Resilience Through Investment

In 2016, we began to connect Blue Ridge Area Food Bank donors and partners through an annual grant-making process that brings the power of philanthropy to bear on the distribution network that is so important to our mission. Most of the food we distribute reaches guests through partner food pantries, soup kitchens, and shelters.

Partner Impact & Innovation Grants reflect our priority to invest and support frontline partners so that we can help them provide more (and more nutritious) food to more people, more efficiently and effectively, and with dignity for all.

Your support of Partner Impact & Innovation Grants helps our partners to:
- create a dignified, welcoming experience for guests
- expand so they can serve more people
- make their work more sustainable with necessary tools and technology
- improve the volunteer experience so they can retain their workforce

Funds distributed through our grants helped purchase:
- commercial-grade coolers and freezers
- facility improvements
- shopping carts, bags, and boxes
- professional development, nonprofit capacity building

Thanks to donor support, over the last seven years we’ve invested more than $4.6 million in building the capacity and resilience of our network.

“Through your donations, you make a difference in the lives of so many. It's not just the people we serve, but the volunteers, the employers and employees, the farmers, the social workers, the caregivers, the schools. Your donations impact an ever-widening circle. Thank you on behalf of us all.”

– Jill Skelton, Empowering Culpeper

PARTNER IMPACT & INNOVATION GRANTS AT A GLANCE (2023):
- 82% of applicants received an award
- 113 grants were awarded
- $499,042 was awarded

We are grateful to these lead donors ($5,000+), and others who support this work:
- Anonymous
- Bama Works Fund of Dave Matthews Band at the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation
- Centra Health Foundation
- Charles L. Keith & Clara S. Miller Foundation
- Food Lion Feeds
- Genan Foundation
- Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation
- Hilltop Foundation
- J & E Berkley Foundation
- Lewis G. Schaeeneman, Jr. Foundation
- Manning Family Foundation

Serving your community through one of four distribution centers located in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, Winchester, and Verona (headquarters).