

Virginia Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

2018–2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Connecting Children to Agriculture



Connecting with Educators



Professional Development

Trainings provide educators with curriculum, resources and knowledge to bring agriculture to life for their students while also supporting core curriculum.

Over 2,000 educators attended an AITC training event where they participated in hands-on lessons and activities to share agriculture's story in their classrooms.



Professional Development



Professional Development

I have been able to use so many of your resources that I gained at the workshop. It has truly helped my city kids learn about all the different agriculture in Virginia.

—AITC Workshop Participant



Chris Kniesly, Teacher of the Year



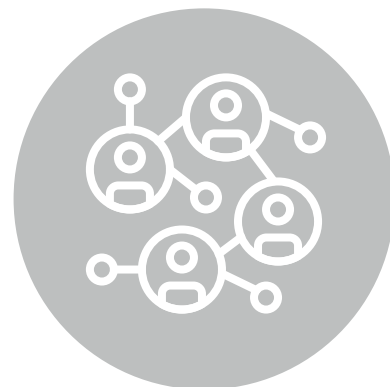
Chris Kniesly, Teacher of the Year

Teacher of the Year

Chris Kniesly, a biology teacher at Mark Twain Middle School in Fairfax, was named Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom 2019 Teacher of the Year. The award recognizes a Virginia educator for incorporating agriculture into his core curriculum.

Chris has established a school farm including chickens, aquaculture and hydroponics which incorporate life science and biology. His goal is to provide students with an environmentally conscious introduction to agriculture concept and creating real life learning experiences. The school farm impacts all students of Mark Twain Middle School especially those who are in Kniesly's biology classes.

Chris was also selected as a 2019 winner of the National Excellence in Teaching about Agriculture Award. He was recognized and honored at the 2019 National Agriculture in the Classroom conference in Little Rock, Arkansas.



Connecting with Volunteers



Agriculture Literacy Project

More than 1,500 volunteers read AITC's Book of the Year, Right This Very Minute to over 63,000 children.

The table-to-farm book about food and farming follows children as they discover what the farmer is doing Right This Very Minute to provide healthy meals for their table.

Agriculture Literacy Week volunteers included County Farm Bureau volunteers, Farm Bureau Women's committees, local Young Farmer's committees, FFA and 4H chapters, partners from the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and other state agencies, and members of other agricultural organizations and businesses. Colonial Farm Credit, Farm Credit of the Virginias and Southern States Cooperative Inc. have been major supporters as well.

The 2020 Agriculture Literacy Week Project will take place March 9-13, 2020. Visit to AgInTheClass.org for more information and to participate.



Agriculture Literacy Week

Franklin County Volunteer Named 2019 National Agriculture Advocate

Franklin County farmer Debbie Brubaker of was awarded the Agriculture Advocate Award at the National Agriculture in the Classroom conference in Little Rock, Arkansas on June 21, 2019. Debbie is a longtime volunteer for Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom *reaching over 60,000 children with the message of the importance of agriculture* over the years. She won the award for expanding her 'Dairy Day' event to encompass 20 different commodities to teach children about local agriculture and incorporating STEM activities.

"The impact in a small, rural community would be impressive in its own right, but it's Debbie's creativity in reaching children that makes her remarkable", said Tammy Maxey, senior manager of Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom. "Her off-the-farm work as a graphic designer has brought vivid displays to her volunteer projects. She has created nearly life-sized replicas showing students a cow's digestive system and a milking cow. These models have evolved over time thanks to her creativity, skill and eye for design."

Virginia Agriculture in the Classroom depends on volunteers like Debbie Brubaker to deliver

agriculture literacy outreach to schools and communities. Debbie regularly attends AITC volunteer training sessions at Virginia Farm Bureau conferences and uses lessons and volunteer tools from AgInTheClass.org. as a base for her local outreach.



Debbie Brubaker, Agriculture Advocate Award



Debbie Brubaker

Volunteers utilized
AITC resources
to connect with
107,000
children
at over
100 events.

Connecting with Children



Farm Life 360

AITC's latest resource allows you to bring an on-the-farm experience to children wherever you are. These virtual reality videos debuted at the State Fair of Virginia and have since been used in both classrooms and at outreach events. Check out the sights and sounds of the farm by visiting the Farm Life 360 channel on YouTube. You can step inside a chicken house, ride along in a tractor, or watch as dairy cows are milked all without leaving your home or school.



Farm Life 360°

For many of our students, this was their first direct contact with Virginia agriculture outside of the grocery store. All students got to share their experiences with their families by bring home seedlings they had planted, and they donated seedlings to the school as well, which are now growing in our garden and will be shared with a local food pantry. The children were absolutely fascinated to learn that there is just SO MUCH agriculture in the area.

—AITC Grant Recipient

School Grant Program

Agriculture in the Classroom funded **83 school grant projects impacting 45,500 children**. Grants were awarded in the categories of School Gardens, Agriculture Experiences, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).



School Grant Program



School Grant Program



School Grant Program

Connecting through Special Events



Record Breaking Golf Tournament

The 23rd Annual Golf Tournament was held on May 17 at The Dominion Club in Glen Allen. A record number of teams participated, along with many sponsors. The tournament was a huge success **netting over \$38,000 to support education and outreach.** We are excited to announce that we will be returning to The Dominion Club for the 2020 tournament on May 18. Contact us for information on teams and sponsorship.



Golf Tournament



Golf Tournament

For the latest news on our Special Events follows us on Facebook @agintheclasse or the website at agintheclasse.org.

