

Dear Friends of LCEF,

It is difficult for me to believe another year has rolled by us, but at LCEF we are ready for a new beginning, facing the joys and the challenges that present themselves. We have seen some changes in the county this year, as growth continues. For our clients, they are still facing challenges related to the economy, lingering Covid cases and lack of affordable housing. I recently saw a quote from Muhammad Ali, "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." Our LCEF board and volunteers believe in that service. We are thankful to be involved with Louisa Community Emergency Fund (LCEF) because we can and we do provide a service to others.

The mission of the LCEF *TLC FUND* is to assist Louisa County Residents with the basic needs of daily living during a crisis situation, while providing education and referral services that will help them become more self-sufficient. We provide financial assistance to keep local families in their homes, warm and safe. We strive to provide them with tools to help them have a brighter future. LCEF is the only organization in Louisa County that was specifically created to help with housing payments during a family crisis.



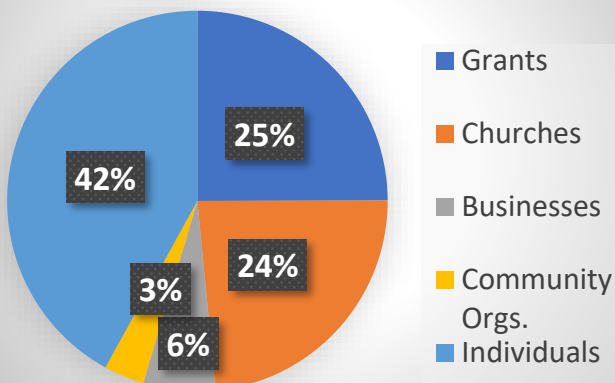
LCEF's all-volunteer board will continue to raise funds to assist our neighbors, and we will offer training and referrals when needed. Thanks to you, generous and caring neighbors, churches, businesses, and grant providers, we will continue to touch lives in crisis. YOU make it possible with your support and donations.

*Lin Hagle*

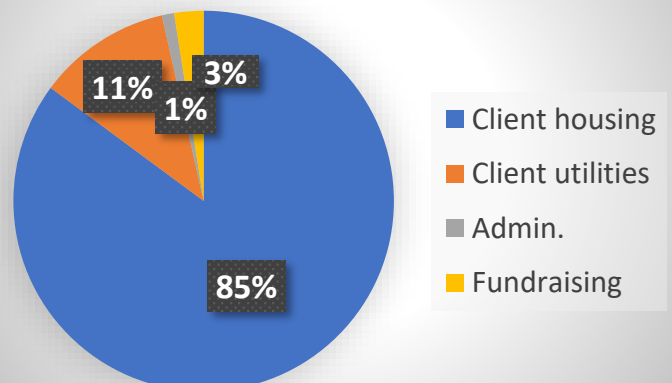
Chairperson, LCEF

*In 2023, LCEF provided nearly \$54,000 in financial assistance to 120 families, including 27 seniors, 141 adults (under age 60) and 137 children. Included in these number were 3 veterans and 12 disabled individuals. LCEF was able to meet the challenging demand for assistance, thanks to YOU, our generous supporters!*

## 2023 Income Sources



## 2023 Expenses





## The Value of Partnerships



LCEF, like most non-profits, can not fully succeed without partnerships. We continue to rely on MACAA and Goshen Baptist Association/RuraLove to handle intake with our clients. The Louisa office of VA Cooperative Extension continues to provide one-on-one training with our clients who might benefit from some budgeting education. Sometimes a little extra knowledge can make a difference for their future. We continue referring clients who need other services, like food or social services, to local organizations who offer these things.



In 2023, we started a new partnership with the VFW Post 8947 in Mineral. They care about our veterans, like LCEF does, and offered to help share info about our services. They also make donations to LCEF when we directly support a vet. Thanks to VFW Post 8947 for caring and supporting our mission and theirs.

## Louisa Affordable Housing & Homeless Coalition



LCEF noticed a significant increase in housing requests from homeless people in our area last year. After discussing this with some other Louisa agencies, Chairperson Lin Kogle decided to present this issue to the Louisa County Interagency Council. Many agreed homelessness seemed to be on the increase across the country, state, and in our county.

As a result, a new coalition comprised of government, non-profit, faith-based and other community leaders was formed. The Coalition conducted the first ever Louisa Point-in-Time study on January 24, 2024 in an attempt to quantify the magnitude of homelessness in Louisa County. Using this data, a Needs Assessment and Recommendations will be developed to present to area stakeholders.

## Why I Support LCEF – messages from a board member & a donor

**From LCEF Board Secretary, Susan Utt:** “I have had the privilege of serving on the LCEF Board since January 2017. I was drawn to the dedicated and caring board members who were committed to meeting the needs of Louisa County

families who were in crisis. I liked the fact that the mission of LCEF was so clear - the board recognized the fact that basic needs must be met if a family is going to move forward. I am proud of how many families have been helped since the beginning of LCEF, but I know the need continues to be great. As I help to organize the Mini-Golf and Dinner at Tim’s fundraiser each year, I am inspired by the community support. Businesses step up to sponsor golf holes and to provide the venue, and friends return year after year to participate.

