The City is thankful to the **UVA Equity Center** and the **Center for Non-Profit Excellence** for assisting in keeping our process in line with best practices.

For FY25, the City received 45 applications for operational funding and 21 applications from Arts and Cultural organizations.

City staff recruited a diverse Vibrant Community Fund panel to review the applications. Members were divided between those with lived experience with human service organizations, those with human service knowledge, and those with grant-making knowledge. Non-staff panelists are offered compensation for their participation. All members received a thorough orientation, which included training on conflicts of interest.

## OPERATIONAL FUNDING REVIEW PROCESS:

Programs requesting operational grants submitted a full application, which included seven narrative questions. Panelists reviewed the applications for **quality** using an objective rubric that evaluated:

- Strategies that address Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,
- Demonstration of need for the program,
- Understanding of participants,
- Strategies used to meet those needs,
- Use of best practices,
- Evaluation plan and metrics used,
- Local collaborative efforts,
- Engagement of high need and underserved populations,
- Program participants involvement in evaluation and governance,
- Fiscal stability.

Budget information as well as projected outcome information is also requested through the application.

Panel members reviewed and rated applications individually and as a group. They came to a final rating based on averages of each reviewer's score. Ratings for both sets of operational applications were based on a 100-point scale and place in four categories:

**Category: Exemplary** 88-100 points

**Category: Solid** 87-80 points

**Category: Fair** 79-75 point

**Category: Weak** less than 74 points

In addition to their panel review of the quality of programs, panelists were also asked to rank the importance of the *type of service* being provided. These rankings were made individually and then averaged, although they were consistent across panelists. Panelists were given four choices for each application and asked to select one.

**Category: Essential** The services are essential to meet the Council priority area (i.e., the priority cannot be addressed without the service and/or the City would have to provide the service and/or the service is critical to community well-being)

**Category: Important** The services are important to meet the Council priority area (i.e., the service is an integral part of a comprehensive strategy to address priority or community well-being may not be improved without the service)

**Category: Helpful** The services are helpful to meet the Council priority area (i.e., the services address a priority and support the current category of community well-being).

**Category: Not important/relevant** The services are not important/relevant to the Council priority area.

The grid below shows how the quality ratings and importance rankings aligned for Vibrant Community Fund applicants (not including Arts/Culture.) The highlighted boxes indicate funded categories:

All Applicants	Essential	Important	Helpful	No direct connection
Exemplary Quality	4 programs at 95%	7 programs at 80%		
Solid Quality	8 programs at 80%	15 programs at 60%	1 program	
Fair Quality		3 programs at 40%	2 programs	
Poor Quality		3 programs	2 programs	

For Human Services applications, the City Manager’s proposed budget recommends funding at 95% of the requested amount for programs rated Exemplary/Essential, 80% for programs rated Exemplary/Important, 80% for programs rated Solid/Essential, 60% for programs rated Solid/Important and 40% for programs rated Fair/Important. This year, 37 organizations were funded through the Vibrant Community Fund operational grants review process.

**ARTS AND CULTURAL REVIEW PROCESS:**

A committee reviewed the 21 applications received from Arts and Cultural organizations. Applications were rated on a 100-point scale that examined:

- Feasibility
- Potential demonstrable or measurable impact
- Alignment with City priorities
- Evaluation
- Organizational stability and experience

Applications were rated Exemplary/Essential (2), Exemplary/Important (7), Solid/Important (8), Fair/Important (1). The City Manager’s budget recommends funding at 100% of the requested amount for Exemplary/Essential applications, 80% for Exemplary/Important applications, 60% for Solid/Important applications and 40% for Fair/Important applications. This year, 18 organizations were funded through the Vibrant Community Fund Arts and Cultural review process.

The grid below shows how the quality ratings and importance rankings aligned for Vibrant Community Fund applicants Arts & Culture:

All Applicants	Essential	Important	Helpful	No direct connection
Exemplary Quality	2 programs at 100%	7 programs at 80%		
Solid Quality	0 programs	7 programs at 60%	1 program	
Fair Quality		1 programs at 40%	1 program	
Poor Quality				

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS:**

The following pages contain summaries of operational applications in alphabetical order of the host agency. The summaries include a brief description of the program, information about requested funding and a report of the Vibrant Community Funding quality rating and importance ranking. A summary of arts and culture applications begins on page 27.

## **100 BLACK MEN OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA**

### **100 BMOCV Educational Programming Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant's Description of the Program: 100 Black Men of Central Virginia is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicating itself to improving the quality of life for the Charlottesville community. It advocates for the elimination of the achievement gap of local African American (AA) male students through mentorship, scholarship, and fellowship. Programs include M-Cubed (Math, Men, Mission) for grades 5-8 and High School Scholars.

Request: 100 Black Men of Central Virginia requested \$42,750 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as "Solid". The type of service was rated as an "essential" priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$34,200

## **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF THE CENTRAL BLUE RIDGE**

### **Defending Potential through One-to-One Mentoring Rating Category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. Through our one-to-one mentoring relationships, we provide high-potential youth with the emotional/social support and guidance necessary to support strong scholastic achievement, healthy peer/family relationships, avoidance of risky behaviors, and strong self-concept, all while building resiliency.

Request: Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Central Blue Ridge requested \$55,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$33,000

**BIRTH SISTERS OF CHARLOTTESVILLE**

**Doula Support Services for Women of Color Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Birth Sisters of Charlottesville is a women of color doula collective supporting women of color through their birth journey and into motherhood. We offer prenatal, labor and delivery, postpartum, and lactation doula support. Our mission is to dismantle root causes of systemic maternal health disparities for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) while denying race as a risk factor.

