

High-Impact Ways to Support VHBG Youth

Help Young People Thrive at Home, in School, and in Community

When you support Virginia Home for Boys and Girls (VHBG) with wish list donations, you are doing more than filling a need—you are helping young people feel at home, show up for school ready to learn, and build the skills they need for adulthood.

Supply collection drives are a fun, hands-on way to engage your school, neighborhood, business, or civic group in our mission. Many of these items can be purchased online (including on Amazon) and shipped directly to our campus.

Below are high-impact items organized by the programs.

Independent Living Program (IL)

Helping young adults set up their first homes and practice life skills.

Our Independent Living Program supports young adults as they furnish apartments, cook, study, and build community in our IL Commons. Your gifts help their spaces feel safe, welcoming, and truly their own.

High-impact IL items:

- Gift cards (grocery, big-box stores, gas, ride share, etc.)
- Twin bedding (new only: sheets, comforters, pillows)
- Adult-sized bicycles
- Bike locks and bike helmets
- Gently used luggage and duffel bags
- Toiletries (full-size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, etc.)
- Small kitchen appliances (toasters, air fryers, coffee makers, blenders, etc.)
- Help fill their pantries with nonperishable items

Group Homes

Creating warm, stable homes where youth can rest, learn, and reconnect.

Our Group Homes each house up to eight youth and function like any family home—meals around a table, homework in bedrooms, and games in the living room. Your donations keep these spaces comfortable, dignified, and fun.

Home & comfort:

- Gift cards (grocery, big-box stores, home goods)
- Bathmats
- Bath towels and washcloths (new)
- Twin mattresses (new)
- Pillows
- Twin "bed in a bag" sheet sets (new)
- Shower curtains and heavy-duty liners (new)
- Storage containers (Rubbermaid/Tupperware)

Daily living & cooking:

- Cooking sets (pots, pans, utensils), can openers
- Dishes (plates, bowls, cups, silverware)
- Small kitchen appliances (waffle makers, deep fryers, etc.)

Recreation & enrichment:

- Basketballs
- Regular scooters (non-electric)
- Clock radios

Dignity & transitions:

- Duffle bags & suitcases (for youth to pack belongings when they move to a permanent home)
- Undergarments and socks (adult sizes, all genders; new only)

Experiences and Outings:

- Movie Tickets
- Top Golf Tickets
- Botanical Gardens
- Bush Gardens
- Holiday Plays (Seasonal)
- Doswell Light Show (Seasonal)
- Ice Skating tickets
- Skill building Expos

John G. Wood School (JGW)

Supporting students' learning, focus, and creativity.

John G. Wood School serves students who benefit from smaller class sizes and individualized support. In general, our school supply list mirrors Henrico County Public Schools. The items below are especially helpful in keeping classrooms stocked and students engaged.

Classroom & learning supplies:

- Gift cards (for classroom materials and student incentives)
- Books for recreational reading that reflect cultural diversity and a wide range of identities and experiences
- Calculators (basic, inexpensive)
- Hand sanitizer
- Laptop computers (new or gently used, functional and up to date)
- Legos and other building blocks (for hands-on learning and STEM activities)
- Tissues
- Whiteboard markers

JGW School Art Program

Giving students a creative outlet to express themselves and build confidence.

Art is a powerful tool for healing and self-expression. Donations to our art program help students explore their creativity and tell their stories in healthy, positive ways.

LINK ART SUPPLY LIST HERE

If you'd like to host a collection drive, coordinate a shipment, or ask about current priorities, please contact our Philanthropy team at 804-270-6566 or email philanthropy@vhbg.org.

You are a big part of what makes VHBG feel like home.