

## Volunteerism at LCRC Prepares These Special Students for the Future

For the past several years, LCRC has had the pleasure of working with Louisa County Public School's Employment for Education (EFE) program. Each week, EFE students spend a day in the warehouse packing groceries for client pickup, sorting food donations, cleaning, and any other job that comes their way.

In the EFE program, students with special needs develop work skills through hands-on learning in a workplace environment, and LCRC is proud to provide this setting. "It is such a blessing to have the [EFE] students come in," said Phil Perkins, Warehouse and Facilities Manager. "We're so thankful for the work they do, and are glad they can learn something along the way."

According to Stacy Dibble, EFE teacher (pictured below), working at LCRC allows students to build not only job skills, but important independent living skills. The juniors, seniors, and post graduate students who spend their Wednesdays at LCRC are strengthening their ability to follow directions, learn routines, and understand expectations.

"One of the best parts of this experience is that they have a boss here—who isn't their teacher. Learning to have that type of professional relationship is an

essential skill, and very different from the teacher-student connection," said Stacy. "At LCRC, our students are also getting experience in real problem-solving. Building confidence in their ability to do that is priceless."

EFE's goal is to transition students into employment and independent living after graduation. Students in EFE are

able to continue receiving public school services until the end of the school year in which they turn 22. Once students complete their course volunteering with LCRC, Stacy's goal for post graduates is to move to paid positions where she is able to provide more job coaching services.

This is Stacy's first year heading the EFE program, but she is no stranger to building workplace skills for students

with special needs. At her former post at Moss Nuckols Elementary School, she opened the Dibblet Diner, where students took order requests from staff members each week and worked together to make and deliver meals. Much of the experience she carried over from Dibblet's Diner has influenced her curriculum with EFE, even Dibblet Dollars, which EFE students earn each week from their work at LCRC.

"Our kids get to pick out their favorite ice cream from LCRC each week and store it in our classroom. They use their 'salary' to buy ice cream, and they love having a sweet treat. They don't even notice that they are practicing counting and learning money management skills," Stacy said.

Despite the growth that all of the EFE students undergo, not all students will be able to be

traditionally employed after graduation. "My dream would be to open a Kindness Café where EFE graduates—who would otherwise have to vie for one of the limited spots in adult services day programs—could spend their days doing meaningful work. It is so important for them to continue to have socialization with their peers and practice the life skills that they have

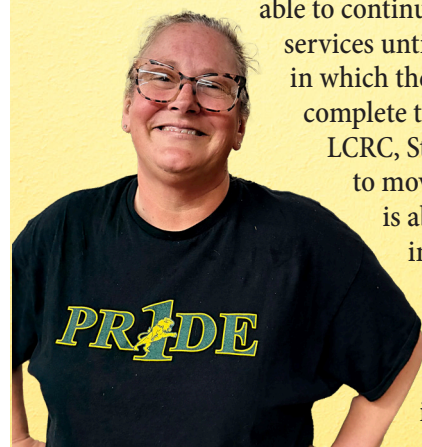
built through EFE," she said. "I would love to have a building like the new CTE [Career and Technical Education] building, or a space in town with a coffee shop and café, where community members could come in, but with space to have rooms for continuing basic life skills education. Adults who have graduated from our program could come back to work while we train students and graduates to go into the workforce."

We here at LCRC think Stacy's Kindness Café is a fabulous idea, and are especially fortunate to have some EFE graduates who come back to volunteer weekly after completing the program. It's a win-win partnership for our organization and our community!



*"My dream would be to open a Kindness Café where EFE graduates could spend their days doing meaningful work."*

— Stacy Dibble



Scan the QR code to support our efforts in providing life-sustaining services to our Louisa County neighbors, or email us at [louisaresource@gmail.com](mailto:louisaresource@gmail.com)!



**LOUISA COUNTY RESOURCE COUNCIL**

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**LCRC was honored to be the recipient of these 2025 Best of Louisa Awards!**



**Best Nonprofit Organization**

**Best Clothing Store:  
LCRC Community Closet**

# Gratitude Report

Spring 2026



FROM LCRC



Have you heard?  
See Inside!

## A Fond Farewell from Lloyd Runnett

Over the past few years, "Lloyd's Letter" on the front of our newsletters has been a tradition, giving our supporters an overview of what's happening at LCRC and a forecast for the months ahead. Though Lloyd officially retired in February, it would be remiss to not include one last note from him to all who have supported LCRC, and him personally, during his tenure...

### Dear Friends,

It has been my honor to serve this community and work with this wonderful staff, our amazing volunteers, and our dedicated supporters. As I have said time and time again, we've built something truly special at LCRC. The organization currently has the strongest team it's ever had. I'm so grateful that I can confidently transition into my next chapter and enjoy retirement, knowing that this incredible team will continue to make sure our neighbors are well taken care of.

It is my pleasure to turn things over to LCRC's new executive director, Liz Goodwin. I've known Liz her whole life. As a Louisa native, she understands the needs of the entire community. Liz was raised here, has worked in this community, and she is going to do an exceptional job leading LCRC into the future and building upon its legacy.

This last letter is not a goodbye, but a "see you later!" LCRC will ALWAYS have my support—and you will still see me driving one of the refrigerated trucks from time to time. From myself and my wife Lynne, who has devotedly been at my side through all the challenges and joys at LCRC, our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make my time here so fulfilling and fruitful.

Officially signing off,

*Lloyd*



## "Meet Our Team" ~ Special Edition!

### A Warm Welcome to Liz Goodwin

Our Board of Directors sought a community-minded, mission-driven leader to take the helm at LCRC, and by all accounts, they hit the jackpot with Liz Goodwin. Liz began her tenure with our organization in March, and with her homegrown Louisa loyalty and passion for serving others, she has already made the role her own.