Request: Birth Sisters of Charlottesville requested \$100,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated the application as ‘solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$60,000

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA**

**Youth Development and Success Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Virginia provides a Year-Round Youth Development Program for all youth, ages 5 to 18. The Club is open every day after school from 2:30-6:30pm and all day during the summer and during school breaks from 7:30am-5:30pm. Research- and evidence-based programs promote the Club’s priority outcomes of academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character and citizenship.

Request: Boys and Girls Club of Central Virginia requested \$145,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated the application as ‘solid’. The type of service was rated as an ‘essential’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$116,000

**CHARLOTTESVILLE ABUNDANT LIFE MINISTRIES**

**Tutoring K-4 Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Abundant Life tutoring has 1:1 tutors, individual lesson plans, & small-group enrichment 4 days/wk for low-income children from Prospect Ave. area of

Fifeville; goals are: read fluently and enjoy school. Children benefit from 30+ supervised/trained tutors, teacher input, assessments and incentives towards trips/rewards. Frequent parent communication via home visits, texts, calls. 2x/wk ea. child.

Request: Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries K-4 Tutoring requested \$15,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as “Solid” (category 2). The type of service was rated as an “essential” (category B) priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$12,000

### **CHARLOTTESVILLE ABUNDANT LIFE MINISTRIES**

#### ***Tutoring 5-8th Rating category: Exemplary/Important***

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Abundant Life tutoring has 1:1 tutors, individual lesson plans, & small-group enrichment 4 days/wk for low-income children from Prospect Ave. area of Fifeville; goals are: read fluently and enjoy school. Children benefit from 30+ supervised/trained tutors, teacher input, assessments and incentives towards trips/rewards. Frequent parent communication via home visits, texts, calls. 2x/wk ea. child.

Request: Charlottesville Abundant Life Ministries K-4 Tutoring requested \$15,000 from the City .

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as “Exemplary”. The type of service was rated as an “important” priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$12,000

### **CHARLOTTESVILLE REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY**

#### ***Resident Services Program: Rating Category: Weak/Important***

Applicant’s Description of the Program: CRHA’s Resident Services Program provides wraparound care for residents in the form of social programming, economic opportunities, and skills development to support low and very-low income individuals in their personal goals toward self-sufficiency. By centering resident voice and choice, Resident Services aims to add services that support community members and improve overall quality of life.

Request: City of Promise requested \$137,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘Weak.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

#### **CITY OF PROMISE**

**LaunchPad: Elevating Elementary Achievement Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: City of Promise (CoP), in partnership with Charlottesville City Schools, Venable Elementary, and UVA School of Education & Human Development, will implement the LaunchPad program at Venable. CoP will support under-resourced and minority K-1st grade students & their families to address academic and social/emotional challenges, creating measurable positive impact on literacy, attendance, and math.

Request: City of Promise requested \$250,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$150,000

#### **COMMUNITY HEALING COALITION, INC.**

**Music Inside Out 2024 Rating category Fair/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Music Inside Out 2024 is our annual program for children who have been impacted by the incarceration of a close loved one and may have also experienced related foster care issues. We are excited to offer our first one-week, summer day camp especially for this segment of our population. This first group will consist of 15 children ages 10-13 in Charlottesville, Virginia. With 5 camp counselors, we will have a 3-to-1 ratio. The 5 camp counselors may have also experienced the incarceration of a close loved one and/or foster care or they may have a special interest in working with our campers.

The camp will ideally be held at a park with an indoor facility or an elementary school which can accommodate indoor and outdoor activities. The camp will feature opportunities for the children to explore artistic expression, have meaningful conversations using restorative practices, and make new friends! At the end of the week, the children will share highlights from their week with families and community members.

This camp will provide a fun, safe, and supportive environment for children to: 1) express themselves through art and storytelling; 2) build connections with other children in similar circumstances; 3) develop coping skills to help them manage stress and difficult emotions; 4) build resilience and a sense of empowerment to help them overcome adversity; and 5) enhance their self-esteem.

Request: Community Healing Coalition, Inc. requested \$12,500 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘Fair.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$5,000

### **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE**

#### **CIC Entrepreneur Programs Rating category: Exemplary/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: CIC is a Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) founded in 2012. We host the Central Virginia Small Business Development Center. Our mission is to strengthen the community and contribute to economic development by fueling the success of under-resourced entrepreneurs through education, mentoring, micro-lending and networking.

Request: Community Investment Collaborative requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as “Exemplary”. The type of service was rated as an “Essential” priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$47,500

### **COMPUTERS4KIDS**

#### **Mentoring and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills with Computers4Kids Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Computers4Kids (C4K) harnesses the power of adult-youth relationships and student-driven learning to cultivate STEAM identity in underrepresented communities and provide young people with the skills and resources they

need to access a range of personal and economic opportunities. C4K is the only STEAM mentoring program in the area.

Request: C4K requested \$40,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$24,000

### **HEART AND SOUL FITNESS WITH NICOLE**

#### **Heart and Soul Fitness Community Wellness Rating category: Fair/Helpful**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Heart and Soul Fitness offers a diverse range of programs designed to cater to a wide variety of fitness goals and preferences. Here's a brief overview of some of the programs we offer:

1. Cardiovascular Fitness: Heart and Soul Fitness incorporates a range of cardio equipment and movements within each class to help participants improve their cardiovascular endurance and overall fitness level.
2. Strength Training: Heart and Soul Fitness offers a variety of strength training programs and equipment, including free weights and resistance bands, to help individuals build muscle strength, improve their balance, and enhance their overall physical performance.
3. Group Fitness Classes: Heart and Soul Fitness offers a variety of group fitness classes, including yoga and high-intensity interval training (HIIT) classes, to provide participants with a fun and motivating way to achieve their fitness goals.
4. Personal Consultation: The gym provides personalized one-on-one sessions with a certified personal trainer who can help individuals develop a customized workout plan, set achievable fitness goals, and provide guidance and support throughout their fitness journey.
5. Community Wellness Programs: Heart and Soul Fitness has partnered the Women’s Initiative, Region 10 Project Link, Albemarle County, the Chamber of Commerce, Black Professional Network, Faith Christian Center International and a host of other organizations to provide community fitness classes and wellness resources.

