

Announcing the 2026 Quillian Award Honorees



Jim & Marty Wright

The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation recently bestowed Dr. Jim Wright and Mrs. Marty Wright of Lynchburg with the Quillian Award.

On February 15 a gathering of Jim and Marty's family, friends, and those impacted by their service was held at the University of Lynchburg. "A Night with the Wrights" was a celebration of two individuals who have committed themselves to improving their community. Speakers during the evening's program gave testimonials illustrating their broad impact.

The Quillian Award was established in 2011, and is named for Margaret and William Quillian. It honors those who, like the Quillians, exemplify a lifetime of philanthropy, endowment giving, and service to community.

"The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation is honored to recognize Jim and Marty for their lifelong dedication to others and to their community with our highest honor, the Quillian Award," said John Stone, Chair of the GLCF's Board of Directors.

Dr. Jim Wright has dedicated his career and service to the well-being of his hometown. After completing both his Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Medicine degrees at the University of Virginia, he returned to Lynchburg to practice medicine and invest his time and leadership in the community he loves.

Jim has made lasting contributions to the people and institutions of Lynchburg, strengthening community health, equity, and culture.

"The Quillian Award was a complete surprise. It has taken a while for its significance to sink in," says Jim. "I've seen the plaque at the Foundation office many times over the years and have admired its recipients, but never considered that I might receive that honor."

Marty Wright spent her teenage years in Colorado Springs before earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from William Woods College.

Since making Lynchburg her permanent home, she has become an exemplary civic leader and volunteer, committed to advancing education, the arts, environmental stewardship, and community life. Through her enduring leadership, volunteerism, and passion for community improvement, Marty has helped build a more vibrant, equitable, and welcoming Lynchburg.

"For Jim and me to receive the Quillian Award was a shock - and so humbling for I am just one of many thousands who volunteer in our community," says Marty. "I value the caring spirit of Lynchburg which continues to energize the mission of the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation. I consider this recognition as the greatest honor of my life - thank you!"

To see photos from the event, and to learn more about the Wrights' inspirational legacy of service, please visit lynchburgfoundation.org/wright.



Past Quillian Award Honorees

Margaret & William Quillian
2011

Rosel & Elliot Schewel
2012

Ellen & Bill Jamerson
2018



Rosalind O. Mays

To make a gift to one of our existing funds or learn how to create a new endowed fund, please visit lynchburgfoundation.org.

Please join us for the Dennis Carter Student Athlete Scholarship Golf Tournament!

May 14 | London Downs Golf Club
www.lynchburgfoundation.org/golf



Local Giving. LOCAL IMPACT.

The **Rosalind O. Mays Legacy Fund** was recently established by Ms. Mays's niece, Renee Rose-Flowers, in her memory. The fund celebrates the legacy of Ms. Mays, who was known for her passion for helping children and youth, which was reflected in her service as a Girl Scout troop leader and volunteer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Virginia. In addition to her work with youth and children, Ms. Mays devoted her later years to service by volunteering with the Red Truck Ministry, which provides assistance to those living in food deserts in our community.

"My aunt was a huge giver, not necessarily through formal philanthropy but very much behind the scenes," says Renee. "When she passed, we heard a lot of stories about how she helped people. Creating this fund honors the quiet, but impactful, generosity she practiced throughout her life."

The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation is deeply honored to be entrusted by Ms. Mays's family to continue her legacy of inspiring and spreading joy in our community.

Make a gift to the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation:

-  **ONLINE** [LYNCHBURGFOUNDATION.ORG/GIVE](http://lynchburgfoundation.org/give)
-  **MAIL** 1100 COMMERCE STREET, LYNCHBURG VA 24504
-  **STOCK** PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE

HERE FOR GOOD.

President's MESSAGE



**Kathryn Crowder
Yarzebinski**
President & CEO

We recently had the unique pleasure of honoring two incredible people in our community at a special event held in February. Because of the work of a dedicated planning committee and generous sponsors, **Jim and Marty Wright** were recognized for their service with a reception and program that highlighted the dizzying array of projects and nonprofit organizations that are stronger today because of their lifetime of volunteerism.

“A Night with the Wrights” was focused on this extraordinary couple and their accomplishments. However, the spirit of our community could be felt pulsating through the room that night. So many in attendance have walked alongside Jim and Marty in service, and have been visionary agents of leadership and change in their own very significant ways. It was an inspirational reminder of the power of dedicated, caring people stepping up to lead selflessly and solely for the improvement of the lives of others.

I believe this spirit of service and leadership is what makes our community a great place to live. When the news from the rest of the world is overwhelming, we have the example of the Wrights to show us how we can effect change locally, through service and philanthropy.

The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation works to solve our community's greatest challenges by providing grants and scholarships, and by helping individuals, families, and organizations create their charitable legacy.

Legacy SOCIETY



Jeff Krantz

“I want to do my part to contribute to the well-being of our community. I am passionate about education, and eradicating hunger and food insecurity locally. By establishing this fund, I can continue to make a difference in causes that I care deeply about even after I am gone.”

The Legacy Society recognizes donors who have notified us that the GLCF is included in their estate plans.

Jeff Krantz of Lynchburg recently established a new endowed fund at the GLCF to support three of his favorite local nonprofits. The **Jeffrey D. Krantz Fund** will create annual grants in perpetuity, resulting in a permanent and reliable source of revenue for these organizations.

The fund will also grow in the future as a result of Jeff's estate planning. By naming the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation as a beneficiary, Jeff ensures the fund will have an even greater impact for future generations.

