



Annual Report

October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020



2019-20 Board and Staff

- Anne Spanos, President
- Sue Smith, Treasurer
- Sarah Blech, at-large
- Erika Schubert, Darden Fellow, '19
- Guy Schwartz, Darden Fellow, '19
- Nick Southerland, Fellow, '20
- Sarah Trumler, Darden Fellow, '20
- Mary Anna Dunn, Director

Awesome Alliances

It has been our privilege to work with the following organizations, listed, alphabetically, during the past year:

[Access Arts](#)

[Alakazam Toys](#)

[Buck Mountain Episcopal Church Food Distribution Program](#)

[Camping for All](#)

[Charlottesville Area Network Dedicated to Youth Development \(CANDYD\)](#)

[Charlottesville Parks and Recreation](#)

[Ivy Creek United Methodist Church](#)

[The Free Book Bus](#)

[Loaves and Fishes](#)

[New Beginnings Christian Community Center Food Distribution Program](#)

[Shenaniqans Toys](#)

[Unitarian Universalists of Charlottesville Food Distribution Program](#)

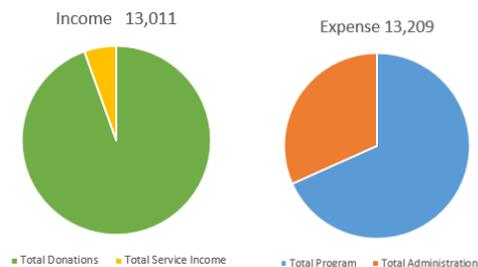
HIGHLIGHTS

Delivering Books from [The Free Book Bus](#) to [New Beginnings](#)

- ❖ Poetry Workshops with Parkside Post High and Charlottesville Adaptive Recreations Online Summer Camp.
- ❖ Inclusion Training at the Boys and Girls Club of Central Virginia.
- ❖ Regular [blog posts](#) on enrichment activities for families during social distancing.
- ❖ Creation of a webpage listing [community-based enrichment activities during social distancing](#).
- ❖ Establishment of [Enrichment to Go](#) to distribute enriching materials to low-income families during the pandemic.
- ❖ Development of our three-year strategic plan.

Doing the Numbers isn't all that easy this year.

Normally, to calculate our number served, we add up the children who attended programs we supported. We then reduce that by 10% to reflect the probability that some of the children who participated in one program we served also participated in another. Typically, that service comes through training, consulting, and direct instruction. Because our fiscal year began Oct. 1st, 2019, some of our typical activity is accounted for in this year's numbers, but since the bulk of our training and consultation occurs in late spring and summer, the number of children impacted by our typical engagements is low. (continued on page 2).



We Simply Cannot Say Thanks Enough! 😊 ... Thank you for your generous gifts during these difficult times. My boys truly love their books and toys! -- Parent

Looking Back

A picture paints a thousand words, right? So look at the picture next to the banner on **Page One**. That masked creature is me, delivering a load of books from The Free Book Bus to New Beginnings Christian Community Center. That one picture says it all: partnerships, enrichment, a supportive community, and of course, a pandemic.

But let's remember, if we can, the fall and early winter of last year. Our fiscal year began in October, so before there was a pandemic we were busy working on our strategic plan, teaching our [popNpoems](#) workshop at Parkside Post High, and leading a workshop on inclusion of children with challenges at Boys and Girls Club of Central Virginia. Our fall work load was intentionally light as we finalized our strategic plan. We expected to do more poetry workshops and begin planning for another community training later in the year. And we were hoping to begin a new kind of collaboration with Charlottesville Parks and Recreation in the summer of 2020, working in tandem with a site based Inclusion Coordinator for the first time.

But, well, in March plans changed. With our focus on out-of-school time as a critical and often overlooked, player in a child's overall development and success, we were very alarmed. We began regular postings to what had previously been an occasional [blog](#), putting up affordable and inclusive activities children could do at home. Board members and I pushed this out through social media. A board member and a volunteer helped me identify activities. But we were concerned about whether all children had the materials needed for exploring science and the humanities in their homes.