Drive 4UR Community Raised \$6,000

Held at the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Annual Convention on November 26, Ford sponsored a Drive 4UR Community event. Each test drive of a Ford vehicle earned Agriculture in the Classroom a \$20 donation. With the support of the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation Women's Committee, there were **over 325 test drives resulting in a \$6,000 donation from Ford.**



Drive 4UR Community

3rd Annual "Clays Across the Commonwealth"

The 3rd annual Clay Across the Commonwealth events were held in October at the Flying Rabbit Sporting Clays, Mt. Crawford and Kettlefoot Rod & Gun Club in Bristol. Sportsmen participating in the two events **raised more than \$21,000.**



Clays Across the Commonwealth

Donors



Tributes

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VFB Sales Department
VFB State Women's
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Virginia Poultry Federation
Whitley's Peanut Factory
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Steward \$50,000+



Shepherd \$25,000–\$49,999

Seeking Sponsors

Harvester \$10,000–\$24,999



**JAMES RIVER
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Nutrien Ag Solutions
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Powhatan FBWC
Prince William/ Fairfax FBWC
Ricoh USA
Rockbridge FBWC
Rockingham Cooperative
Rockingham Petroleum
Cooperative
Shenandoah CFB
Southern States
Cooperative, Inc.
Tazewell FBWC
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Foundation
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Virginia Cattlemen's
Association
Virginia Dept. of Agriculture &
Consumer Services

Virginia Egg Council
VFB Employee Participation
Committee
VFB Membership & Field
Services Department
VFB State Women's
Committee
Virginia Peanut Growers
Association, Inc.
Virginia Pork Council
Virginia Poultry Federation
Virginia Soybean Association
Washington FBWC
Westmoreland FBWC

Planter \$500–\$999

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Brunswick FBWC
Brunswick/Mecklenburg CFBs —
Kelly Devin
Buckingham FBWC
Cargill

KEY

CFB= County Farm Bureau
FBWC= Farm Bureau Women's Committee
SWCD= Soil and Water Conservation District
VFB= Virginia Farm Bureau

Carroll CFB
 CCA Financial, LLC
 CDW
 Charlott FBWC
 Christopher & Jennie B. Simms
 Colonial Agricultural Educational Foundation, Inc.
 Cooperative Milk Producers Association
 Core Consulting
 Country Boy Seed, Inc.
 Custom Air, Inc.
 Experient Health
 Floyd CFB
 Gentry Locke
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 Goochland CFB
 Grayson FBWC
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 Irene Field
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 Louisa FBWC
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 Russell CFB
 Russell FBWC
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 Scott FBWC
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 Smyth CFB
 Smyth FBWC
 Somerset Seed & Sod, Inc.
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 SyCom Technologies
 The Supply Room
 VFB Agriculture, Development & Innovation Dept.
 Virginia Crop Production Association, Inc.
 Virginia Grain Producers Association
 Virginia Tobacco Board
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 Williams Mullen Clark & Dobbins
 Wise-Dickenson CFB
 Wise-Dickenson CFBWC
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 Appomattox CFB
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 Bedford FBWC
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 Beverage Tractor
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 Bill Henley
 Billy Wilkinson
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 Brian Keith Furrow
 Brian Turman
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 Burley & Cynthia Mullins
 C. Wayne & Olivia B.
 “Lib” Ashworth
 Caleb Burnette
 Campbell CFB
 Cargill, Inc.
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 Caroline CFB
 Caroline FBWC
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 Charles Hazel
 Charles P. & Joan Russell Shorter
 Chowan Basin Soil & Water Conservation District
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 Collie Equipment Co.
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 Emily Fisher
 Edmondson
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 Essex FBWC

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 Fluvanna FBWC
 Franklin FBWC
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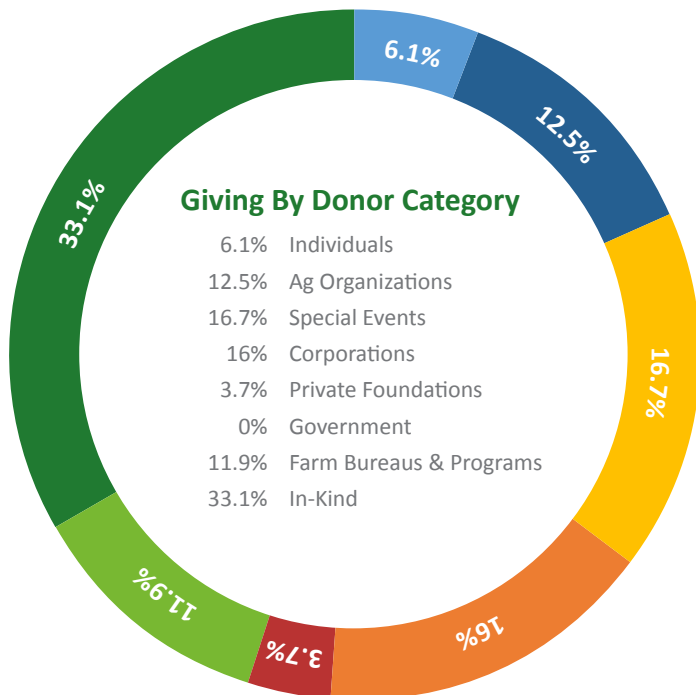
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Financials



Direct Revenue

\$373,617

Contributions & Grants	\$351,593
Gross Profit from Sales	\$2,739
Investment Income	\$19,285

Direct Expenses

\$338,644

Professional Educator Programs & Resources	\$191,837
Classroom Grants	\$47,633
Student & Community Initiatives	\$43,692
Direct Development	\$55,482

**Excluding all in-kind*

In-Kind

\$181,352

Virginia Farm Bureau Federation	\$174,854
Other In-Kind gifts	\$6,498

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President
President, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation

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Young Farmers Chair

*Board members may serve two consecutive terms,
with each term consisting of three years.*

**denotes first term **denotes second term*

Contact Us

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AgInTheClass.org

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