"The opportunity to humbly serve the community that raised me is a profound honor," said Liz. "The Louisa County Resource Council is a lifeline for so many of our neighbors, and I am eager to build on its incredible foundation.

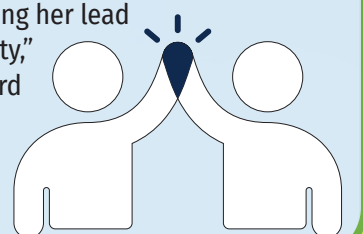


My goal is to ensure that all residents—from our children in the backpack program to our seniors—receive the care, dignity, and essential resources they deserve.

"And to begin my time at LCRC with the exceptional team Lloyd put together and led so well...that's a gift most incoming leaders can only dream of," she said.

A member of Gilboa Christian Church who can be found navigating the "beautiful chaos" of multi-generational family life, Liz is deeply involved in the Louisa community. She joins us with degrees from Radford University and George Washington University, and has extensive experience in program facilitation and communication. Previously, she served Louisa County Public Schools, the Blue Ridge Virtual Governor's School, and Piedmont Virginia Community College.

"We are excited to have Liz as LCRC's new executive director and look forward to having her lead us in our service to the community," said Elizabeth Franklin, LCRC board member. *All of us at LCRC wholeheartedly echo that sentiment. Welcome, Liz!*



# The Heart of What We Do

“Cathy,

I have been here thanking God for all that you have done for me and can't come up with the proper way to thank you and show you my appreciation. I have been in the darkest time that I can remember and you have so gracefully helped pull me out of it for a while. It shows me that there are still wonderful, caring people are out there, and I feel totally blessed for all that you have done to help me. In some small way I have to find the right words to say how much I appreciate everything and want to find a way to show my appreciation. You have been my guardian angel throughout all of this.

May God Bless you,  
"J"



In April, our office manager Cathy Portner was contacted by “J,” in desperate need of food. His wife has been suffering with early-stage Alzheimer’s, and he is her only caretaker. When J ended up hospitalized himself, his return home was difficult, to say the least. He was recovering, moving slow, all while trying to care for his wife. They were truly struggling.

J’s wife had always done the cooking, and he didn’t know where to begin. He was unable to leave her to go to the grocery store or pick-up a grocery order. He was in need of something ready-made that would allow him to feed his wife and not take too much time away from her care.

J. called LCRC on a Thursday, when there are extended hours for client pick-ups. After working late, Cathy pulled together some food and delivered it to the couple’s home. They were so grateful, not only for the food, but for the fellowship.

The next morning, on her way to see her grandchildren in NC, this couple was still on Cathy’s mind. She went out of her way, on her day off, to stop by the store and drop off breakfast sandwiches and some prepared meals that would be easy for them to heat and eat. Since then, Cathy has helped them sign up for a Meals on Wheels-type of delivery program and explore their options for in-home care assistance.

*This story, and Cathy’s response, exemplify the heart and soul of LCRC...and our supporters!*



## This summer,

LCRC is again partnering with Sentara Martha Jefferson to host the No-Cost Farm Stand. Sentara will set up on-site at LCRC in July, August, and September with fresh fruit, vegetables, and protein.

This collaboration was an instrumental outreach tool for LCRC in 2025, allowing us to meet several of our Louisa neighbors in need who were not already receiving services from our programs. We were able to enroll these new friends and get them the assistance they need beyond the summer months that the farm stand is available.

We look forward to making new connections and reaching more of our neighbors this summer! Follow Louisa County Resource Council on Facebook for Sentara’s No-Cost Farm Stand dates!



National Junior Honor Society students from Louisa County Middle School recently bagged food, and compressed cardboard to be recycled, as part of their NJHS service project. We appreciate organizations like the National Honor Society for creating stakeholders in communities across the country!



# The Fridge was Funded!

Last spring’s annual fundraising campaign raised the funds needed to add much-needed space for cold storage

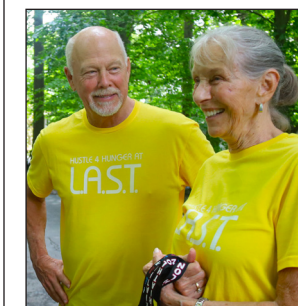


## This Year’s Campaign is NOW!



It’s Spring, which means LCRC is raising funds that ensure our programs will continue providing the food and essential services our neighbors depend on. Last year, we saw an 11% increase in just our Community Cupboard program alone. Your support guarantees our organization the ability to continue to meet the growing, and ever-changing, needs of our community.

Thanks to a group of our faithful supporters, donations up to \$50,000 will be matched again this year! Double your impact by making a donation during this campaign! All gifts—whether they come through mail or online—from now until June 30 will be automatically matched!



As part of our annual campaign, the Lake Anna Sprint Triathlon will be generously hosted once again by the family of Board Chair Earl Mielke. *Thank you again to the Mielkes and Sara and Scott Harbert for organizing!*



*Pictured: Earl and Millie Mielke, and Sara Mielke Harbert (with megaphone)*

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

We are deeply honored by the gifts received in memory of our supporters, whose legacies continue through our work.

### In Loving Memory of

- Judge John Cullen
- Charles Dempsey
- Janet Lundberg
- Pam Martin
- Tom Rayburn
- Mike Smith

To make this type of meaningful gift, include “In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_” in the memo/note section of your check or online donation.

*Your generous support allows us to provide an annual average of...*

- ~ 1,524,000 meals
- ~ 2 dozen emergency auto repairs
- ~ Emergency dental treatment for 50 clients
- ~ Food and clothing to 75 families experiencing homelessness

*Thank you so much for caring for our community!*