# CASWELL COUNTY OUTREACH COUNTY OUTREACH MINISTRY WORKING AS A TEAM TO SERVE OTHERS'

presented the



B. R. Ashby, M.D. Award for Outstanding Community Service 2023





## **ABOUT**

The mission of the Caswell County Outreach Ministry, Inc. is to provide food, clothing, and other necessary resources to the homeless and needy in Caswell County and surrounding areas.

Since 2011, led by Paul and Alice Robinson, volunteers from across the community have worked together to provide the following to their neighbors:

- An onsite feeding ministry for children and adults (stalled by COVID but pivoted to hot meal delivery).
- A food pantry.
- Clothes closet for children and adults.
- Tutoring for children with low academics (stalled by COVID).
- One-on-one counseling for children and adults as needed.
- On-site ministries for seniors, sick, and shut-ins as requested.
- Transportation to programming as needed.
- Lunches for children when schools are closed.
- Meeting place for county resource agencies.
- Three Emergency Food Shelves at subsidized housing complexes in Yanceyville.

For more information about the County Outreach Ministry and to learn how to support their work, visit their website at www.countyoutreachministry.org.

## How Will County Outreach Use the \$60,000 Ashby Award?

## County Outreach will use the funds in two key areas – transportation and sustainability.

A portion of the funds will be used to purchase a used passenger van to provide transportation for neighbors to come to the Ministry Center for services or other locations in the county for events and resources. The ministry already has one aging van that will be reassigned for use in food deliveries and supply runs.

The rest of the funds will be used to invest in data evaluation, communications, and compliance efforts of the ministry. It is important for the organization to evaluate that resources are being used efficiently and that the services of the ministry are reaching those that need it.

### CORE PROGRAMS

#### Back to School Blast

An annual event that brings together community service agents and families in a festive atmosphere. Families receive school supplies, information, and encouragement for the school year.

#### Emergency Food Shelves

In partnership with local churches, community donations, God's Pit Crew and Second Harvest Food Bank, County Outreach Ministry operates Emergency Food Shelves at three subsidized housing complexes in Yanceyville in addition to their primary pantry site on Third Avenue. The various locations make it easy for those without transportation to access the food and other items they need. In keeping with the Ministry's holistic person-centered approach, the shelves also stock basic toiletry items and fresh produce (as available).

## Ministry of Love

The Ministry of Love is not a standalone, named program but is instead the best way to describe the daily operation of County Outreach Ministry. The Ministry meets the community where it is, with volunteers making themselves available to meet needs as they arise – whether it's a mother who needs an encouraging word, a senior who needs a ride to the doctor, a child who needs school supplies and a hug, or a family who just lost everything in a fire.

## COUNTY OUTREACH BY THE NUMBERS (2022)



2,375 hot meals served



1,200 toys provided at Christmas



1,540 food boxes packed and distributed



2,500+ articles of clothing and housewares provided



1,800 individuals served by the Back-to-School Blast



1,500 meal bags provided to children during school breaks



1,000+ items stocked in the Emergency Food Shelves



70–80 families served through the drive-thru pantry each month

We are encouraged as we encourage others. Our greatest hope is that we continue to serve and meet the needs of the citizens of Caswell County and its surrounding areas. I am thankful that I am a part of the County Outreach Ministry."

For years, the ministry operated one of the few, if not only, on-site feeding programs in Caswell. Operating out of a small kitchen and sitting area, they would stay open for hours – allowing neighbors the opportunity to eat and fellowship with one another. When COVID-19 hit, they were faced with space and safety restrictions, so they took the food to the community, serving hundreds of hot meals to people in their homes."

The County Outreach Ministry is one of the most selfless groups I have ever had the pleasure of knowing. They support other agencies and organizations in an effort to become a village. The ministry is near and dear to my heart as I have been a volunteer, a donor and a receiver of this ministry."

#### From the Volunteers



# ABOUT THE B. R. ASHBY, M.D. AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

The DRF Board of Directors established the B. R. Ashby, M. D. Award for Outstanding Community Service in recognition and appreciation of the exemplary service and selfless leadership of B.R. Ashby, M.D., a founding Board Member and first Chairman of DRF. The \$60,000 general operating grant award - which began in 2009 - honors outstanding community service in the Dan River Region by nonprofit organizations, based on their success in helping needy families and individuals overcome significant challenges.

Each year, the general public is invited to nominate regional nonprofits that demonstrate commitment to caring and generosity of spirit. The nominator cannot be a paid staff member at the organization under review. Board members, volunteers, and community members are eligible to make nominations.

Nominated organizations that meet the award criteria will be invited to submit a full application. Eligibility requirements include:

- The nominated organization must be at least five years old.
- The nominated organization must be recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as a 501 (c)(3) organization. This can include churches and religious organizations as defined by IRS Publication 1828.
- The organization must be located in the DRF service area (Danville and Pittsylvania County, VA and Caswell County, NC) and a majority of its clients and/or programs must be located in the service area.
- Grantees currently funded or having a commitment to receive funding by DRF at \$200,000 + annually are not eligible.
- Previous Ashby Award recipients are not eligible to receive the award again until after five years.

The award selection process is overseen by an Advisory Committee of four community members and a DRF Board representative.

#### PAST B. R. ASHBY, M.D. AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE WINNERS

- Caswell Parish, Inc. 2022
- Grace & Main Fellowship/Third Chance Ministries 2021
- Just Kids Child Development Center, Inc. 2020
- Danville Speech & Hearing Center 2019
- Pittsylvania County Community Action 2018
- Caswell Family Medical Center 2017
- Danville Cancer Association 2016
- God's Storehouse 2015
- Northern Pittsylvania County Food Center 2014
- Danville Life Saving Crew 2013
- God's Pit Crew 2012
- Danville Church-Based Tutorial Program 2011
- Caswell Parish, Inc. 2010

## **About DRF**

The Danville Regional Foundation (DRF) focuses on transforming the regional economy and creating a prosperous culture to benefit all Dan River Region citizens. It does so by making long-term investments to improve education, economic vitality, community wellness, financial stability and civic capacity for citizens throughout the City of Danville, Virginia; Pittsylvania County, Virginia; and Caswell County, North Carolina.

The Danville Regional Foundation (DRF) envisions thriving Dan River Region communities where all residents are encouraged and equipped to build healthy and productive lives for themselves and their families.

DRF's mission is to be a catalyst for long-term transformation through the development, promotion and support of impactful activities and programs that address the health, education, and well-being of all the Dan River Region's residents. The Foundation is one part of a large collaborative network of partners from all sectors working together as agents for innovation promising a sustained positive impact on the entire region.

Since its establishment in 2005, DRF has committed more than \$160 million through more than 500 grants.



For more information on DRF, our programs, our partners and other grant making opportunities, please visit our website at www.drfonline.org.