

2019 Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Mission Allocations

Baptist General Association of Virginia

Total Goal: \$1,167,500.00

Submitted to the BGAV Virginia Baptist Executive Board on
March 12, 2019

1. ***New Church Investment Grants (Barnabas Grants)***..... \$300,000

Barnabas Grants are designed to help provide much needed funds for start-up expenses for new church starts in Virginia and beyond. With these funds, new church starts can cover costs associated with renting or purchasing meeting facilities, audio-visual equipment, musical instruments, sound systems, marketing and advertising, and various other expenses.

Barnabas Grants serve a vital role in fueling our church multiplication movement for the BGAV.

2. ***Impact! Mission Camps*** \$40,000

Impact Mission Camps is our hands-on mission camps for students. Our ‘classic’ mission camp gives students the chance to share Christ’s love through home repair and renovation. These opportunities engage students with one of the best educational tools that we can provide – service. It is amazing to see the lives of those receiving as well as those who give being changed for the cause of Christ. We have expanding efforts in communities to go beyond the one-week experience to true long-term community engagement and partnership. Funds will be essential in helping us make this long-term investment in the communities where Impact serves, including a new partnership with Disaster Response to manage and expand the rebuild portion for future disasters. The funds are also used to purchase appropriate project supplies and materials, provide resources for the orientation of leadership, the training of students, and the spiritual equipping of teenagers. They also serve to sponsor local students and churches to engage in the program in their own hometown. The goal is to equip them beyond just their week of service so they return home ready to engage in a lifestyle of mission.

3. ***Missions in Southwest Virginia***..... \$25,000

Virginia Baptists have an opportunity to meet many needs in the Appalachian regions related to development, employment and evangelism. One way of helping is through the support of the Bland Center, which excels in addressing issues such as health, education and poverty. Another is the Southwest Virginia Partnership working in cooperation with the district associations of the region to meet needs related to proper housing, food and

clothing distribution, and overall community efforts. Other opportunities arise regularly that allow us to assist churches in their efforts to reach people for Christ.

4. **Disaster Response Ministry**..... \$40,000

In 2018, Virginia Baptist Disaster Response empowered 545 volunteers who served 29,522 hours after 9 disasters in communities across the US, providing high quality services to meet human needs in feeding, clean up, recovery, and Crisis Care. Our chaplains met with 1,490 individuals affected by these disasters and will have a more significant focus in 2019 through several new partners. Your support of disaster response through the Alma Hunt Missions Offering helps volunteers respond strategically and increase our capabilities to respond after disaster. A robust fleet and advances in technology help our volunteers work more efficiently to serve more people which is evidenced by the 54,814 individuals served after disasters in 2018.

5. **Kingdom Advance Venturers** \$30,000

The BGAV Venturers Program provides opportunities for long-term mission service. Venturers are individuals at least eighteen years of age who support the ministries of BGAV partners around the world for one month to two years. BGAV partners request Venturers for ongoing ministries as well as for specific needs. Venturers service is a hands-on platform for leadership development and spiritual growth, and the long-term volunteers provide effective service for our ministry partners. Help our partners receive the assistance they seek in advancing the Redeemers Kingdom in that part of the world!

6. **Virginia Baptist Historical Society** \$18,750

Alma Hunt funds help the Virginia Baptist Historical Society assist churches by

- preserving valuable records through climate-controlled storage
- providing microfilming of Baptist history materials
- offering local church historians help in researching
- writing Virginia Baptist church histories and planning anniversary celebrations
- providing educational materials sent to all churches for Virginia Baptist Heritage week
- maintaining a heritage teaching gallery open to individuals and church groups

7. **Church and Community Missions**..... \$22,500

Church and Community Ministries are found all across the Commonwealth and serve a variety of people groups. These ministries are on the 'front lines' of connecting our churches to meaningful relationships with communities and for opportunities to serve. Examples include migrant work on the Eastern Shore, refugee ministries in Richmond, services to the homeless in Stafford and other church-based ministries with people who

have been pushed to the margins of society. Churches across the Commonwealth are seeking new ways to reach out to people that have been unseen, unheard, and forgotten for far too long. These churches are discovering that there are people in their surrounding community who have needs and are being pushed aside and hidden. The homeless, unemployed, addicts and others need Virginia Baptist churches to assist them in pulling themselves up from the low places where they find themselves. These funds will assist partners with existing ministries as well as in starting new ministries that reach those hurting in our communities.

8. **GracelInside** \$20,000

With a mission field of more than 30,000 men and women, GracelInside’s mission to “save lives from the inside out” requires placing over 30 amazing chaplains in Virginia's major prison facilities. Unique in the United States as a Christian organization, GracelInside is privately funded and has appreciated the support of the Virginia Baptists from its beginning in 1920. With its first meeting held in the downtown Richmond Baptist building to its current home in the BGAV building, your enduring commitment to Jesus' mission behind bars helps incarcerated men and women. Because of you, they can find that essential connection to Jesus Christ and His redemptive love through worship services, baptisms, Bible studies, grief groups, recovery programs and pastoral care. You are building the Kingdom and making disciples.

