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SMITHFIELD VA EVENTS DONATES BACK TO COMMUNITY

Smithfield VA Events (SVAE), the non-profit organization that hosts (3) annual festivals, the Smithfield BOB Fest &8K Chilly BOB Roadrace, the Smithfield Wine & Brew Fest; and the Smithfield Bacon & Bourbon Music Fest recently donated \$70,740 back to the community from the proceeds of the 2019 Smithfield Bacon & Bourbon Music Fest.

The annual total of all 2019 donations was a record-breaking \$244,492 and cumulative total since 2012 is \$1,154,588.

For 2020, SVAE announced that \$70,000 will be donated to the following selected benefiting organizations:

The Smithfield VA Events Benefiting Organizations for 2020 are:

2020 BOB Fest – Jan 18, 2020

Smithfield Rotary Club - \$10,000 Toys for Tots - Isle of Wight - \$5000 Isle of Wight Optimist Club - 8K Race Recipient

2020 Wine & Brew Fest – April 18, 2020

Smithfield Volunteer Fire Department - \$10,000 Isle of Wight Arts League - \$5000 VFW Auxiliary Post #8545 - \$5000 Main Street Baptist Church - \$5000 Windsor Castle Park Foundation - \$5000 Carrollton Kiwanis \$5000

2020 Bacon & Bourbon Music Festival - Oct 3, 2020

Angel Quilters - \$5000 Smithfield Music - \$5000 Boys & Girls Scouts - \$5000 Carrollton Ruritians - \$5000

Organizations make an application to be considered over the summer and the SVAE Board reviews and make selections for the upcoming year in the fall. Checks are presented to both benefiting organizations and volunteer groups after each festival. Eligibility requirements to become a benefiting organization or volunteer group can be found on the SVAE website.

The purpose of selecting benefiting organizations by Smithfield VA Events is to help local organizations improve, expand and/or initiate programs and/or services that benefit the Smithfield/Isle of Wight Community. The anticipated donation amount is either \$5,000 or \$10,000 to each pre-selected Benefiting Organization. (Note: The final amount to each organization is dependent on the financial success of the event. Since SVAE was founded in 2012, it has always been able to distribute the anticipated donations in full.)

Since 2012 and thru 2019, Smithfield VA Events has donated \$1,154,588 back into the local Smithfield and Isle of Wight community through over 70 organizations. SVAE has donated in a multitude of ways: through the benefitting organizations for each event, donations to volunteer groups and SuperStar Volunteers who assist with the events, with donated "product" (tickets, tables, party chalets) to other organizations to raise funds at their events, and when possible through donations to support other various community needs.

Randy Pack, President of Smithfield VA Events noted, "There were many great applications, and it is an inspiration to us to continue to move forward and become more sustainable to be able to do even more for the community."

It is the mission of Smithfield VA Events to bring well organized, first-class events to the Town of Smithfield and in doing so, support local non-profits, charities, civic groups and strengthen the community by benefiting tourism and local business.

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