Overall, Heart and Soul Fitness offers a comprehensive range of programs and services to help individuals of all ages and fitness levels achieve their health and wellness goals. For individuals looking to improve your cardiovascular fitness, build muscle strength, or simply lead a healthier lifestyle, Heart and Soul Fitness has something to offer.

Request: Heart and Soul Fitness requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Fair.’ The type of service was rated as a ‘Helpful’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$0

### **HOSPICE OF THE PIEDMONT**

**Positive Transformation and Community Outreach Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Hospice of the Piedmont’s understands that every life is unique, and while death is certain, a good death is not. Everyone deserves the best care possible, regardless of their ability to pay. Providing these services helps ease the burden on caregivers and enrich the lives of our community. Our mission is to positively transform the way people view and experience serious illness, dying, and grief.

Request: Hospice of the Piedmont requested \$5,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$3,000

### **LEGAL AID JUSTICE CENTER**

**Civil Legal Services for Charlottesville Residents Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: By educating and representing people in matters of consumer, employment, and health law, LAJC helps individuals navigate systems, access benefits, protect income and assets, and overcome problems that directly threaten their health, employment, and economic security. Our work has a clear and direct impact on the financial stability and health of low-income Charlottesville residents.

Request: Legal Aid Justice Center Civil Legal Services requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Essential’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$40,000

**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE**

**Adult Workforce Tutoring Rating category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Literacy Volunteers' Workforce Tutoring program provides free, confidential, one-to-one tutoring to adults who wish to improve their reading, writing, and/or English-speaking skills so that they can become self-sufficient contributors to our local workforce and community. By providing individualized tutoring, LVCA helps adult students meet their specific educational and career goals.

Request: Literacy Volunteers requested \$20,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Exemplary’. The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$16,000

**LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE**

**Citizenship Instruction Rating category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: LVCA will provide Citizenship instruction to approximately 30 Charlottesville residents who are Lawful Permanent Residents (“Green Card Holders”) in FY25. This will enable adult students to obtain the civics, U.S. history, and English Language knowledge necessary to pass the citizenship test/ interview offered by United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to become U. S. Citizens.

Request: Literacy Volunteers requested \$7,500 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Exemplary’. The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$6,000

**LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD PANTRY, INC.**

**Equipping community members for positive health outcomes with healthy food, nutrition education, and cooking skills Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Loaves & Fishes seeks to improve health outcomes by consistently providing healthy, fresh, and culturally familiar groceries to anyone seeking assistance and by teaching our recipients how to prepare meals and eat well. We seek \$50,000 to buy food we do not receive through donations and to support our nutrition education program, recently expanded to include cooking demonstrations and classes.

Request: Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Inc. requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Essential' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$40,000

**LOCAL FOOD HUB**

**Fresh Farmacy: Fruit and Veggie Prescription Program Rating category: Fair/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Fresh Farmacy supplies low-income patients who are at risk for diet-related disease with a biweekly supply of fresh produce, education, and support. The food is sourced from small, independent farms in the region. The program serves several section 8 communities in Charlottesville and seeks to expand to more.

Request: Local Food Hub requested \$45,120 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Fair'. The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$18,048

**LOVE NO EGO FOUNDATION, INC.**

**The Courage to be You: Youth Mentoring Program Rating Category: Weak/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Our Courage to be You: Youth Mentoring Program is dedicated to empowering youth and young adults in the Charlottesville/Albemarle community. Through one-on-one sessions our mentors set various goals with our mentees, such as nurturing a stronger sense of belonging, equipping youth to handle peer pressure, refining organizational abilities, effectively managing internal conflicts, and more.

Request: Love No Ego Foundation, Inc. requested \$20,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Weak.' The type of service was rated as a 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

### **MADISON HOUSE**

#### ***Free Tax Prep through the Cville Tax Aid Coalition Rating Category Solid/Helpful***

Applicant's Description of the Program: The Cville Tax Aid Coalition (led by Madison House) provides free tax preparation services and financial education for low- and moderate-income taxpayers (household income under \$64,000) in Charlottesville and the surrounding counties in Central Virginia. Tax preparation services are provided by IRS-certified volunteers, including UVA students and other community members.

Request: Madison House requested \$86,769 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as a 'Helpful' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

### **MEDIATION CENTER OF CHARLOTTESVILLE**

#### ***Community Dispute Resolution Initiative Rating Category: Solid/Important***

Applicant's Description of the Program: MCC will develop a mediation process that builds on the Virginia Supreme Court's training to prepare a diverse cadre of mediators to address a wide range of disputes in their communities. We will train and deploy a team of mediators who empower community residents in conflict to find agreement before their conflicts need a legal or police intervention.

Request: Mediation Center of Charlottesville requested \$70,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as a ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$42,000

### **MONTICELLO AREA COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**

#### **MACAA Early Head Start: Early Childhood Education & Care Rating category: Solid/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Early/Head Start (E/HS) promotes school readiness for children ages birth to 5 from low-income families by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development. E/HS supports children's language, literacy, and social/emotional development, emphasizes the role of parents as their child's first/most important teacher, and builds relationships that support well-being and self-reliance.

