“Neglected in today’s headlines, blogs, and talk radio is a silent, shameful crisis that inflicts suffering and costs the nation money, legitimacy, and decency. Our justice system has become inaccessible to millions of poor people and so every day, we violate the “equal justice under law” motto engraved on the front of the grand United States Supreme Court. Americans who cannot afford legal help routinely forfeit basic rights as a result. Because the law does not enforce itself, veterans seeking benefits the nation has guaranteed, victims of domestic violence needing legal protection, and tenants and homeowners pursuing their rights since the financial disaster all need advisors and guides through the law and its agencies and courts.” These words by Harvard Law School dean Martha Minow were published just a few weeks ago.

Virginia Legal Aid Society exists to meet this need in south-central Virginia. We are in our 37th year of providing fairness in the justice system, protecting the basics of life for low-income families, and providing online and recorded telephone information so that all Virginians know their rights. This report describes many of the ways in which we do that.

We cannot, due to lack of sufficient resources, serve many who need help, so the struggle continues. Thank you, our partners and neighbors, for supporting our work and helping us to seek true “justice for all.”

Sincerely,

___

ABOUT VIRGINIA LEGAL AID SOCIETY
Virginia Legal Aid Society (VLAS) is a nonprofit law firm that provides legal information, advice and representation in civil cases to low-income individuals and families. Since 1977, VLAS has been the only institutional provider of such services in Central, Southside and Western Tidewater Virginia. VLAS attorneys and paralegals use legal skills to solve problems in housing, access to health care, income and public benefits, family issues, consumer lending and assets, and education. Our mission is to resolve serious legal problems of low-income people, promote economic and family stability, reduce poverty through effective legal assistance, and champion equal justice.
## VLAS OFFICES

### DANVILLE
Serves Danville, Martinsville, Henry, Patrick, Pittsylvania

519 Main Street
Danville, VA 24541
434-799-3550

Renee Purvis, Chief Secretary
Michael Stultz, Staff Attorney
Jeremy White, Interim Managing Attorney

### FARMVILLE
Serves Amelia, Prince Edward, Nottoway, Cumberland, Lunenburg, Charlotte, Buckingham, Mecklenburg, Brunswick

104 High Street
Farmville, VA 23901
434-392-8108

New office location at 217 East Third Street, Farmville, VA 23901 coming in February 2015

Pam DeCamp, Managing Attorney
Pam Fortune, Senior Attorney
Pat Torrence, Chief Secretary
Jessie Woodson-Johnson, Paralegal

### LYNCHBURG
Serves Lynchburg, Amherst, Appomattox, Campbell, Halifax

513 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
434-846-1326

Debby Hudgins, Pro Bono Coordinator
C. Ryan Hupp, Staff Attorney
Gloria Robinson, Chief Secretary
Jeremy White, Managing Attorney

### SUFFOLK
Serves Suffolk, Franklin, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Emporia, Sussex, Greensville

155 E. Washington Street,
Suffolk VA 23434
757-539-3441

Amy Disel Allman, Managing Attorney
Kathy Bicking, Paralegal
Rennae Sebastien, Chief Secretary
Teresa D. Westmoreland, Staff Attorney
Anna Jane Zarndt, Senior Attorney

### ADMINISTRATION
Serves entire service area

513 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
434-528-4722

Rhonda Knight, Director of Development
Kelly Morris, Accountant
David Neumeyer, Executive Director
Angie Shepard, Director of Communications
Kate Sigler, Director of Administration
Angie Smith, Administrative Manager

### LAWLINE INTAKE AND ADVICE HOTLINE
Serves entire service area

866-LeglAid (866-534-5243)

Gail Braxton, Paralegal, Farmville
Daphne Clark, Paralegal, Danville
Leslie Dodson, Supervising Attorney, Farmville
Sherri Loftis, Paralegal, Danville
Melody Martinez, Paralegal, Lynchburg
Mamie Miles, Paralegal, Farmville
Larry Nordick, Managing Attorney, Lynchburg
Anjanette Payne, Paralegal, Danville

### VLAS SERVICE AREA

Our service area includes twenty rural counties and six small cities encompassing 10,200 square miles and an eligible population, at 125% of the federal poverty level, of approximately 143,000. VLAS serves this area through a network of four service offices, one administrative office, and a toll-free intake and advice hotline, known as LawLine, serving the entire area.
In May 2014, staff attorneys in Virginia Legal Aid Society’s Danville office were asked to give a presentation on tenants’ rights to several residents from 205 Jefferson Avenue. Nik Belanger from Virginia Organizing facilitated the meeting at the request of the tenants. The living conditions at the building had been in a downward spiral for some time, and the tenants were eager to understand their rights under the law.