9. **More Than Nets – Ghana** \$35,250

Virginia Baptists have been in a partnership with the Global Mission Center/Northeastern Mission Field through the Ghana Baptist Convention for the past six years. This partnership has a main focus of preventing the spread of malaria by providing 100,000 chemically treated mosquito nets to the families living in the Yendi region. One of the key avenues to distribute these nets and educate regarding malaria is through the planting of churches in all the villages. To date, more than 150 volunteers have assisted local church planters in distributing 86,000 nets and planting over 435 churches throughout the region. More than 25,000 people have come to know Christ and are involved in their village church. This is truly making a difference in the lives of people across the region and these funds will provide that final emphasis necessary to reach our goal.

10. **International Ministries in Virginia** \$22,000

The population of Virginia continues to grow in its diversity and ethnicity with an estimated population over 8.5 million in the Commonwealth. This great diversity creates excellent opportunity for Virginia Baptists to be a strong presence among the global people groups within our state. There are many needs associated with this diversity as people immigrate to our state and as international churches become established and begin to reach out to

their own communities. Other ministries, churches and partners are being created to effectively reach our growing population with the Gospel message.

11. *Source of Light Center and World Vision – Haiti*..... \$15,000

When the 2010 earthquake devastated Haiti, Virginia Baptists generously helped the Haiti Baptist Convention establish the Source of Light Center. This children’s home and neighborhood school has a vision: “Transform Delmas 19 with hope, for the glory of God!” Your support helps provide a home for children who would otherwise live on the street. In a country with little capacity for providing infrastructure, you can help the Source of Light school train up a new generation of Haitians who want to rebuild their society in a way that honors Christ.

12. *Refugees and Internally Displace Persons – Europe* \$25,000

68.5 million people around the world have been forced from their homes. Among them are nearly 25.5 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18. In Lebanon every fourth person is a refugee, and our Baptist partners are caring for hungry families and children who cannot go to school. Croatia Baptist Aid provides supplies and health care to refugees in overfilled camps and informal campsites under bridges. In Austria, projekt:gemeinde helps refugees to seek asylum, learn German, and participate in their loving community. Help our friends in the European Baptist Federation support ministries among displaced persons!

13. *Chaplaincy Endorsement and Training*..... \$30,000

The BGAV, in partnership with the Baptist General Convention of Texas, relates to over 900 endorsed chaplains. The chaplains are military, medical, correctional, corporate, clinical, and institutional. These fields require endorsement by a religious body to serve. The funds support the endorsement process, offer annual training, and enables the BGAV to offer personal support and encouragement as our chaplains serve in their ministries.

14. *Associational Mission Support*..... \$40,000

These dollars provide more adequate funding for associations and enable them to accomplish mission projects that are otherwise underfunded. This reinforces a partnership in missions as the state and associations advance the Redeemer’s Kingdom together.

15. *Piankatank Camp Scholarships*..... \$4,000

The Camp Piankatank summer camp program exists to minister to children and youth through the use of organized Bible study as well as impromptu outdoor experiences. Our mission statement is “Developing dynamic disciples for Christ through relationships and

adventure.” The campers are taught about missions, and how they can be a light to the community around them.

Since we believe in the importance of this experience for children and youth, we provide scholarship funds to ensure all children/youth can share in this experience. Last year we gave \$4,170 in scholarships, which helped fund 21 campers either partial or whole. Every year numerous campers come to faith in Jesus Christ while at camp. Many of those campers were receivers of a scholarship.

16. Ministers’ Unemployment \$5,000

Ministers in crisis are growing. Each year, there are many more requests for assistance than the committee can fulfill. The objective of this ministry is to provide three months of financial help with mortgage or rent and insurance for ministers in crisis.

17. Deaf Ministry \$5,000

These funds provide leaders of our deaf community among Virginia Baptists with quality training. Each year, these training sessions serve as an opportunity to build stronger affinity networks which are critical in helping our deaf community face their unique challenges. These funds are also used to increase the number of qualified interpreters among our Virginia Baptist church

18. Developmental Disabilities Ministries \$20,000

The Developmental Disabilities Ministry serves individuals with intellectual disabilities across the Commonwealth.

DDM offers care that will help strengthen the family’s caregiving role, and when needed, assist in planning for suitable long-term care for disabled family members. When appropriate, DDM offers long-term residential care for adults with intellectual disabilities that encourages continued growth toward individual maximum potential within a Christian, community-integrated, home-like environment.

DDM provides care for over 100 adults with intellectual disabilities. This ministry has steadily grown across the Commonwealth in the past 24 years, and it now includes 19 homes.

Total \$697,500