Request: MACAA Head Start requested \$22,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Essential’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$17,600

### **NEW HILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

#### **Financial Capability Program Rating Category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: The New Hill Development Corporation Financial Capability Program works to increase financial mobility and help Charlottesville's Black community improve their financial health and achieve their personal financial goals by offering Credit & Money Management workshops, HUD-Certified First Time Home Buyer training and individualized financial and housing coaching.

Request: New Hill Development Corporation requested \$75,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘Exemplary.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$60,000

**NEW HILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Black Entrepreneurial Advancement and Community Opportunity Network (BEACON) Black Business Incubator (BBI) program Rating Category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: To boost Black wealth, New Hill created the BEACON business incubator, which will include a 10,000 sq ft fully equipped, shared-use commercial kitchen, retail store front and client meeting rooms (being built now) for businesses to use on a subscription basis, without having to make a significant capital investment. Our Food Business Bootcamp teaches technical and business skills to entrepreneurs.

Request: New Hill Development Corporation requested \$150,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$90,000

**PARTNER FOR MENTAL HEALTH**

**Systems Navigator Rating Category: Fair/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: PMH 's navigation for persons with serious mental illness translates to partnering with the Therapeutic Docket, providing follow-up to clients of Charlottesville Albemarle Rescue Squad and Albemarle County's HART program, and re-entry support for ACRJ clients. Additional funding would permit navigation for additional community members and coordinating work finding client housing options.

Request: Partner for Mental Health requested \$30,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Fair.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$14,400

**PIEDMONT COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES, INC.**

**Provide Advocates and Mentors for Children who are in Foster Care Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Piedmont Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA Volunteers) help to restore safety, stability, and permanence to the lives of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect. This is achieved through independent investigation, advocacy, and thoroughly researched, well-written Court reports which Judges depend upon when determining the best interests of these children.

Request: Piedmont CASA Volunteers program requested \$10,000 from the City to help with services to 60 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$6,000

**PIEDMONT FAMILY YMCA, INC.**

**YMCA Early Learning Center Rating category: Exemplary/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: The YMCA Early Learning Center is the largest area nonprofit child care provider for low-income youth ages 0-5, offering a high-quality, full-day, year-round licensed early childhood education and school readiness program with the goal to prepare at-risk and under-resourced children to meet kindergarten readiness benchmarks and support economic self-sufficiency for area families.

Request: YMCA Early Learning Center requested \$68,000 from the City to help with services to 55 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as “Exemplary” (category 1). The type of service was rated as an “essential” (category A) priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$64,600

**READYKIDS**

**Counseling and Family Support Program Rating category: Exemplary/Essential**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: ReadyKids provides critical support to historically marginalized children & families in central VA by promoting kids’ well-being through counseling, family support & early learning opportunities, thereby preventing abuse & healing trauma.

**COUNSELING:** Teen Counseling, Inside Out  
**EARLY LEARNING:** ReadySteps, STAR Kids, Growing Minds  
**FAMILY SUPPORT:** Healthy Families, REAL Dads

Request: ReadyKids Counseling and Family Support requested \$169,729 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Exemplary.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Essential’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$161,243

### **RECLAIMED HOPE INITIATIVE**

#### ***Camp Hope Rating Category: Solid/Essential***

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Camp Hope, is a safe, inclusive summer camp experience for children, ages 4-12, who are otherwise unable to participate in local camp offerings due to behavioral needs, mental health diagnoses, intellectual disability, and/or trauma. Through Camp Hope, RHI provides the necessary care and structure for children with complex care needs to engage in enriching experiences and connect with peers.

Request: Reclaimed Hope Initiative requested \$150,000 from the City to help with services to 37 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Essential’ priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$120,000

#### ***Thrive: Family Support and Respite Program Rating Category: Solid/Important***

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Reclaimed Hope Initiative requests support for Thrive, our support and respite program for parents and caregivers navigating foster care, adoption, and children with disabilities. Thrive offers wrap-around services to each member of the family, including education, advocacy, mental health and respite support, in order to maximize family preservation.

Request: Reclaimed Hope Initiative requested \$50,000 from the City to help with services to 37 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as ‘exemplary’ (category 1). The type of service was rated as an ‘essential’ (category A) priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$30,000

#### **RENAISSANCE SCHOOL**

**Partnership Scholarship Program Rating Category: Fair/Helpful**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The Partnership Scholarship Program will provide full scholastic scholarships to BIPOC, first generation and economically disadvantaged youth from Starr Hill Pathways, 100 Black Men and/or Community Attention Foster Families who demonstrate a love of learning and seek opportunity to grow academically.

Request: Renaissance School requested \$153,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Fair.' The type of service was rated as a 'Helpful' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

#### **SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE AGENCY**

**Survivor Services and Community Outreach Rating Category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The Sexual Assault Resource Agency is a 501(c)3 non-profit agency working to eliminate sexual violence and its impacts through education, advocacy, and support services. Established in 1979, SARA services are available to survivors of all ages and genders as well as friends, family, and loved ones of survivors. All services are free of cost to beneficiaries - clients and community partners.

Request: Sexual Assault Resource Agency requested \$33,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$15,000

#### **SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENTREPRENEURS (SEE), INC**

**Albemarle-Charlottesville Restorative Justice Program Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: ACRJP provides a restorative justice (RJ) process as a diversion from criminal prosecution. Cases are referred by prosecuting or defense attorneys and assigned to facilitators who guide each process to its conclusion. The RJ program creates space for people to make amends directly to the people they have harmed. The process encourages accountability, supports healing, and builds relationships.