What began as a straightforward presentation quickly evolved into something more, as it became clear that the residents of 205 Jefferson Avenue sought representation on issues that extended far beyond the residential landlord/tenant context.

Staff Attorney Dana Tapper spearheaded the investigation into the residents’ claims, partnering with various state and federal agencies in order to do so. She quickly learned that all of the residents at 205 Jefferson Avenue were recipients of Social Security disability benefits, and the couple who owned the building also owned an organization known as Care Pay, a fee-for-service representative payee organization for SSI/SSDI beneficiaries who have been deemed unable to manage their own funds. Care Pay had been appointed as representative payee for all of the residents at 205 Jefferson Avenue. In other words, all of the tenants’ disability checks were being sent directly to their landlord, leaving them with no control over their limited money and very little recourse to assert their rights. Dana was able to work with the Social Security Administration to have a new representative payee organization appointed for her clients. VLAS also alerted federal officials to the misuse of representative payee status, and found that the landlords were protected by SSA regulations. VLAS is now working to prevent such abuse from taking place in the future.

On June 27, 2014, the City of Danville’s Inspections Division delivered a Notice of Unfit Structure to the
owners of the property. The three-page document cited the specific violations that caused the building to be declared unsafe and unfit for human occupancy. The violations included, but were not limited to, rodent and insect infestation; deteriorated/broken wood on porches; ceilings collapsed; open, spliced, unsecured electrical wires; and unsafe, unsanitary, and/or nonfunctional plumbing systems. According to the Notice, “[the] building must be either vacated and secured against public entry” or the “unsafe, unfit for human occupancy violations corrected within 10 calendar days of receipt of this notice.” When it became clear that the owners had no intention of repairing the existing structure, the residents had no choice but to vacate the premises. The severity of the cockroach infestation forced them to leave all of their belongings behind.

When the notice was posted at the building, a number of community organizations stepped in. Individuals from Virginia Legal Aid Society, STEP Inc., Grace and Main, and The Episcopal Church of The Epiphany all played an integral role in the effort

**VLAS’ intervention and partnerships in the Danville area helped the residents of 205 Jefferson Avenue avoid homelessness by obtaining safer housing options and bringing stability to their lives**

To relocate residents of 205 Jefferson Avenue, STEP Inc. provided critical financial assistance to all of the displaced tenants, partnering with Grace and Main to find them apartments and paying the utility and rental deposits for each of the affected individuals. Members of the Epiphany Episcopal Church provided residents with meals as well as donations of clothing, linens and various household items. Reverend Becky Crites delivered a powerful sermon to the congregation in which she referred to 205 Jefferson Avenue as Danville’s own “Little Calcutta,” a reference to the title of a painting at Grace and Main’s Outsider/Insider Art Show in late July. The portrait was a perfect illustration of the dilapidated building.

VLAS’ intervention and partnerships in the Danville area helped the residents of 205 Jefferson Avenue avoid homelessness by obtaining safer housing options and bringing stability to their lives. The story of 205 Jefferson Avenue illustrates some of the obstacles that Danville area residents face when struggling with mental illness. Ms. Tapper also formed a task force in conjunction with several of VLAS’ community partners aimed at addressing the general lack of support services in the area. The newly-formed **Task Force to Improve the Quality and Availability of Support Services for All Residents in Danville and Pittsylvania County** is comprised of more than forty individuals from a diverse array of organizations.
VLAS serves clients whose household incomes are below 125% of the federal poverty level, currently about $24,738 annually for a family of three, or below 200% of the federal poverty level if the households have health- or work-related expenses.

VLAS serves clients with legal problems in the following areas:

**Housing:** landlord disputes and evictions, subsidized and public housing, mortgage foreclosures, hazardous conditions

**Health Care Benefits:** Medicaid, Medicare, FAMIS, private health insurance

**Public Benefits:** Social Security Disability & SSI, Unemployment Insurance, SNAP, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

**Family:** divorce, child custody and visitation, child support, domestic violence appeals

**Consumer:** collections and repossessions, garnishments and exemptions, illegal or unfair sales practices, consumer credit violations, utilities, payday and car title lending, car warranties

**Education:** special education rights, student discipline

**Advance Directives:** simple wills and living wills, general powers of attorney, medical powers of attorney
LawLine provides screening, assessment, referrals, information and legal advice to most applicants during their first contact with VLAS. Six paralegals and two attorney supervisors provide this service from 9:00 am–3:30 pm M-Tu-Th-F every week. Callers needing extended service, such as drafting a document or filing a lawsuit, are referred to a local VLAS office. All areas.

Housing Improvement and Preservation (HIP) provides advice and representation in evictions, foreclosures, correction of hazardous conditions, and renovation or construction of affordable housing. Lynchburg and Danville offices; funded by United Way of Central Virginia and the City of Danville CDBG Program.

