

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.

Since its establishment in 2005, DRF has committed more than \$116 million through more than 400 grants.

Some of these grants are large, but just as many are made from the DRF Make It Happen! (MIH!) and Make More Happen (MMH!) program, which encourages individuals to make their dreams of community change a reality. Large organizational investments paired with these smaller grants create a culture of "bright spots" where those within the community as well as those visiting and researching for possible relocation can "see the possible."



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

www.drfoonline.org.


Just Kids
LEARN. GROW. DEVELOP. EXCEL



(434) 793-2404

presented the

2020

B. R. Ashby, M.D.

Award for
Outstanding
Community Service

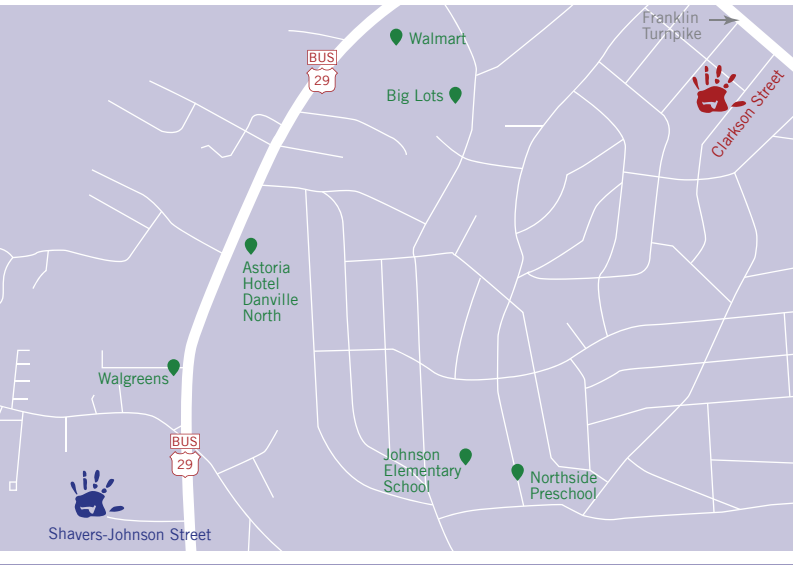


Since 1992, Just Kids Child Development Center, Inc. has worked to fulfill its mission to:

- provide a warm, nurturing environment that is conducive to learning;
- offer a support structure instilling positive reinforcement children need to develop their full potential;
- teach foundational principles that encourage learning and success, implement programming for students that develop skills in reading, science, math and technology;
- offer curriculum that is rigorous and challenging yet taught with an engaging approach; and,
- promote an environment where children can have fun with their friends.

Just Kids Locations

120 Shavers-Johnson Street
130 Clarkson Street



Just Kids holds itself to a high standard through three levels of accountability. They are:

- Internally accountable to their values and vision by continuously testing the results of their programs to make sure all children are on target developmentally.
- Externally accountable to the families they serve. At Just Kids, parents are listened to, counseled and supported, providing the entire family with an atmosphere of growth.
- Fiscally accountable to oversight agencies. Just Kids is one of only six child care facilities in the area licensed by social services of Virginia. State inspectors visit up to four times a year to assess performance against licensing standards. This state licensing review also conducts a subsidy inspection on-site once a year to review practices in regards to subsidy finances. Since Just Kids takes part in federal food programs, inspectors from the health department inspect the facility twice a year. This unbiased accountability ensures that best practices are followed and any weaknesses are addressed immediately.

WHO JUST KIDS SERVES

Just Kids service area includes Danville, Pittsylvania County, and Caswell County and families that are looking for assistance in the development and education of their children, ages five months old to 12 years of age. All children are evaluated prior to program placement to ensure that the needs of the child and the family can be met.

Unfortunately, there are some children who have significant developmental delays that Just Kids is not equipped to effectively address. In those cases, parents and guardians are referred to other facilities.

“As long as we have the space, the family is looking for quality child development and we can provide the level of care needed to meet developmental delays, your family is welcome here.”

Rhonda Tucker, CEO and Administrator

HOW WILL JUST KIDS USE THE \$50,000 ASHBY AWARD?

Just Kids plans to use the majority of the funds to purchase two to four activity buses or vans to replace their aging fleet. They currently transport approximately 75 children to and from 21 schools in the Danville/Pittsylvania County area. These are also the vehicles that transport students on field trips around the community.

The older vans would be retired from transporting children but they plan to continue to use them as long as possible to help transport staff to and from work as needed.

PROGRAM AREAS

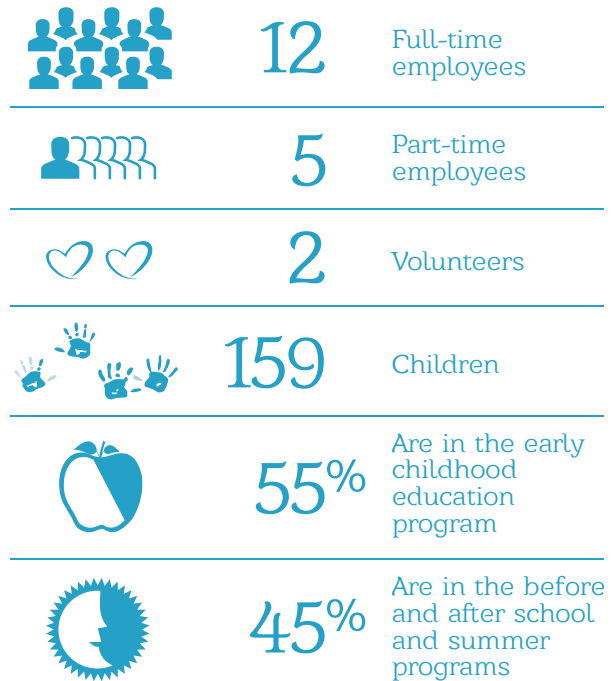
The Infant/Toddler Program provides comfort care to children five months to two years old.

The Preschool Program prepares three and four-year-old children to enter kindergarten by fostering their social skills and encouraging healthy interactions.

The Before and After School Program transports children to and from school and provides them a healthy breakfast and nutritious after-school snack while also providing homework assistance.

The Summer Program is an expansion of the before and after school program to all-day care in the summer months with project-based learning curriculum, field trips and meals.

JUST KIDS BY THE NUMBERS (2019)



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 \$50,000 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

- 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

In Their Own

WORDS

PARENT — Four years ago, my son was diagnosed with autism after struggling at a local daycare facility. Eventually they told me there was no more they could do to help him. One of my co-workers recommended Just Kids and it’s one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. Not only did they help my son get ready for kindergarten but they have supported me as well. Both of my children now attend Just Kids and I don’t know how I would manage without the support and understanding Just Kids has shown me and my family over the last few years.

PARENT — Being a parent of a child with autism, ADHD and with physical disabilities, it was a struggle to find somewhere that had experience and the know-how to handle, love and care for a child with special needs. After months of searching, I found Just Kids Child Development. My son was greeted as a “regular” child and their answer was never “no” when asked if he could participate in any activity. No child is ever left out or prevented from going on field trips – all children are provided an equal opportunity to find their place while learning healthy skills and habits. I always know that my children are being taken care of while I am working and I never have to wonder if they are okay.