Request: Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs requested \$75,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$45,000

### **THE BRIDGE LINE (3 APPLICATIONS)**

#### **Case Management Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Bridge Line's Case Management is a community-based program serving residents of Charlottesville and 10 surrounding counties living with brain injuries. Our Brain Injury Specialists help individuals identify and accomplish personal goals. Based on needs, they connect and/or coordinate referrals to appropriate community resources, act as liaisons, and help individuals build the life they want.

Request: BridgeLine Case Management requested \$32,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$19,200

#### **Day Program Rating Category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The BridgeLine Place (our Day Program) is a community-based vocational program serving residents of Charlottesville City and the entire Blue Ridge Health District, utilizing the Clubhouse model. The BridgeLine Place allows its members to learn valuable work and social skills to achieve vocational and independent living goals.

Request: BridgeLine Day requested \$25,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Exemplary.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$20,000

**Residential Program Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The residential program of The Bridge Line provides supported residential living for adults with brain injuries; staff facilitates their path through independence and self-determination toward personal growth and engaged citizenry.

Request: Bridgeline Residential requested \$42,000 from the City to help with services to 12 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$25,200

**THE BUCK SQUAD**

**Gun Violence Intervention-South First St. Rating category: Exemplary/Essential**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The BUCK Squad strives to reduce the cycle of gun related crimes by implementing a community-led violence-intervention program that provides crisis management assistance through conflict meditation, mentorship, and economic development. TBS implements this strategy currently through proactive civilian patrols within predominantly black communities with low-income households, in Charlottesville.

Request: The BUCK Squad requested \$480,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Exemplary.' The type of service was rated as an 'Essential' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$456,000

**THE FOUNTAIN FUND**

**Lending Hope and Opportunity to Formerly Incarcerated People and their Families Rating category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The Fountain Fund increases economic opportunities for formerly incarcerated people to improve their lives and remain in our community. We provide formerly incarcerated Charlottesville residents with low-interest loans and financial

coaching, helping them build credit and achieve their self-determined goals. We envision hope and opportunity for all formerly incarcerated people and their families.

Request: Fountain Fund requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Exemplary.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$40,000

### **THE UHURU FOUNDATION**

**Healthy, Wealthy and Wise Youth Prevention Program Rating category: Weak/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The Uhuru Foundation requests \$100,000 to support organizational capacity building and an evaluation of its reentry programs for justice-involved individuals living in or incarcerated in Charlottesville.

Request: The UHURU Foundation requested \$100,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Weak.' The type of service was rated as a 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

### **THE WOMEN'S INITIATIVE**

**Mental Health Counseling Program Rating Category: Exemplary/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: TWI's Mental Health Counseling Program reduces health disparities with evidence-based, trauma-informed and culturally responsive mental health care. TWI's services are free and available in English, Spanish and through interpretation to ensure access to critical mental health care for Black, Latinx, People of Color, LGBTQ+, people with refugee status, and cisgender women.

Request: The Women's Initiative requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Exemplary.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$40,000

## UNITED WAY OF GREATER CHARLOTTESVILLE

### **Financial Resiliency Task Force (FRTF) Rating Category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: The FRTF is focused on closing the racial wealth gap in Greater Charlottesville by eliminating barriers to financial stability for historically marginalized families and persons of color. 8 core nonprofit partners coordinate services to maximize impact, consolidate overlaps for efficient use of community resources, and share data to improve services and reduce friction for client recipients.

Request: The United Way requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund panel rated the application as 'Solid.' The type of service was rated as an 'Important' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$31,500

## VIZION SPORTS ASSOCIATION

### **Vizion Sports Association Rating category: Weak/Helpful**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Vizion Sports Association was established to provide the youth of all socioeconomic backgrounds the chance to participate in the sport of their choice. Our framework seeks to improve athletes' individual skill sets while developing strong team players. We provide all the necessary essentials to youth locally and along the East Coast to be successful in the pursuit of a collegiate education.

Request: Vizion Sports Association requested \$51,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'weak' (category 4). The type of service was rated as a 'Helpful' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

## WARTIME FITNESS WARRIORS

### **Wartime Fitness Warriors Rating category: Solid/Important**

Applicant's Description of the Program: Wartime Fitness Warriors is a nonprofit dedicated to providing underserved and at-risk youth in Charlottesville and surrounding areas the opportunity to learn the discipline and art of boxing as a means to structure their future and

physical wellness. Additionally, and maybe most importantly, we provide natural peer support to increase their mental health and wellbeing.

Request: Wartime Fitness Warriors requested \$100,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘Solid.’ The type of service was rated as an ‘Important’ priority area for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$60,000

### **WELCOMING GREATER CHARLOTTESVILLE**

**Welcoming Greater Charlottesville, sponsored by Hinton Ave. United Methodist Church**

***Rating category: Solid/Essential***

Applicant’s Description of the Program: The program includes three activities:

1. Provide an iftar (the meal Muslims eat to break their daily Ramadan fast) to serve 125 Muslims
2. Present the movie "Refuge" to at least 100 youth; discuss importance of/methods for respecting people from different backgrounds and points of view
3. Provide scholarships for swim lessons to 30 kids from under-served populations

Request: Welcoming Greater Charlottesville requested \$11,500 from the City to help with services for 185 City residents.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as ‘solid’ (category 2). The type of a service was rated as a ‘helpful’ (category C) priority for the City.

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$9,200

### **WILDROCK**

**Wildrock in the Schoolyard Rating Category: Weak/Helpful**

Applicant’s Description of the Program: Camp Wildrock in the Schoolyard welcomes Charlottesville City Elementary Students to participate in nature camp activities at Charlottesville City School campuses during the summer. This program provides up to 8 weeks of essential childcare for families in a familiar and accessible setting when school is not in session.

Request: Welcoming Greater Charlottesville requested \$50,000 from the City.