Strengthening Families with Children (SFC) strengthens low-income families with children by increasing and preserving financial resources, maintaining or obtaining safe and affordable housing, increasing access to healthcare and education, and increasing stability for families in transition. Lynchburg, Danville and Suffolk offices; funded by Franklin-Southampton Charities, Greater Lynchburg Community Trust, Cities of Lynchburg and Suffolk, Camp Foundations, Pruden Foundation, Suffolk Foundation, Community Action Coalition of Virginia, and Martinsville Area Community Foundation.

Crisis and Income Protection (CIP) assists families and individuals in cases that increase or preserve income, or provide crisis relief related to housing and domestic violence. All areas; funded by United Way of Danville-Pittsylvania, United Way of Henry County & Martinsville, Dominion Resources, and Wells Fargo.

Senior Citizens Legal Assistance provides advice and representation to senior citizens in social or economic need. All areas; funded by Piedmont Senior Resources, Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging, Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia, Southern Area Agency on Aging, and Lake Country Area Agency on Aging.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Program recruits volunteer accountants and creates clinics at which low-income Virginians eligible for the EITC can receive assistance in preparing their tax returns. Lynchburg only.

Private Bar Involvement (PBI) Program involves approximately 180 attorneys in providing pro bono representation to VLAS clients, most often in divorces and advance directives. All areas.

Community Legal Education provided by VLAS, involves regular presentations by attorneys and paralegals to community groups, senior nutrition sites, tenant organizations, inmates, and service clubs such as Kiwanis and Rotary chapters. All areas.

Health, Education, Advocacy, Law (HEAL) Project is an innovative medical-legal collaboration designed to ensure that families’ and individuals’ basic needs for food, safe housing, income, nutrition, family stability, and health insurance are met so that physicians can be more effective in preventing and treating health problems. The project trains health care providers to identify poverty-based barriers to maintaining a patient’s health; connects medical and legal professionals in jointly solving obstacles to improved health outcomes; and provides direct, proactive legal assistance to patients experiencing problems. Lynchburg; health partner Lynchburg Family Medicine Residency.

Medicaid Access Project (MAP) assists disabled adults to obtain Medicaid coverage. We focus on adults who have not applied for federal disability benefits or have not been denied in the last twelve months, and assist them to qualify for Medicaid benefits using a state process. Most disabled adults who obtain Medicaid or Medicare do so through the federal disability benefit process, which normally takes two to three years. Suffolk only; health partners include Sentara Obici Hospital and Western Tidewater Free Clinic. Funded by Obici Healthcare Foundation.
In 2013–14, the following attorneys provided legal services to our clients without charging a fee. We thank them for their time, effort and skill!

**Lynchburg Service Area**
- B. Patrick Agnew
- Mark Arthur
- George Bagwell
- M. Kevin Bailey
- Philip B. Baker
- Sarah W. Bell
- David B. Bice
- E. Sterling Byrd-Roberts
- Robert C. Carwile
- Gary M. Coates
- Gregory P. Cochran
- David M. Corry
- Theodore J. Craddock
- Joel Cunningham, Jr.
- Richard P. Cunningham
- Jonathan E. Davies
- Jordan B. Davies
- Peter H. Davies
- G. Edgar Dawson III
- Henry C. Devening
- Pavlina Ditom
- Grady W. Donaldson, Jr.
- Spencer C. Drake
- B. Leigh Drewry, Jr.
- Mark B. Dunevant
- J. Johnson Eller
- David D. Embrey
- Debora Cress Embrey
- Stephen R. Eubank
- Paul J. Feinman
- Ron Feinman
- Lisa C. Francisco
- Patricia M. Gibbons
- Alison Gobble
- Robert Golcheski
- Alan Gravitt
- Carol B. Gravitt
- Eric E. Harrison
- David A. Hawkins
- Ronald D. Henderson
- Leighton S. Houck
- Carlos A. Hutcherson
- Floyd Isenhour III
- Lawrence Janow
- Royston Jester IV
- Eric Johnson
- Hugh J.M. Jones III
- M. Marcy Jones
- James P. Kent, Jr.
- Scott W. Kowalski
- Thomas S. Leebrock
- Philip Manns
- Corey S. Martin
- Stephen C. Martin
- Ivette Matos-Serrano
- Steven D. McFadgen, Sr.
- Margaret B. McNamara
- James Midkiff
- Chad A. Mooney
- Brian Moore
- Frank W. Morrison
- Cary P. Moseley
- J. Randolph Nelson
- John J. O’Keefe, Jr.
- Brandon S. Osterbind
- Mark J. Peake
- Andrew P. Pearson
- Betsy H. Phillips
- William E. Phillips
- Joy Lee Price
- William E. Quillian III
- James R. Richards
- John E. Richards
- Aubrey J. Rosser, Jr.
- Lisa L. Schenkel
- Ana Schepens
- Yvonne Schewel
- Wm. Tracey Shaw
- Joseph C. Shipman
- David W. Shreve
- Kristine H. Smith
- Rayner V. Snead, Jr.
- Jennifer E. Stille
- Roger B. Stough
- Scott E. Thompson
- Curtis L. Thornhill
- Seth E. Twery
- Samuel F. Vance IV
- Peter O. Ward

