

# Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.



VKCCI

Helping Virginians in Need Since 1994



## Winter 2018 Newsletter – Volume 5, Issue 2

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### President’s Message – Richie Head

Welcome to 2018. We wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year. 2017 went out with a lot of activity and 2018 is starting off the same way. Please see the following articles for full details.

If you are going to be anywhere near the Fredericksburg area on April 28<sup>th</sup>, please join us and District 11 at the fundraiser that they are conducting for VKCCI. A flyer is attached with full details.

Please continue to help us -- help those -- that need our help. Thank you.

### Fundraising Activities – Tom Browne

The 2017-18 Label Campaign has begun. Please encourage all Brother Knights to help out with this campaign as it is our primary source of income and the best way for Brothers across Virginia to help those who need our help.

We continue to work on a venue for a VKCCI golf tournament and to hopefully continue the Ball Drop... Stay tuned.

Please contact me if your Council, Assembly or District is interested in sponsoring a similar targeted fundraiser.

### Grant Committee Activities - Cy Alba

For the first half of the fraternal year, the Grant Committee approved 23 grants for a total of \$56,349.32. Six were approved during the month of December alone! Last year at this point we had approved 22 grants for a total of \$53,080.89. This fact clearly demonstrates that, while the economy continues to improve, there are many Virginians in desperate need of the basic necessities of life – shelter, health, food, and, clothing. With the approval of these 23 grants since July 1, VKCCI has achieved a significant milestone. Since our founding in 1994, VKCCI has awarded \$1.65 million in grants. In addition, we reached another milestone – 1003 grants since 1994.

Your contributions help us provide assistance to Virginia residents in need of immediate financial assistance. Here are some examples of who we have helped with your support since October 1:

- A \$3,000 grant to assist an individual with intellectual disabilities living in a group home. The individual was wheelchair-bound and the home did not have wheelchair ramps. The grant provided funding for the purchase of the required materials. This grant was funded through a KOVAR grant to VKCCI.

[www.vkcci.org](http://www.vkcci.org)

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- A \$3,000 grant to assist the widow of a Brother Knight pay rent and utilities until she starts to receive her husband's survivor benefits.
- A \$2,867 grant to assist a Brother Knight who encountered a number of unexpected medical expenses for his wife.
- A \$2,500 grant to assist a single mother living paycheck to paycheck and who lost child support payments pay her mortgage and utility payments. She had unexpected car repairs and could not pay her mortgage and utilities.
- A \$3,000 grant to assist a Brother Knight with medical bills resulting from unexpected medical complications and hospitalization after his wife's delivery by caesarian section of their son.
- A \$3,000 grant to assist a Brother Knight with his mortgage, utilities, and medications following surgery to remove a tumor from his spine. His wife is pregnant and they also have a three-year-old.
- A \$2,271 grant to assist a single father and his teenage son keep a roof over their heads, while the father is in rehab center following a stroke. The father has not been able to return to work and the grant would pay for three month's rent and utilities.
- A \$1,100 grant to assist a Brother Knight whose daughter was born with spina bifida and is confined to a wheel chair. The grant would pay for the necessary materials to build a wheelchair ramp. The council is providing the labor and expertise.
- A \$3,000 grant to assist a single mother whose teenage son was involved in a tragic one-car accident, breaking his neck and damaging the spinal cord. The son remains paralyzed from the neck down and requires a wheelchair. Plans to remodel the house to accommodate the wheelchair and a first floor bedroom are proposed to be funded by a long-term Go-Fund-Me account. The immediate need for materials to build wheelchair ramps is being covered by the grant. The council will provide the labor and expertise.
- A \$3,000 grant to assist a young family whose youngest child was born with Down's Syndrome and a number of physical abnormalities. Doctors recommended an abortion, but the family chose life. Required surgery to repair the esophagus took place at Children's Hospital in Boston, after two surgeries at UVA failed. The family had to relocate to Boston for the surgery and recovery. The grant would pay for the mortgage and utilities for their Virginia home while they were in Boston. The family had no financial means to maintain two homes during this period of bi-location. The grant was funded through a KOVAR grant to VKCCI.
- A \$2,240 grant to assist a disabled single middle-aged woman with a severe medical condition that makes her bones extremely vulnerable to breakage. For her safety, surgeons recommended removal of carpeting in her residence and replacing it with a smooth flooring option. The council will rip out the carpeting and provide the labor and expertise to install the laminate flooring. The grant would pay for the materials.

Anyone with questions about grants or the grant process can contact me at [albai@cox.net](mailto:albai@cox.net) or 571-215-1233.

# K of C District #11 Fundraiser

## Proceeds to Support VKCCI\*

- Saturday, April 28, 2018
- Holy Cross Academy  
250 Stafford Lakes Parkway  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406
- 6 pm - 10:30 pm
- Tickets - \$30.00 each
- Email Don Carlson to RSVP  
carlsondv@comcast.net
- Send checks payable to:  
KofC Council 12434  
P.O. Box 2508  
Spotsylvania, VA 22553
- All proceeds go to VKCCI 😊

Events Planned:  
Catered dinner  
Live DJ & Dancing  
Silent Auction - credit  
cards accepted!  
50/50 Raffle  
Cash bar  
Fun with friends!  
Casual dress - no jeans

Only 300 seats available &  
they will go fast!  
Buy yours NOW!



\*The Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. (VKCCI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation established to provide financial assistance grants to residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia who are unable to provide support for themselves, or their family members living in Virginia, and have exhausted all other avenues of relief. All contributions to VKCCI are fully tax deductible.