Panel Review: The Vibrant Community Fund Panel rated this application as 'Weak.' The type of a service was rated as a 'Helpful' priority for the City.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

## **ARTS AND CULTURAL APPLICATION**

### **CHARLOTTESVILLE OPERA**

Proposed Project: The Arts for ALL FestivALL is a free event at Ting Pavilion featuring a concert of orchestra, soloists, and chorus. Prior to the concert, activity tents presented by arts partners surround the Pavilion encouraging audience members to explore dance, music, cinematography, and visual arts. Charlottesville Opera partners with the Charlottesville Ballet, The Oratorio Society of Virginia, and more.

Amount Requested: \$25,000

Panel review: The application was rated 'Fair/Helpful.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

### **CRECIENDO JUNTOS**

Proposed Project: Creciendo Juntos developed the Charlottesville Initiative for Social Practice through the Arts program (CHISPA) in 2018 as the Latinx population in the Charlottesville area was rapidly expanding. CJ hosted a monthly Latinx Leadership Group to discuss current issues and needs within the community. One gap we identified was the lack of safe space for Latinx youth to gather and cultivate a sense of shared community. Additionally, Latinx people represent 5.7% of Charlottesville's population (2021 ACS-5 year estimates from census.gov), yet we are underrepresented in the City's vibrant arts and culture scene as both creators and audiences. With a number of young Latinx artists and activists in our CJ circle, the idea of CHISPA was born. CHISPA is an art-based youth program geared towards Latinx and other BIPOC youth. The program is centered around the idea that creative freedom and cultural expression are at the core of social movements and uplifting community change, and uses creative practice as a tool to facilitate conversations around issues of social justice and equity. Through CHISPA, we host an 8-month internship for Latinx and other BIPOC youth ranging from highschool juniors to college sophomores. The CHISPA Black and brown youth interns, or "BBYs", participate in 3 months of community- and skillbuilding, and go on to coordinate a series of artist talks and themed zine-making workshops for their BIPOC peers, culminating in the publication of 3 zines featuring Latinx and BIPOC youth ideas and art. Both the interns and visiting artists are paid for their time. In this way, CJ and our organizational partners are expanding the cultural infrastructure for young Latinx and other BIPOC creatives while also increasing their access to financial resources, mentorship, leadership development, and job readiness skills. CHISPA is also spurring economic development by increasing the job readiness and leadership skills of youth ranging from high school juniors to college sophomores in the Charlottesville area. As they prepare to enter the job market, CHISPA offers the training and support these young people need to become confident, resilient leaders, and to become creative problem solvers in their community.

Amount requested: \$16,075

Panel review: The overall application was rated ‘Solid/Important.’

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$9,645

### **CULTIVATE CHARLOTTESVILLE**

Proposed Project: The Telling Project is a community arts and culture film project that will document the stories of the people and land use in and around Booker T. Washington park throughout history. Vibrant Communities funds will enable community engagement and storytelling, training and historical research, filming and production, and public outreach. The project deliverable will be to collaboratively create and share a short documentary film focusing on the history of the land that is now Washington Park and the Black community that thrived there. The content created will include a professionally produced short film and digital StoryMAP, and white paper. [A similar StoryMap created by our partners at JSAAHC and titled, “Picture Me As I Am”, can be found at <https://arcg.is/1rOmnK>.] It was build the skills of youth, young adults, and resident leaders as community historians and leaders. The film and community engagement will be shared broadly, presented to council, shown at a roundtable at the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center, and shared with dozens of partners.

Amount Requested: \$35,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated ‘Exemplary/Essential.’

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$35,000

### **THE FRALIN MUSEUM OF ART OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Proposed Project: Fralin education outreach programs focus on meeting community needs as determined by info gathering with teachers, program participants, and community partners. Rather than duplicate programming, our team engages with local non-profits/schools to leverage expertise and resources to expand on existing and explore new programs, increasing the quality, capaCity, and sustainability for the programs.

Amount Requested: \$15,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated ‘Exemplary/Important.’

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$12,000

### **JEFFERSON SCHOOL AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER**

Proposed Project: The JSAAHC's programs describe the lived experience of the majority of people in Charlottesville's African American community, which is most stressed in the areas of housing and education, and at every point in our social determinants of health. Our work specifically is most aligned with the cities interest in Diversity, equity and inclusion and youth, family education. The JSAAHC's programs offer an opportunity for the larger community to engage in these issues from a multi-disciplinary perspective. The JSAAHC presents essential annual events such as: Juneteenth, Kwanzaa, the Liberation and Freedom Day Reparations Run & Walk, In The Yard, and the Ikore Harvest Festival. It further offers lectures on African American History and Culture. It supports the Maupintown film festival and partners with various organizations to increase the amount of programming directed at and about the Black community.

Amount Requested: \$60,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated 'Exemplary/Essential.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$60,000

### **LIGHT HOUSE STUDIOS**

Proposed Project: Light House Studio's Educational Programs provide tuition-free and/or reduced-tuition digital filmmaking workshops for under-resourced youth. We expand access to arts education for the 5,000 youth across the City of Charlottesville through in-school and after-school workshops, as well as community non-profit partnerships. Our unique programs promote technical and creative skills through innovative and educational projects. Skills learned can be applied in the workplace as well as in the greater community. Our goal is to remove barriers to access by teaching any interested student, regardless of their ability to pay.