**Danville Service Area**
- Susanne Martin
- Michael Nicholas
- David Pugh
- Rachael Sanford

**Farmville Service Area**
- Janet Early
- James Ghee
- Jason Krumbein
- Bruce Robinson

**Suffolk Service Area**
- Clarence Brooks
- Chris Malone
- G. Andrew Neas, Jr.
- Jeanette Ojeda
- Martin Speroni

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**Program-Wide Pro Bono Facts & Figures: 2013–14**

<table>
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<th>Category</th>
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<td>Cases Completed</td>
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On May 9, 2014, VLAS sponsored a Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminar on Basic Special Education Law and Landlord/Tenant Law. More than 30 attorneys participated in the seminar. VLAS’ Managing Attorney Jeremy White and Caskie & Frost’s Tripp Isenhour presented on Landlord/Tenant issues, and Angela Ciolfi, Legal Director of JustChildren with the Legal Aid Justice Center, and Melissa Waugh, VLAS board member, presented on Special Education Law.
VLAS would like to acknowledge the support of those who contributed to the 2013-2014 Annual Campaign for Equal Justice (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014) or designated contributions to VLAS through United Way.

LEADER ($1000+)
Corporations & Foundations
Birdsong Peanuts, Suffolk
Carrington Family Foundation, Lynchburg
C.B. Fleet Company, Inc., Lynchburg
Centra Health, Lynchburg
Edmunds & Williams, Lynchburg
James B. Feinman & Associates, Lynchburg

Individuals
Mary Barney & David Neumeyer, Lynchburg
Cal & Ruth Boyer, Farmville
Dan & Kim Carey, Lynchburg
Donna & Gary Clark, Lynchburg
Joel Cunningham, Halifax
Tom Domonoske, Harrisonburg
Mike & Beth Doucette, Lynchburg
Margaret R. Putnam, Lynchburg
In memory of Earle W. Putnam
Margaret Quillian and the William F. Quillian, Jr. Family Trust, Lynchburg
In memory of William F. Quillian, Jr.
Saranna R. Thornton, Farmville
Robin & Mina Wood, Lynchburg

CHAMPION ($500–$999)
Corporations
Gravitt & Gravitt, Halifax
Greif - Riverville Mill, Amherst
Scott Insurance, Lynchburg

Individuals
Anonymous
American National Bank & Trust Employees, Danville
William & Mary Bowman, Charlotte
Mary Driskill, Amherst
Skipper & Sandy Holt, Lynchburg
Hilary & Jason Isacson, Sacramento
David & Ellen Petty, Lynchburg
Bill & Margaret Phillips, Lynchburg
In honor of J. Randolph Nelson on the occasion of his birthday
Bruce Robinson, South Hill
Sandra Saseen-Smith & William Smith, Halifax
Whitney & Ellen Saunders, Suffolk
Helene Schewel, Lynchburg
Marc Schewel, Lynchburg
Ellery & Robin Sedgwick, Farmville
Tracey & Kathy Shaw, Lynchburg
Kevin & Janeen Smith, Lynchburg

ADVOCATE ($250–$499)
Corporations & Churches
Cox Law Group, Lynchburg
First Christian Church, Lynchburg

Individuals
Honorabele C. Ridley Bain, Lawrenceville
Teresa & Robert Brennan, Lynchburg
Harry & Lisa Cross, Suffolk
Jean & Kiah Ford, Lynchburg
David & Judy Frantz, Lynchburg
Elizabeth O’H Gillam, Appomattox
Skipper & Sandy Holt, Lynchburg
In memory of Josephine Holt
Paul Irwin, Lynchburg
Hugh Jones III, Esq., Lynchburg
Esther & Bill McGuinn, Lynchburg
In honor of J. Randolph Nelson, Esq.
Kelly & John Morris, Lynchburg
Alex & Jessica Newmark, Forest
William & Nancy Schneider, Lynchburg
Roger & Katie Vaden, Lynchburg
Beth Wortman, Forest

