



# **2021-22 Annual Report**



## OUR MISSION

Headwaters' mission is to foster educational excellence in Rappahannock County, Virginia by cultivating the cooperative spirit and resources of the whole community for the benefit of our young people.

Headwaters has reached nearly 100% of youth in Rappahannock County Public Schools through direct and collaborative programs.



## AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

The mission of the After-School Enrichment Program is to provide a safe environment that supports the social, academic, emotional, and physical growth of our youth.

In the 2021-22 school year, After-School served 102 children at Rappahannock County Elementary School. Students enjoyed enrichment activities that included Arts & Crafts, Cooking, Lego Education, Fundamentals of Sports and Movement, and French Language Club.

Supported by grants from the Richard Lykes Community Fund at NPCF



"I appreciate all of the hard work and love that you all put into this program. My children absolutely enjoy it and are ecstatic when it's a Headwaters day! Please, keep up the amazing and life-changing work you are doing for these children!"  
-Parent of children in After-School

## COLLEGE & CAREER ACCESS PROGRAM

The mission of the College & Career Access Program is to work collaboratively with Rappahannock County Public Schools (RCPS) to support young people as they develop realistic plans for life after graduation.



## EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Headwaters believes that dynamic and motivated educators are the key ingredient in a successful school system. This is why we continue to offer Educational Enrichment Grants, which allow teachers to apply for supplementary funding to support their pupils.

This year, Headwaters awarded over \$10,000 in Educational Enrichment Grants. Here are a few of the projects we funded:

- Math manipulatives for first- and second-grade classrooms
- A Shakespeare Language Workshop for upperclass students
- College field trip for students at RCHS
- Orton-Gillingham training for two teachers at RCES to enhance literacy instruction

## STUDENT ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Last year, Headwaters launched our Student Enrichment Grant initiative to support students who wish to pursue an educational activity outside of the classroom. Through this initiative, students can apply for funding to support an enriching activity, project, or research.

We were proud to support eight students with funding in 2021-22, totaling more than \$1,100. This funding provided scholarship support to elementary and high school students to attend the brand new ski and snowboard club at RCPS. Students gained a range of skills that allowed them to traverse the slopes with confidence by the end of the winter.



## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: PROFILE OF A GRADUATE

The Profile of a Graduate (POG) program at Rappahannock County High School (RCHS) helps students develop life-ready skills they need to pursue post-secondary education or enter the workforce.

During the 2021-22 school year, Headwaters provided its third year of financial support for the POG Coordinator's salary at RCHS. With the help of the POG team and community volunteers:

- 3rd and 8th graders attended hands-on financial literacy workshops, giving them a chance to learn about living on a budget as an adult
- 6th and 7th graders took a career assessment to learn about jobs they were interested in, the required education for those jobs, and average salaries
- 12th graders attended a resume-writing and interview skills workshop in order to bolster their chances of securing future employment



## SCHOLARSHIPS

This year, Headwaters provided over \$100,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors and RCHS alumni. New scholarship offerings included the:

**Principal Swindler Scholarship**, made possible by The Phillip and Penny Kardis Family Fund, honors former principal Jimmy Swindler and is awarded to a graduate of RCHS who is pursuing post-secondary education and demonstrates academic commitment

**Rappahannock Association for Arts & Community Scholarship** provides support to an RCHS senior who demonstrates interest in pursuing a career or advanced study in the arts

“This scholarship will help me pursue my dream of attending a university, a dream I’ve had since I was a child. It will give me the extra financial aid that my college did not. I can’t thank you enough!”

-2022 Scholarship Recipient



## READ

READ's mission is to inspire and promote a love of reading and increase reading proficiency.

The READ Program is a cooperative effort between Headwaters and Rappahannock County Elementary School. Volunteers work one-on-one with struggling readers in grades K-3 to support the development of core literacy skills. After a 2-year hiatus, the READ Program was re-launched in April 2022, and now runs alongside Headwaters' After-School Enrichment Program.