Jeff is a graduate of the University of Lynchburg and is a director, actor, and leader in the local theater community. He serves on the Board of Directors for Renaissance Theatre Company. He is an owner of Trident Services, a local day support program serving adults with intellectual disabilities.

To learn about planned giving, and how you can support your favorite nonprofits in perpetuity, visit www.lynchburgfoundation.org/donors/planned-giving.

Have you included the GLCF in your estate plan? Please let us know by calling our office. Making your estate plans known now will help the GLCF to fully understand and carry out your wishes.

Board Member Spotlight

Vickie Runk

joined the GLCF Board of Directors in 2026. Since founding Runk & Pratt Senior Living Communities with her husband, Brian, and Dr. Norman and Linda Pratt in 1992, she has shown a lifelong commitment to transforming the landscape of senior care in the Greater Lynchburg area. Vickie has founded and served as executive director of multiple nonprofits, including Miss Virginia Volunteer and the Pearls of Life Foundation. She has also served on the boards of directors of many other nonprofits promoting senior health. “I joined the Board of Directors of the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation because I believe **the best way to love this community is to invest in it for the long haul**, with smart stewardship and a heart for people,” says Vickie. “When you bring good people together around a shared mission, you don't just give back, you build something that lasts.”



Vickie Runk

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WWW.LYNCHBURGFOUNDATION.ORG

Contact Our Office:

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The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, EIN 54-6112680.





Grant Recipients Spotlight

Through the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation's competitive grant cycles each fall and spring, we provide opportunities for local organizations to create meaningful change in our community. These grants are made possible by donor support.

Your gifts to the GLCF empower us to support projects that make our community a better place to live. These are a few recent examples:



Students participate in JRA educational programming

James River Association: Outdoor Environmental Education for Greater Lynchburg Area Students

In May 2025, JRA worked with **100+ students** from Bedford County's Liberty Middle School at the Upper James River Center in Riveredge Park. Field experiences offered a curriculum aligned with Virginia Life Science SOLs, bringing concepts learned in the classroom out into nature, and connecting the historical, ecological, and environmental significance of the James River and the local watershed.

"The James River Association is grateful to have the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation as a partner," says Bill Street, President and CEO. "As we celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2026, we are thrilled to conduct our education programs at the newly renovated Upper James River Center, which was supported by a GLCF Century Fund Grant, and the Foundation's continued support enables us to introduce new students to the James River every year."



Two community members receive a new appliance from No Walls Ministry

No Walls Ministry: Building a Stronger Community Through Service

With the support of the GLCF and other community partners, No Walls Ministry was able to supply essential household appliances to **over 125 households** in the Greater Lynchburg area in 2025. These machines were donated, repaired, and installed in the homes of our neighbors free of charge. "Many of us may take these things for granted, but for those in need, going without can be overwhelming," says Neal Massey, Executive Director.

One neighbor impacted by the project says: *"The sound of our working washing machine was almost as exciting as the cry of my newborn."*



The Balourdet Quartet perform at Leesville Road Elementary School

Forte Chamber Music: 2024-2025 Season: Student Tickets and Outreach

Forte Chamber Music produced **five concerts** featuring chamber ensembles including the Viano Quartet; Three Notch'd Road; the Virginia Baroque Ensemble; cellist Julian Schwarz and pianist Marika Bournaki; and the Amernet and Ivalas Quartets.

"Support from the GLCF enables us to present world-class chamber music performances by bringing award-winning musicians directly into our community and schools," says Dudley Marks, of Forte Chamber Music. "From underwriting student access to live concerts, to creating educational experiences for young audiences, this support ensures high-quality chamber music is accessible, engaging, and impactful for people of all ages across our region."

To learn more about our competitive grant cycles or to donate to one of our existing funds which make grants possible, please go to www.lynchburgfoundation.org



Build Your Charitable Plan

We hear from many generous people who care deeply about their community and fully intend to “do more” with their philanthropy. But life is busy. It can feel easier to wait for the perfect moment—when things feel calmer or more certain.

The GLCF can help you shift gears from intention to action.

Take it one step at a time

We think of charitable planning as a multi-step process rather than a single decision. We are happy to help you establish a donor-advised fund, for example, to meet an immediate tax planning need. With that time-sensitive box checked, we'll move on to discussing how you'd like to deploy the fund's resources, involve family members in the decision-making process, and adjust your giving as your interests evolve.



Keep it simple

Sometimes the hardest part of giving is decision fatigue. The GLCF can help you work through key questions such as:

Am I giving to the right organizations?

What if my priorities change?

What if I want to involve my children later?

As you explore these questions, we can provide insights on local nonprofits, share research about community needs, and facilitate conversations about values and priorities.

Adopt long-term thinking

You may find that your charitable intentions include providing annual support to favorite charities and also making a meaningful difference beyond your lifetime.

The GLCF can help you structure a *donor-advised fund* for your annual giving, and other types of funds for your legacy plan. A *field of interest* fund supports a particular cause with built-in flexibility as community needs change. A *designated* fund provides long-term support to specific organizations, and an *unrestricted* fund allows you to leverage the GLCF's deep expertise and perpetual structure to address emerging community priorities for generations to come. You can name one or more of these funds in your estate plan, whether through a gift in your will or trust or through a beneficiary designation on an IRA or life insurance policy.

The GLCF is here for you along your charitable giving journey. We'll work together to build and implement your philanthropy plan *brick by brick* over the years to come, involving your advisors and family members at key junctures and always ensuring that your charitable intentions—even as they evolve—are fulfilled.

**To learn how we can help you build a plan to support our community,
please call our office at (434) 845-6500.**