SUPPORTER ($100–$249)
Individuals
Anonymous
Robert & Fran Alwood, Suffolk
In honor of Whitney Saunders
William & Ilga Baker, Lynchburg
Bernard & Heidi Baldwin, Lynchburg
William & Taylor Barlow, Smithfield
Larry Bassett, Lynchburg
Alex & Carolyn Bell, Lynchburg
Reginald & Karen Berry, Lynchburg
Don Blessing, Farmville
Patricia Bower, Lynchburg
Robert & Nancy Brevbaker, Franklin
Barbara Campbell, Forest
Carter & Dwyer, PC, Boykins
Fred & Mary Esther Cawthorne, Henrico
In memory of William F. Quillian, Jr.
Lamar & Geri Cecil, Lynchburg
In memory of William F. Quillian, Jr.
Bob & Elaine Clarke, Lynchburg

“It gave us hope that there is someone who is willing to fight for justice. We won the case because someone believed in the case.”
—VLAS CLIENT

“Very knowledgeable lawyer. I felt confident I had made the right choice every step of the way.”
—VLAS CLIENT
Larry & Barbara Anne Clayton, Gladys
William & Penny Cline, Lynchburg
Buzzy Coleman, Big Island
Martha E. Cook, Farmville
   In honor of Pam DeCamp
Tom Delaney, Lynchburg
Myra & Bob Dent, Lynchburg
Ann Echols, Lynchburg
   In memory of Josephine Holt
Anja & John Falcone, Lynchburg
Honorable Michael & Elizabeth Gamble, Lovingston
Jane Garland, Goode
Dr. & Mrs. T. Scott Garrett, Lynchburg
Don & Frances Giles, Lynchburg
   In honor of David Neumeyer
John & Sally Gilkey, Lynchburg
Sarah Gilliam, Smithfield
Carter & Genya Glass, Richmond
   In memory of Ruth S. Glass
Sam Glasscock, Suffolk
Lolly Goins, Suffolk
David & Sarah Guza, Lynchburg
Rebecca Habel, Suffolk
   In memory of Emily Covington
Jack & JoAnne Harris, Richmond
Gibson & Diane Hobbs, Lynchburg
Peter & Betsy Houck, Lynchburg
   In honor of Jim & Marty Wright
Debby Hudsens, Lynchburg
Brandon Hudson, Halifax
   In honor of Southwest VA Legal Aid Society
George & Cinda Hurt, Lynchburg
William & Melissa Hutchins, Suffolk
Edward & Lynn Kable, Clifford
Budge Kent, Danville
Mrs. T.S. Kirkpatrick, Lynchburg
Rhonda Knight, Forest
Stanley & Pamela Levinson, Lynchburg
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Madden, Lynchburg
John & Gail Marshall, Rapidan
James R. McGarry, Martinsville
Norman & Barbara Moon, Lynchburg
Randy Nelson, Lynchburg
   In honor of Joan Jones
Wil & Jean Neumeyer, Mount Pleasant
   In honor of David Neumeyer
Susan Piepho, Sweet Briar
John & Julia Polk, Lynchburg
Mr. & Mrs. R.G. Porter, Lynchburg
C. Scott Pryor & L.A. Pryor, Suffolk
Cary & Robert Roberts, Lynchburg
   In honor of David Neumeyer’s receiving the Humanitarian Award from VA Center for Inclusive Communities
Sterling & Eric Roberts, South Boston
Betty Roberts, Lynchburg
Jack Schewel, Lynchburg
Elliott & Rosel Schewel, Lynchburg
Martha & Paul Seufer, Lynchburg
Noelle Prince Shear & William Shear, Farmville
Angie & Wayne Shepard, Rustburg
Anita Solow, Lynchburg
Cynthia Spencer, Waldorf
   In memory of Josephine Holt
Peggy Stephenson & Peter DeSilva, Arlington
   In honor of Deborah Hudgins
William F. Stone, Jr., Martinsville
Berger & Thornhill, Altavista
Craig Tiller, Forest
Claudia Tucker, Amherst
Virginia Continuing Legal Education, Charlottesville
Billy & Diane Walker, Lynchburg
Melissa Waugh, Lynchburg
Ken & Patty West, Lynchburg
Sandy Willcox & David Lewis, Farmville
Dick & Betsy Worthington, Lynchburg
Jim & Marty Wright, Lynchburg
Wanda & Daryl Yoder, Lynchburg