In 2021, The Headwaters Foundation and Rappahannock County Public Library brought Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to the youngest readers in Rappahannock County. Rappahannock became the 39th county in Virginia to offer this program. Since its inception, 128 children have experienced the thrill of receiving free books delivered to their home every month.

Supported by the Phillip and Penny Kardis Family Fund & Friends of the Rappahannock County Library



## STARFISH MENTORING

The mission of the Starfish Mentoring Program is to inspire and empower young people in Rappahannock County to connect meaningfully with their community.

This year, mentors spent 454 hours with their mentees and traveled to Luray Caverns, Mac's Roller Rink, and Royal Family Bowling Center for social gatherings.



"The Starfish mentors go above and beyond to make my daughters feel special and love themselves more. I can't praise them enough! They play a vital role in helping my children explore who they want to be by encouraging their interests and going on fantastic adventures. I am forever grateful."

-Parent of two children in the Starfish Mentoring Program

## SUMMER CHORUS

The mission of the Summer Chorus Program is to engage young singers with an ensemble experience that helps them build skills necessary for performing as part of a choral team.

This year, Headwaters welcomed 27 youth from Rappahannock and surrounding counties to participate in the Summer Chorus Program.

Attendees performed for a crowd of friends, family, and community members on July 1st.

Supported by grants from RAAC's Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund



## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

Headwaters is proud to collaborate with Child Care & Learning Center (CCLC) on a wide range of initiatives to better serve preschool and elementary-age children in Rappahannock County. This year, we worked together to:

- Provide professional support to children with special needs
- Re-create CCLC's "Tots and Twos Garden," which offers an edible and sensory-rich experience for young learners
- Match children in need with supportive adult mentors

Through our mutual efforts, we were able to serve more young people in our community!

