

Higher Standards

The Virginia Community Foundation meets National Standards for operational quality, donor service and accountability in the community foundation sector.



The National Standards Seal by our name indicates official confirmation from the Council on Foundations that we have met the most rigorous standards in philanthropy. It affirms our commitment to financial security, transparency and accountability. It says our grantmaking includes an open, competitive process designed to address the changing needs of our community. The National Standards Seal also confirms our history of honoring donors' wishes—to support the arts, cultivate gardens, revive our downtown, expand literacy, help children—and support countless other important causes.

The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Program was established in 2000 in cooperation with the Council on Foundations. National Standards guide community foundations in establishing legal, ethical and effective operational practices that serve as blueprints for internal development and benchmarks for external assessment. The 43 National Standards require The Virginia Community Foundation to document its policies in donor services, investment management, grantmaking and administration. To receive confirmation of National Standards compliance, Virginia Community Foundation submitted its organizational and financial policies and procedures to a rigorous peer review.