FRIEND (up to $99)
Individuals
Ellen & Lloyd Agnew, Lynchburg
Betty & Douglas Allee, Lynchburg
Stacy Alococa, Danville
Kara Amburgey, Virginia Beach
Ben Amoss, Farmville
Connie & Glenn Anderson, Forest
Lewis Arthur, Lynchburg
   In memory of William F. Quillian, Jr.
Lisa Arthur, Lynchburg
Rick & Sonya Aultice, Lynchburg
Justin Bailey, Lynchburg
Peter Bailey, Danville
Rene Ballowe, Lynchburg
Earl & Julie Barber, Madison Heights
Brent & Rebecca Barber, Lynchburg
Bob & Joy Bashore, Forest
Harmon Beauchamp, Lynchburg
Annie Bethel, Danville
Pamela & Mitchell Boydoh, Madison Heights
Frank & Jeanne Buhler, Lynchburg
Priscilla Burton, Lynchburg
Glenn & Kathy Busch, Lynchburg
Donna Busecca, Moneta
Colin & Naomi Caldwell, Lynchburg
Lori Campbell, Madison Heights
Jenny Campbell, Monroe
Will & Dolly Cardwell, Lynchburg
Jacqueline Carson, Chesapeake
Teresa Casalenuovo, Rustburg
Ernest & Tina Cash, Madison Heights
The Catalano Family, Lynchburg
Michiel & Lisa Cawthorne, Lynchburg
Christy Chumbley, Madison Heights
Angelia & Michael Colinger, Lynchburg
John & Phyllis Collins, Chatham
Alicia Cordell, Appomattox
Todd & Amy Cox, Evington
Brian Darby, Lynchburg
Mary R. & Eric Davidson, Danville
Melinda Davidson, Forest
Louise Cobbs Davis, Lynchburg
Linda Deaneer, Concord
Lynn Dodge, Lynchburg
Julie Drago, Powhatan
Paula Drinkard, Appomattox
James Dudley, Bedford
Nora Dunn, Lynchburg
Sarah & Jim Dunstan, Lynchburg
Georgellen & Eldon Easter, Lynchburg
Gretchen & John Evans, Lynchburg
John & Jo Farnandez, Lynchburg
   In honor of David Neumeyer
First Citizens Bank, Danville
Allie & Carolyn Frazier, Charlottesville
Elizabeth J. Deis & Lowell T. Frye, Farmville
Valerie & Leonard Frye, Madison Heights
Jacque Glanz, Lynchburg
Rie & Eddie Godsey, Lynchburg
Esther Goins, Danville
Gwen & Anthony Green, Pamplin
Brenda Grishaw, Evington
Marsha Haberly, Gladstone
Curtis & Betty Jo Harper, Lynchburg
Genny Harris, Lynchburg
   In honor of David Neumeyer
Samantha Harris, Huddleston
Barbara Harris, Rustburg
Kristin Hart, Madison Heights
D.C. & Carol Hastings, Ringgold
Mary Hayes, Suffolk
Everett & Carla Heath, Lynchburg
Theresa Henson, Lynchburg
Bob & Mary Herdengen, Farmville
William & Mary Hibbert, Salem
Kenneth Hill, Lynchburg
Mark Holland, Danville
Ann Iniguez & Valentin Iniguez Corona, Lynchburg
Christie Jacobs, Evington
Tammy Jefferson, Lynchburg
Arleen Jones, Lynchburg
Courtney Jones, Amherst
Cynthia Jones, Danville
Michelle Jones, Amherst
Elizabeth Jordan, Spout Spring
Patsy Joyner, Courtland
Jenna King, Lynchburg
Heather King-Raezer, Madison Heights
Robert & Sandy Knodel, Lynchburg
Johanna Kroogel, Lynchburg
Kevin & Susan Landergan, Lynchburg
Joanne & Joe Lauer, Cincinnati
Jaime Layne, Lynchburg
John & Kaye Levy, Gloucester
Jerrod and Shannen Logue, Appomattox
Stacey Lowe, Lynchburg
Bob & Joan MacCallum, Lynchburg
Amy MacFarland, Gretna
Charley Majors, Danville
Steven & Christine Mann, Madison Heights
Pamela Martin, Lynchburg
Melody Martinez, Madison Heights
Robert & Susan May, Farmville
Michele & Robert Mays, Forest
Christina McClintock, Lynchburg
Della McCoy, Lynchburg
Techelle McCrea, Lynchburg
Gayle Meador, Madison Heights
Daniel & Roxanne Merkal, Lynchburg
Gary Miller, Danville
Robert Mooty, Lynchburg
Tracy Mosco, Lynchburg
Zoe Myers, Lynchburg
Dorothy Neals, Danville
Wayne & Jane Onderko, Evington
Geoff & Kathy Orth, Farmville
Meredith & Robert Owen, Madison Heights
Dr. and Mrs. Leovigil Pambid, South Boston
Andrea Payne, Monroe
Hannah & Joshua Peters, Madison Heights
Helen Petrill, Lynchburg
Clyde Porter, Lynchburg
Holly & Brant Preas, Lynchburg
Kirby Purcell & Bruce Hildenberger, Lynchburg
In honor of Randy Nelson
Bill & Tina Quillian, Lynchburg
In memory of William F. Quillian, Jr.
Bobby Ralph, Suffolk
Deborah Reeves, Lynchburg
Heather Reynoso, Lynchburg
Thomad & Linda Rhatigan, Lynchburg