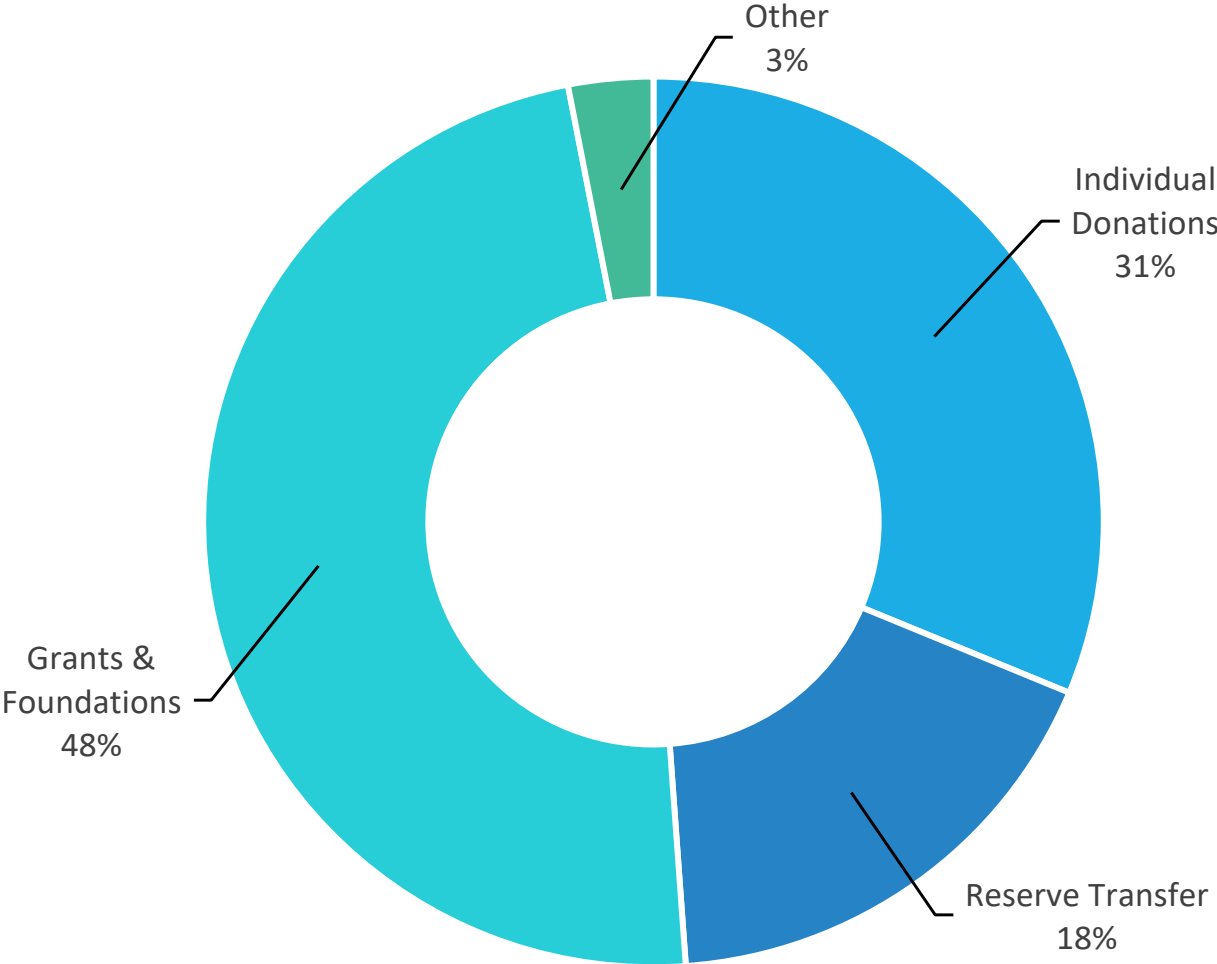


## Headwaters Harvest Festival

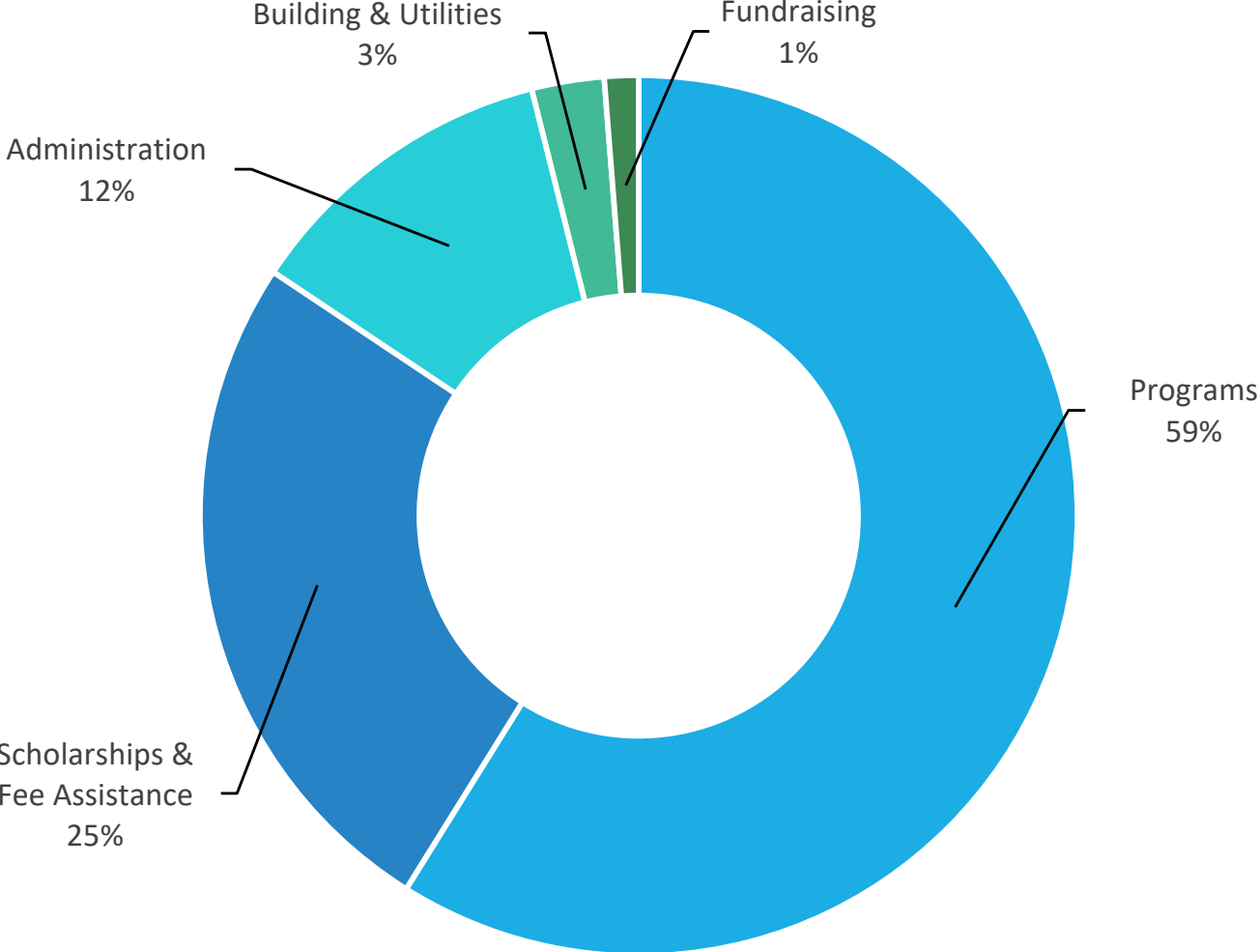
In 2022, Headwaters replaced its annual Taste of Rappahannock dinner with a new fundraising event - the Headwaters Harvest Festival. This event boasted activities for people of all ages and served as a celebration of our community's rural heritage and commitment to fostering educational excellence. Hosted at Eldon Farms, the Festival included local artisans, musicians, food trucks, breweries, and wineries.



**INCOME**



**EXPENSES**



Headwaters thanks all of its dedicated donors and groups for their continuous support and partnership in 2021-22:

**GRANTORS**

Friends of Headwaters  
Friends of Rappahannock County Library  
Phillip and Penny Kardis Family Fund  
Northern Piedmont Community Foundation (NPCF)  
PATH Foundation  
RAAC’s Claudia Mitchell Arts Fund  
Richard Lykes Community Fund at NPCF

**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS**

Child Care & Learning Center  
FamilyFutures  
Laurel Ridge Community College  
Rappahannock Association for Arts & Community  
Rappahannock County Garden Club  
Rappahannock County Public Library  
Rappahannock County Public Schools  
Rappahannock League for Environmental Protection  
Rappahannock Nature Camp  
Serendipity Equine  
Totality Martial Arts

**BUSINESSES**

Cheri Woodard Realty  
Country Chevrolet  
MadRapp Recorder  
New Iberia Food Truck  
Quièvremont Winery  
Racer Construction  
Rappahannock Farm Bureau  
Rappahannock News  
Washington School, LLC

**2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Deputy Director of Programs  
**Cierra Chambers**  
Executive Assistant

**THANK YOU!**

Headwaters sincerely thanks Gary Aichele, Ronald Goodman, and Bethany Bostic for their time on our Board of Directors. Though their terms ended in 2022, they continue to strengthen our organization by lending time and expertise to our programs. Headwaters appreciates the hundreds of hours they volunteered to help us support our local schools!

In 2022, Stephanie “Steph” Ridder succeeded Gary Aichele as Board Chair, and William “Bill” Dant assumed the role of Vice-Chair. Steph and Bill are excited to further the work of the foundation and increase access to programs for youth in the Rappahannock community.



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