We called an emergency board meeting to discuss how we could get enriching materials into homes. The result was a wonderful collaboration with Alakazam Toys, Shenanigans' Toys, and area Food Banks, most frequently Buck Mountain Episcopal Church and New Beginnings Christian Community. The Free Book Bus contributed books for one of our distributions. The support of our donors was fantastic. By the end of September, we had distributed approximately 600 items, which include art supplies, science materials, puzzles, and other items that encourage constructive and creative play. The work has continued and next year in the 2021 annual report, you will read about holiday giving, and the contribution of a single donor's desire to keep the holidays special. Spoiler alert, this story has a happy ending, but you'll have to wait a whole year to hear it.



I had my first experience teaching online, offering our [popNpoems](#) program through adaptive recreation with the indispensable support of a longtime volunteer. The session we taught is available through our [blog](#). We've also posted a listing of [on-line and social distancing afterschool activities](#) in and around our community.

(Because we don't single people out, look for the names of these fabulous supporters on page 2).

Looking Ahead

We completed our strategic plan by the end of the fiscal year, however we view this as a living document and will continue to reach out to partners and supporters to adapt and improve the plan. Our strategic goals all emphasize our partnerships within the community. These [goals](#) are available on the "About" page of our website.

It goes without saying that looking ahead into the coming year requires flexibility. In-person workshops and trainings have not been scheduled, nor have in-person fundraisers. We do anticipate one or two fundraising activities that will be promoted online and hope to get back to Bingo and Fridays After Five in the coming year.

We will continue our new pandemic activities as long as the pandemic significantly curtails children's access to in person enrichment programming. At the same time, we are determined to advance our goals, with an emphasis this year on training. We will begin work on developing online resource for trainings on inclusion and we will explore opportunities for a community training on managing extreme behaviors in out-of-school settings. Already a vital

topic, we anticipate this will be even more crucial as programs reopen.

~ Mary Anna Dunn, Director

How Can I Help?

It costs you nothing, *nothing*, to support the good work of The Enrichment Alliance while you shop if you sign up for one or more of these programs. And why *wouldn't* you? It's such a simple way to help us get corporate support:

Kroger Shoppers: You can link your Kroger Plus card to the community rewards program and designate us as your charity. Our number is YK124. Kroger recently updated and assigned us a new number, so even if you have already signed up, you will need to enter this new number. Sign-up at <https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards/>.

On-line Shoppers: We are enrolled in Good Shop (<http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>) and Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com/ch/20-1179901 or go to www.smile.amazon.com and search for The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia.)

Support us directly through the [Donate Now](#) button, here or on our website, or send checks to The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia, PO Box 1423 Charlottesville, Virginia 22902. **Anonymous donations on Donate Now are hidden from us, so contact us if you are an anonymous donor and would like a note from us.**

Please remember to check with your employer about match programs. You may be able to double your donation, and it is also possible you can have your employer make pre-tax donations for you.

The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia is a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt organization. A copy of our financial records is available through the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs.

Prizes Needed for Dabbing for a Cause: We are always looking for attractive prizes for our annual bingo fundraiser. Ideas include gift cards to area restaurants and services, gift baskets, food and beverage, and toys and art supplies for young participants. Please contact us if you have items to donate. Due to COVID, this fundraiser is not currently scheduled, but we welcome you donations as we await better days.

Interested in volunteering? Well, we're interested in having you. Download our [volunteer interest survey](#) and return it staff@enrichmentalliance.org.

Mission

The Enrichment Alliance of Virginia is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing ideas, people, and resources together to enrich the out-of-school time of critically under-served children and youth.

Vision

All children, regardless of income, location, language barriers, or differing abilities will be able to be included in meaningful, enriching activities during their out-of-school hours.

www.enrichmentalliance.org

We produce print and electronic versions of this report. Did we get it wrong for you? Contact us and let us know how you'd like to receive your annual report in the future.



Left to right: inclusion training, delivery of materials, sharing on-line enrichment

Thank you so much for all that you do for those in our community who are struggling with this pandemic.... You have been a blessing for our children and their families.
-- Pastor Liz Emery, New Beginnings Christian Community Center

opportunities.