John Richards, Lynchburg
Franklin & Kimberly Riddle, Danville
Susan Rieth, Arlington
Shanda Rowe, Lynchburg

In honor of Donna Clark
Thomas Sale, Evington
Vince & Judy Sawyer, Lynchburg
Stefanie Schmitz, Forest
Jack & Mary Scudder, Lynchburg
Jessica Sensabaugh, Lynchburg
Kelly & John Shuptrine, Lynchburg
Herman & Anne Smith, Goode
Joyce Smith, Madison Heights
S. Kim Song, Lynchburg
Kathy & Jeffrey Spitzer, Concord
Ira M. Steingold, Suffolk

In honor of Whitney Saunders, Esq.
Jennifer & David Stocker, Brookneal
Steve & Brenda Torre, Madison Heights
Hope Townes, Lynchburg
Sherri Tuck, Danville
John & Deborah Tweedy, Lynch Station
Kristi Tweedy-White, Appomattox
Randal & Sandy Walton, Lynchburg
Tonia Watson, Appomattox
Lara Whitaker, Lynchburg
Alexandra Wilkerson, Rustburg
Greg & Michelle Wilkes, Forest
James & Barbara Williamson, Forest
Tamika & Joshua Willson, Rustburg
Wendy Wilmer, Appomattox
Eugene & Jeannine Wingfield, Lynchburg
Bunny & Anne Wood, Lynchburg
Chad & Amy Wydner, Lynchburg
C. Faye Wood, Lynchburg

Matching Gifts
Duke Energy Foundation, Princeton
GE Foundation, Fairfield
Genworth Foundation, Richmond
Washington Post Company Matching Gifts Program, Princeton

In-Kind
Atlantic Shores Heating and Cooling, Inc., Suffolk
Elise Brown, Emporia
Genworth employees who dedicated their time to the United Way’s “Day of Caring” 2014 by providing building and grounds maintenance.

“Ms. Zarndt was very kind and got to the bottom of the matter very quickly, alleviating me from emotional distress and for this I am very grateful!”—VLAS client

“I was able to trust that my attorney would act in my best interest always. I was very comfortable with Mina, I love her sense of humor, she was always very professional and I was very confident that my situations were in good hands.”—VLAS client
VLAS attorneys, paralegals and volunteer “pro bono” attorneys closed 3,426 cases, providing legal help to 7,838 men, women and children throughout our service area. VLAS attorneys and paralegals recovered for our clients $1,250,562 in benefits, claims and damages, and saved our clients $1,220,065 by preventing the collection of unjust claims.

- In July, 2013, Obici Healthcare Foundation awarded VLAS $75,000 to help improve Medicare and Medicaid access through the Medicaid Access Project (MAP) in Suffolk, Franklin, Southampton and Isle of Wight.

- In support of the Strengthening Families with Children (SFC) program in Franklin, Southampton, Suffolk, Lynchburg and Martinsville/Henry County, VLAS was awarded during 2013-14: $32,000 from Franklin-Southampton Charities; $6,000 from Greater Lynchburg Community Trust; $25,000 from the Camp Foundations; $15,000 from Pruden Foundation; $5,000 from the Suffolk Foundation; $8,000 from the Community Action Coalition of Virginia; and $1,270 from Martinsville Area Community Foundation.

- In April, 2014, VLAS board member Monica Logan-Lanier and VLAS donor Sandra Saseen-Smith hosted a reception at Caffe Peroni in South Boston to honor Virginia Legal Aid Society.

- In May, 2014, the law firm of Overby, Hawkins & Wright received the annual VLAS-Lynchburg Bar Association Pro Bono Award for providing exemplary volunteer service to both our clients and our Pro Bono program.

- In July, 2013, Easley Charitable Trust awarded VLAS $12,000 to fund VLAS’ Mobile Technology Initiative as an innovative way to use technology to make services more accessible to clients.

- VLAS welcomed new members to the Board of Directors: Melissa K. Waugh, Esq. of Lynchburg; Joseph Whitby, Esq. of Lawrenceville and Barbara Gregory of Baskerville.

- In August, 2013, VLAS board members and volunteers Whitney G. Saunders, Esq., Jeanette L. Ojeda, Esq., and Bobby L. Ralph, hosted a fundraiser reception in Suffolk at Mosaic Restaurant.

