



VKCCI

Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc.
Helping Virginians in Need Since 1994



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January 2019

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President's Message – Richie Head

Welcome to 2019. We wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

The major fundraiser for VKCCI continues to be our Address Label Program. That, along with the Annual Council Contribution Program, allows us to continue our great program of helping those in need. That said, **the Golf Ball Drop, and your chance to win \$10,000.00, is back!!!** Please see Tom Browne's article that follows and the flyer on page 3.

All these fundraisers generate funds so that VKCCI can continue to help those that need our help. So, PLEASE keep your generous contributions coming. Thank you.

Fundraising Activities – Tom Browne

We're off to a good start on the 2018-19 Label Campaign; thanks to all who have donated already; if you haven't, please consider a gift to your charity by visiting our website (www.vkcci.org). If you need more labels, there's a form for that on the website...

PLEASE ATTEND THE JANUARY 5 Quarterly Meeting! We will be launching the 2019 VKCCI Golf Ball Drop Raffle (\$10,000 prize to be awarded at the State Convention) at the quarterly meeting on January 5. That's the date we will begin selling chances - only 2,000 will be sold! Attend the meeting to get a jump on purchasing your chance at \$10,000. And, if you are attending the convention - whether or not you are a golfer - come by Twin Lakes Golf Course, where we will be doing the Ball Drop at around 2 PM (when the golfers are done playing and eating). It's truly a sight to behold.

Please consider including VKCCI in your annual contributions to the United Way or Combined Federal Campaigns. While VKCCI is not listed in these organization's directories, donating to VKCCI is as simple as writing in "Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc; P.O. Box 3292, Hampton VA 23663.

Grant Committee Activities - Cy Alba

The 2018-2019 Grant Program is running far ahead of this time last year. So far this fraternal year, your VKCCI Grant Committee has received 33 grant requests, 26 have been approved, 1 disapproved, and 6 were withdrawn, after further investigation. We have approved \$72,859.72 in grants. Four were KOVAR funded. We have already awarded over \$18,750 more than last year at this time.

To continue this level of assistance, it is critical that individual Brother Knights **respond generously** to the label program mailings and the Golf Ball Drop, and that all Councils **contribute faithfully** to the annual Council contribution program. Your contributions help us provide assistance to Virginia residents in need of immediate financial assistance.

A list of recent grants follows on the next page. Anyone with questions about grants or the grant process can contact me at albai@cox.net or 571-215-1233.



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Report of Grants Issued since the last Newsletter:

A \$416.36 grant to assist a 15-year old boy with cerebral palsy who is confined to a wheelchair. The grant would repair the wheelchair lift on the family's wheelchair accessible van.

A \$2,789.32 grant to assist a 63-year old disabled woman with deteriorating medical conditions which caused her to forgo several monthly bills to pay urgent medical co-pays and bills.

A \$1,100 grant to assist a 75-year old woman who recently suffered kidney failure and is now on dialysis. Her doctors recommended she abandon her walker and obtain a wheelchair to improve her mobility. The home has exterior stairs. The grant would provide the funds to purchase materials for a wheelchair ramp. The council will provide the engineering and manpower to build the ramp.

A \$2,650 grant to assist a Brother Knight with several overdue bills (rent, medical, utilities, etc.). He had fallen behind when he lost his fulltime job. Grant paid his bills until he received his first paycheck at his new job.

An \$875 grant to assist an adult Special Olympian obtain needed dental work, including restorations and a root canal. This is a KOVAR funded grant.

A \$4,000 grant to assist a family with severe medical issues relocate to a new house, after their current house was damaged with river flood waters caused by hurricane Michael. The entire first floor was flooded with 3-5 feet of water, destroying all their belongings on the first floor.

A \$2,000 grant to assist a young family who had just gone through a difficult pregnancy. The wife had to quit work early, and the father lost his job due to excessive absences to take care of his wife. The grant would pay for overdue rent and utility bills.

DISAPPROVED. A \$4,000 grant to assist a Brother Knight with five-month overdue mortgage payments was disapproved. Committee felt the situation was hopeless, as the overdue mortgage was just the tip of the indebtedness iceberg. Brother Knight bears some responsibility for letting situation get out of control.

A \$4,000 grant to assist a Brother Knight on disability and suffering through another bout of cancer with some overdue rent, utilities, and medical bills. The grant would also fund a wheel chair ramp for his van. He has 4 children under the age of 10 living at home.

A \$4,000 grant to assist a Brother Knight who is unable to work for a couple of months due to complications following spinal surgery. The grant would assist with rent, utilities, and health insurance.

A \$4,500 grant to assist the Little Sisters of St. Francis replace the clothing of 10 intellectually disabled men, whose group home suffered catastrophic losses in a fire. The men lost all their clothing and furnishings in the fire. The sisters manage the home. This is a KOVAR funded grant.

A \$1,566 grant to assist the widow of a Brother Knight repair her kitchen floor which has rotted out, causing significant risk of injury.



*Sales start January 5, 2019
for the*

2019 Golf Ball Drop Raffle

Sponsored by

Virginia Knights of Columbus Charities, Inc. (VKCCI)

For the benefit of the needy citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia

\$10,000 Prize to be awarded on May 3, 2019!

**ONLY 2,000 golf balls
(chances) will be sold!**

\$20.00 per golf ball...
buy as many as you
wish, but there are
only 2,000 available.

*Online sales will end
no later than 6:00 PM
May 2, 2019*



First VKCCI Golf Ball Drop, May 16, 2016, Westfields
Golf Club, Clifton VA

Buy your golf ball (raffle chances) at

www.vkcci.org

or

www.birdeasepro.com/VKCCIBallDrop