Amount Requested: \$18,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$10,800

## **LIGHT HOUSE STUDIOS**

Proposed Project: Light House Studio (LH) owns and operates the historic Vinegar Hill Theatre (VHT) located on downtown mall. Opened in 1976 by Chief Gordon and Ann Porotti as a classic movie venue, Gordon and Porotti chose the theatre's name to honor the Vinegar Hill residents who lost their homes when the historically black neighborhood was razed in 1964 as part of a Charlottesville-led redevelopment program. VHT was forced to close in 2013, but two years later, LH was able to purchase and renovate the space as a teaching studio for youth filmmaking and a fully operational cinema. LH chose to keep the theatre's original name and to operate VHT as a community theatre that explores important topics and brings people together. VHT now serves our community in unique and powerful ways by (1) providing a versatile, 183 seat venue for film screenings and discussions, (2) offering discounted or free rental fees for schools, organizations, and small businesses, (3) screening City-funded student films created by our local youth.

Amount requested: \$18,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$12,000

## **FESTIVAL OF THE BOOK**

Proposed Project: This year marks the 30th anniversary of The Virginia Book Festival, an event dedicated to uniting writers and readers to promote and celebrate books, reading, literacy, and literary culture. The Festival has a significant economic impact on the community in several ways. It draws visitors from outside the community, boosting tourism and the hospitality industry. Charlottesville Omni hotel is the homebase site for all the outof-town authors, as well as many of the events. Because the event is hosted in multiple venues in and around downtown Charlottesville, other local hotels, restaurants, and shops benefit from increased patronage during the festival. It also provides opportunities for local authors to showcase and sell their publications, contributing to the growth of the creative economy within the community. Not only has the festival been stimulating economic growth for the past 30 years, but it also fosters a sense of cultural vibrancy in the area. Because a few of the events are so popular and we are by venue space, they are ticketed, but a large majority of the events are free and open to the public. The Festival promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion by showcasing a wide range of voices and perspectives from diverse authors and cultures. It creates a platform for

underrepresented voices to be heard and celebrated, fostering a more inclusive literary community and inspiring readers to explore new ideas and experiences, including authors focused on social justice. Additionally, these events often feature panel discussions, workshops, and presentations on topics related to DEI, contributing to a broader understanding of these important issues. Specifically, a program with bestseller and Deaf celebrity and activist Nyle DiMarco, who was interviewed by African American Deaf rapper and personality Wawa Snipes, was presented in partnership with the University of Virginia's American Sign Language (ASL) program, was a highlight with the 2023 audience, most of whom were Deaf or part of ASL-speaking families. Thirty-five out of the seventy authors in 2023 were people of color! Local businesses (including, at one point, the City) have used some of the books for a company-wide read to help promote better DEI understanding. Staff is currently finalizing the upcoming author schedule and they always have an eye toward books centered around DEI topics.

Amount requested: \$15,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated as 'Exemplary/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$12,000

### **MIMA MUSIC**

Proposed Project: This proposal requests funding to support MIMA Band Together music programs serving six low-income housing communities in Charlottesville: Madison Avenue, Sixth Street, Westhaven, Michie Drive, Riverside, and South First Street. These programs offer engaging artistic enrichment and education to the economically stressed and, in the vast majority of cases, racial and ethnic minority populations living in these communities. They have been developed in close consultation with residents and other community stakeholders to meet residents' needs and build on MIMA's significant previous programming for Charlottesville's public housing communities.

Amount Requested: \$10,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Exemplary/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$8,000

## **NEW CITY ARTS**

Proposed Project: New City Arts Initiative (NCAI) brings together local creators and the local community to spark connection, inquiry, and social transformation. Through a portfolio of 10 programs, including a robust exhibition program at New City's Welcome Gallery, we resource artists in the City of Charlottesville and counties of Albemarle, Greene, Nelson, Fluvanna, and Louisa to make and share their work and offer programs that welcome diverse audiences to have meaningful encounters with art. Unique to New City Arts is a missional commitment to make Charlottesville a place where artists can live and work, which requires a comprehensive programming approach to support artists beyond our gallery walls. We maintain a flexible, responsive approach to programming supported by strong internal systems and a track record of artist accountability.

Amount requested: \$35,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated as 'Exemplary/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$28,000

## **VIRGINIA FILM FESTIVAL**

Proposed Project: The VAFF respectfully requests funding of \$16,500 from the City of Charlottesville in support of general operating expenses in the 2023-2024 fiscal year, which in turn supports our five-day Festival held annually in the Fall as well as our year-round community programming and Outreach & Education programs. With the goal of promoting tourism through effective marketing and increasing hotel rooms utilized during our Festival, the VAFF targets out-of-town visitors, attracts national and regional press, and supports the growth of the state-wide filmmaking community. Through strategic advertising, social media, and travel partnerships, we aim to encourage both overnight and day-trip visits to our local area. With the help of a national PR consultant, we also target film and entertainment critics and writers from major national press, and we invite them to attend and cover our events, as well as pitch the story of how our Festival offers a unique and desirable experience to the film industry due to its location in Central Virginia and connection to UVA.

Amount requested: \$16,500

Panel review: The overall application was rated as 'Fair/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$6,600

## **MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER**

Proposed Project: Founded in 1995, the Music Resource Center (MRC) has contributed to the City of Charlottesville’s cultural infrastructure for over 25 years. We operate a drop-in afterschool program to the 6th-12th grade students of the Charlottesville area that includes unlimited access to our top-notch facility, recording services, lessons and workshops, and a wide variety of instruments and equipment. Over the years, thousands of young musicians and dancers have honed their skills and have written, recorded, and choreographed countless original works while participating in our program. Our members have also performed at hundreds of live events in the area, including the winner of our annual Battle of the Bands performing at Fridays After Five in recent years. Many of our alumni are still active members of our local arts community, including Nathaniel Star, Brandon James, Atrey Jackson, and Harli Saxon.