AMERICORPS VISTA

In September, 2014, VLAS was awarded three VISTA members for service in its Capacity Building program. VISTA is Volunteers in Service to America and was started in 1965 as a national service program designed to fight poverty, later becoming a part of the AmeriCorps network of programs. The Capacity Building program goal is to strengthen and supplement VLAS’ efforts to serve the low-income population by use of VISTA members to perform meaningful service in outreach efforts, volunteer coordination and technology/web-related issues. VISTAs will increase outreach and volunteer management efforts in Suffolk and Danville, and increase accessibility and visibility program-wide to meet the overwhelming needs within the community through technology enhancement. VLAS is honored to have VISTA support for three years.
CASE STATISTICS

Number of People Helped by Case Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Type</th>
<th>People Helped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>3,551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>1,977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Benefits &amp; Health</td>
<td>1,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer</td>
<td>606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Wills, Education, Employment)</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL People Helped</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,838</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

97% of Clients surveyed were satisfied with the quality of help provided by VLAS.

Client Quotes

“They got my son what he deserved and was able to get us heard instead of overlooked.”

“The service I received made me feel very secure. I have a peace of mind in knowing I have someone to take care of my business without any problems in the event I am unable to.”

2013–14 SERVICES BY OFFICE

Lynchburg Area Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>People Helped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amherst</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appomattox</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynchburg City</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>1,34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Danville Area Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>People Helped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danville City</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martinsville City</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsylvania</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>442</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Farmville Area Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>People Helped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amelia</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>142</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buckingham</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>175</td>
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<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunenburg</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mecklenburg</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nottoway</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Suffolk Area Office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>People Helped</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emporia City</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Franklin City</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensville</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isle Of Wight</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southampton</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suffolk City</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gwendolyn Greene of Pamplin contacted VLAS’ LawLine, the intake and advice hotline, when she was sued by Midland Funding for a debt it purchased from another company. The debt collector was suing Mrs. Greene for $6,991.15. This was a credit card debt from many years prior, and with a change in circumstances and income, she was not financially able to pay off the debt. Mrs. Greene did not have a source of income and her husband’s income amounted to $600 a month. The Greenes did not own their home, and lived in a home owned by Mr. Greene’s mother. The case was transferred to VLAS’ Lynchburg office.

VLAS represented Gwendolyn Greene against Midland Funding. VLAS’ Managing Attorney Jeremy White alleged that the debt collector was bringing a stale action against Mrs. Greene because it was beyond the statute of limitations to file suit. VLAS filed a counterclaim for violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. The Fair Debt Collection Practices Act prohibits abusive, unfair, or deceptive practices by debt collectors, including bringing suit on old debts. VLAS served a subpoena for the documents from the debt collector. As a result of the counterclaim and negotiations between the parties, the debt was dismissed and the case was settled with Midland Funding prior to trial. VLAS’ intervention helped Mrs. Greene avoid a judgment of $6,800.00 and receive a small settlement in the amount of $500.00.

Client’s picture changed for confidentiality.

As a result of the counterclaim and negotiations between the parties, the debt was dismissed and the case was settled with Midland Funding prior to trial.
VLAS does not charge clients any fee for legal information, advice or representation. Financial support from institutional grants and individual and corporate contributions make our services possible.

**INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORTERS**

**Governments**
- AmeriCorps VISTA
- Legal Services Corporation of Virginia, Richmond
- Legal Services Corporation, Washington, D.C.
- Amelia County
- Appomattox County
- Buckingham County
- Campbell County
- City of Danville
- City of Emporia
- Lunenburg County
- City of Lynchburg
- Prince Edward County
- Southampton County
- City of Suffolk
- Sussex County

**Corporations and Foundations**
- Beazley Foundation
- Birdsong Corporation
- Camp Foundations
- Community Action Coalition of Virginia
- Danville Regional Foundation
- Dominion Resources
- Franklin-Southampton Charities
- Greater Lynchburg Community Trust
- Martinsville Area Community Foundation
- Obici Healthcare Foundation
- Pruden Foundation
- Suffolk Foundation
- Walter J Payne Foundation
- Wells Fargo

**United Ways and Area Agencies on Aging**
- United Way of Central Virginia
- United Way of Danville-Pittsylvania County
- United Way of Henry County & Martinsville
- Franklin Southampton Area United Way
- United Way of Prince Edward County
- Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging
- Lake Country Area Agency on Aging
- Piedmont Senior Resources
- Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia
- Southern Area Agency on Aging

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**Revenues (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal, State and Local Governments</td>
<td>$2,315,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Contributions</td>
<td>$283,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Ways and Area Agencies on Aging</td>
<td>$173,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind, Interest, and Other Income</td>
<td>$29,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on Lawyers’ Trust Accounts</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,801,646</strong></td>
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**Expenses (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$2,164,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>$412,632</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$136,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,713,289</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VLAS THANKS OUR VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

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Jim Wright, MD, Lynchburg

VLAS is supported by United Way and Legal Services Corporation

LawLine Intake and Advice:
866-LegLAid (866-534-5243) or vlas.org

For more information on how you can support VLAS, please contact Rhonda Knight at 434-455-3085 or rhondak@vlas.org.

Donate online through Networkforgood.org