I am also impressed by the churches’ support of LCEF. One church sends \$50 every month to LCEF while a small congregation gives \$1,000 a year. They see the benefit to the families who are in a time of crisis. I appreciate the support of other agencies, especially Goshen Baptist Association/RuraLove and the Virginia Extension Service as they partner to help families in need. It reminds me that “it takes a village” to meet the needs of those in crisis. I am thankful to call Louisa County my home. My husband and I have been welcomed into the community, and our lives are enriched by so many people. Being a part of the Louisa Community Emergency Fund gives me purpose and the opportunity to return some of my blessings to my community.”

**Divine Nature is one of our generous donors.** Owner Duane Sergent says, “I operate a business for the purpose of donating proceeds to local entities helping those in need in the community. I have designated a substantial portion of my funds to LCEF because I believe in their mission. I especially like its partnering and coordination with local organizations to leverage resources to assist people in crisis.”

# Thank You

## **Many thanks to our 2023 supporters: clubs, families, churches, businesses**

Belmont Club of Women, Below Deck LKA, Besley Implements, Boardwalk Mini Golf, Bybee's Road Baptist, Church of the Incarnation, Classy Glass, Divine Nature, Dominion Energy, Episcopal Church - Charlottesville Region, Errol Flynn, CPA, Fifty-Third Winery, Foster Creek Baptist, Goshen Baptist Association, Huntington Community Fellowship, Lake Anna Tractor & Hardware, Lake Anna Wellness Studio, Lake Region Repair, Lloyd's Real Estate, Louisa Christian Church, Louisa Moose Lodge, Louisa Ruritans, Louisa United Methodist Church Women, Loyalty Inn, Macedonia Methodist Church, Mineral Mercantile, Mineral United Methodist Church missions and womens groups, Moo Thru, Mt. Olivet Baptist, Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church missions, mens and womens groups, Rappahannock Electric Cooperative, Rising Sun Baptist, St. James Episcopal Church women and outreach committee, Tim's at Lake Anna, Wayne's Heating & Cooling, West Louisa Methodist Churches, Windwood Coves Community Club, and Woodward Insurance.

And these families: Baggett, Bashaw, Biondi, Birk, Blake, Boivin, Boxley, Bradford, Breen, Breseman, Bricker, Broaddus, Brockel, Carr, Chapman, Cochard, Crider, Critics, Dickens, Donovan, Duren, Edwards, Feigin, Ferguson, Fletcher, Flynn, Frasketti, Gallagher, Garner, Goodwin, Greisinger, Grey, Griffith, Grill, Guseman, Hamrick, Harlow, Hoh, Holmes, Ingersole, Kane, Kauffman, Kaval, Keller, Kelly, Kirley, Klug, Kogle, Langston, Lazzuri, Lewis, Luck, Maxfield, McAllister, Mielke, Minner, Moser, Mudd, Osburn, Owen, Perkins, Pritchard, Read, Richardson, Rigdon, Rivera, Ronksley, Root, Rossen, Salisbury, Schumacher, Seaton, Sergeant, Shutt, Sims, Smith, Stokes, Thomas, Utt, Walker, Wallace, Wesley, West, Wilson, Wisniewski, Woolfolk, Worrick, and Zemke.

LCEF greatly appreciated the generous grants from the Louisa County Community Fund, the BAMA Works Fund and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative's *Power of Change*. LCEF couldn't do our work without all of you!

### **Notes from our clients:**

"Thank you so much for assisting me during this very traumatic experience of losing my husband. To top it all off I was in an automobile accident and totaled my car and the end result was losing my job. I am busy now looking for another job but you have enabled me to stay in my home."

"I am a single Mom. Both me and my child had Covid – I missed work with no sick leave. You blessed my heart by paying my rent to keep us in our home."

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

Saturday, April 27 pm  
Cornhole Fundraiser  
Lake Anna Taphouse  
*Watch for more info!*

# ANOTHER Successful Mini Golf & Dinner Fundraiser

Many thanks to Boardwalk Mini Golf and Tim's at Lake Anna for partnering with LCEF for food, fun and fundraising. Coordinator Susan Utt said, "God blessed us with another beautiful day for our event."



Watch for upcoming details for the next Mini Golf & Tim's event September 2024.



For more information or to volunteer to help with fundraising or grant writing, contact chairperson Lin Kogle 540-894-0239 or visit our website. LCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



**LCEF Board Members: Joy Dickens, Susan Utt, Joyce Osburn, Tom Ronksley, Duane Sergent, Crysti Hopkins, Eunice Baskfield, Rev. Larry Lewis, and Lola Richardson.**

**Louisa Community Emergency Fund, Inc. (LCEF)**  
*Touching Lives in Crisis*  
PO Box 295, Louisa, VA 23093  
[www.louisacommunityemergencyfund.org](http://www.louisacommunityemergencyfund.org)