As an after-school program for middle- and high-schoolers, we are best aligned with the City’s Youth, Family, and Education priority. In a typical year, the MRC serves about 300 teens and pre-teens. Around 2/3 of our members typically come from low-income households (as defined by the state of Virginia), and an even higher proportion come from households living below Area Median Income. Half of our members live in single-parent households, in foster care or group homes, or with a non-parent family member, and around 60% of our members are BIPOC. While just under half of our participants in a typical year are residents of the City of Charlottesville, these teens account for about 2/3 of the time spent at the center. Our participants pay an annual fee based on their household income (youths living at or below the federal poverty line pay \$1 for their annual membership, and the highest fee is \$200 per year). While here, our members take advantage of the wide array of options available to them, including working on digital music, dancing, practicing instruments, or recording and mixing original music. They can also choose to participate in individual lessons and/or group camps and workshops, offered throughout the year at no additional cost. These lessons and workshops are conducted by our skilled staff, community partners, and devoted volunteers. This combination of resources has resulted in a vibrant, creative space for our area’s teenagers to broaden their artistic horizons and create music that is meaningful to them.

Amount Requested: \$20,160

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as ‘Solid/Important.’

City Manager’s Proposed Funding: \$12,096

## **MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER**

Proposed Project: This program is intended to provide specialized training in technical careers in the music industry, then place trained participants in paid internships within our community

to gain relevant work experience in their chosen field. We are specifically requesting funding from the Vibrant Community Fund to cover the cost of 3 program participants for FY 25.

Amount Requested: \$6,858

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$4,115

### **LIVE ARTS**

Proposed Project: Live Arts' mission is "forging theater and community." We have a 33-year history of upholding this mission for the Charlottesville community by expanding our repertoire each year with new mainstage productions, education programming, and community events. Our vision is to be "a welcoming home for all stories and storytellers" by honoring six core values: Community, Creativity, Equity, Social Change, Learning, and Artistic Courage.

Amount Requested: \$20,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Exemplary/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$16,000

### **SECOND STREET GALLERY**

Proposed Project: Second Street Gallery seeks funding for general operation to support exhibitions, and low-cost/free outreach programs, including its monthly Family Studio Day Program. Funding will support initiatives that foster an enduring relationship with the community, promoting connection with local artists and the broader arts ecosystem through interactive experiences. Second Street Gallery's exhibitions and related programming, such as community workshops and Family Studio Days, contribute to the economic development and cultural infrastructure in Charlottesville in several key ways.

Amount Requested: \$20,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Helpful.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

**THE BRIDGE PROGRESSIVE ARTS**

Proposed Project: We are seeking a donation of \$20,000 to assist in supporting our ability to offer sustained and free facilities, equipment, and education through The Underground: A Center For Creative Collaboration.

Amount Requested: \$20,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$12,000

**THE PARAMOUNT THEATER, INC.**

Proposed Project: The mission of the historic nonprofit Paramount Theater is to educate, enchant, enrich, and enlighten through the power of the arts by providing high-quality programming and accessibility for the artistic, educational, and charitable benefit of our entire community while driving economic vitality for Charlottesville, Albemarle, and the Central Virginia region.

Amount Requested: \$40,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$24,000

**WTJU BLACK BUSINESS EXPO**

Proposed Project: WTJU is requesting support for the 2024 Charlottesville/Albemarle Black Business Expo, an annual fall event that WTJU has co-organized with Lifeview Marketing (Ty Cooper) since 2017. While we have not yet set an exact date for next year's Expo, it will likely take place on a Saturday in late September 2024.

Amount Requested: \$10,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Solid/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$6,000

### **THE FRONT PORCH**

Proposed Project: The Front Porch is respectfully requesting a \$25,000 grant from the Charlottesville City Vibrant Community Fund to support general operating expenses. Support from Charlottesville City would help fund a robust outreach program which brings music to more than 700 community members at no cost, support TFP's presence in Downtown Charlottesville, provide stable employment for 32 professional musicians, and deepen our work as a cultural organization adding to the vibrancy of this community.

Amount Requested: \$25,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Exemplary/Important.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$20,000

### **VIRGINIA THEATRE FESTIVAL**

Proposed Project: As the professional summer theatre of the University of Virginia since 1974, the Virginia Theatre Festival's mission is (1) To offer an immersive professional theatre experience, where UVA faculty, staff, and students work alongside both professional artists and community members; and (2) To present an annual summer festival of musicals, classic works, and new plays for our local Charlottesville, Albemarle, and UVA communities. Our vision for the future is one where our doors are open to all community members and our work serves as an example to our patrons and our industry of how live theatre can both be presented ethically and inclusively and serve as a catalyst for important conversations and change.

Amount Requested: \$20,000

Panel Review: The overall application was rated as 'Weak/Helpful.'

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$0

## **VIRGINIA DISCOVERY MUSEUM**

Proposed Project: For 42 years, the Virginia Discovery Museum has provided families in the Charlottesville area with educational and enrichment opportunities in literacy, science and the arts and a safe environment in which children and their caretakers may explore, imagine and discover. It is the mission of the Virginia Discovery Museum to foster intellectual curiosity and development for all children in our community. With over 60,000 visitors a year, coming from 42 states, the Virginia Discovery Museum is one of the main drivers of tourism to our region, and the museum's seasonal events attract visitors from all over Central Virginia. The museum offers free admission to clients of 61 area agencies that work with underserved families and is a member of the national Blue Star Museums program through which military families visit at free or reduced admission. The museum is a critical educational and play resource for our community, as well as being a key driver of patrons to local shops, restaurants and other family resources.

Amount requested: \$35,000

Panel review: The overall application was rated 'as 'Exemplary/Important.

City Manager's Proposed Funding: \$28,000