A Message From the President

Dear Friends,

The Elizabeth Kates Foundation is thrilled to announce that Kates Day will be Wednesday, May 3, thanks to the hard work of the staff of VCCW, and to the inmates who contribute their talents to help make this fundraising event possible. Whether it’s beautiful flowers and plants, delicious breads and sweets, crafts or entertainment, and a delicious dinner, the hard work and enthusiasm of the women are evident. In turn The Foundation will use proceeds to fund scholarships, literacy experiences, and vocational opportunities for the women.

We hope to see you there!
Joan Dalrymple

A Message From the Warden

The staff and inmate population at Virginia Correctional Center/State Farm Work Center have been anxiously awaiting the day that we could announce the return of Kates Day. We truly appreciate all the hard work that The Kates Foundation has done to ensure a successful event. While many of our staff and inmates are new to this experience, we share the same enthusiasm and spirit as the members of The Kates Foundation. We look forward to this opportunity to showcase the talents of the women and know that this opportunity will be a great experience for them. Please mark your calendars for May 3!

With sincere appreciation,
Dana Ratliffe-Walker, Warden

Attention Foundation Members

We hope you will plan to attend our annual meeting on May 3 at 4:45 pm in the chapel at VCCW. Following a brief meeting you are cordially invited to join us for dinner at 5:15 in the gym. The program will feature a presentation of scholarships, the VCCW choir, raffle prizes, and much more. Reservations are required. Call Lori Wheeler at (804) 556-7408 to make your dinner reservation. Dinner tickets ($15) will be available for purchase any time prior to the meeting. And, please don’t forget to renew your membership if you haven’t already.

Also, the annual Kates Day raffle is back with beautiful baskets to offer. Tickets are $1 each, or 6 for $5 and you don’t have to be present to win, but a name and phone number must be written on the back of each ticket. Board and Foundation members will be given tickets to sell to friends and coworkers. Bring your check and tickets to Kates Day, or mail them to The Elizabeth Kates Foundation, PO Box 64, Goochland, VA, 23063 if you cannot attend.

Kates Day - Wednesday, May 3

2:00 – 5:00 pm
Plants, baked goods and crafts available

4:45 pm
Annual Meeting in the chapel

5:15 pm
Dinner in the gym.

Call Lori Wheeler for reservations • (804) 556-7408
(Cash or checks, no credit cards on Kates Day)

Note: The meeting and dinner are open to the public.
**Support Our Mission**

The biggest obstacle today to postsecondary education in the prison system is a lack of state or federal funding. That’s why The Elizabeth Kates Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, relies primarily on donations from caring individuals like you who are willing to make a difference in someone’s future. Your tax deductible contribution can change lives and directly impact offenders, families, communities and future generations. Education is the proven way to break the cycle of recidivism. To make a donation by check, please make your check payable to The Elizabeth Kates Foundation and mail to: The Elizabeth Kates Foundation, P.O. Box 64, Goochland, VA 23063.

**Other ways you can make a difference**

- **Membership** – Annual dues are $25 for new members or to renew your membership, and we will keep you informed on news and events throughout the year.

- **The CeCe Bullard Scholarship Fund** – Provides funding for tuition, books and school supplies. CeCe Bullard was a Richmond Times-Dispatch art critic, award-winning equestrian, civic leader, author and former president of The Elizabeth Kates Foundation.

- **Donate in Memoriam** – Please be sure to include the name of the person you are honoring on the note line, and also include your mailing address.

- **Employer Matching Gifts** – Please check to see if your employer has a matching gifts program.

- **Kroger Community Awards Program** – Register online for a digital account, then link your Shopper’s Card to your account. Designate The Elizabeth Kates Foundation as your charity of choice. Enroll at: www.krogercommunityawards.com.

**Regulations for Kates Day**

Your photo identification is required for admittance at VCCW, and you must pass through a metal detector before entering. Purses, phones, Apple watches and Fitbits are NOT allowed. You may bring only your ID, cash, checks and car keys with you. No credit cards. Plastic bags will be provided for these items upon your arrival.

Dress code regulations stipulate modest clothing. Sleeveless blouses or shirts, leggings, camouflage clothing, and orange clothing are NOT allowed. Jeans must be neat, no frayed hems or holes. Bermuda shorts are allowed but no short shorts.

**Education Update**

The Elizabeth Kates Foundation continues to work closely with Southside Community College’s Campus Within Walls program. In-person classes resumed last fall and are ongoing. The Foundation continues to provide school supplies, textbooks, and other items needed for successful class completion. Current college classes include Student Development, American History, Western Civilization, College Composition I, Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Psychology, and Student Development. More classes are planned for summer and fall, including Developmental Psychology, the Sociology of Social Problems, College Composition II, American Literature, Women’s Literature and Personal Wellness. Other students continue to work for their GED certification. Scholarships will be awarded on Kates Day and also next fall.

**Kates Readers Update**

Volunteers at VCCW are excited to announce that Kates Readers, a book club for women working on a GED, is meeting after a three year hiatus due to Covid. We plan to introduce the women to quality literature, discuss story elements, and facilitate lively discussion about the books we read. Our book club members enjoy participating in a book club, and your generous donations pay for the books that the women keep or send home to children and grandchildren.

The mission of The Elizabeth Kates Foundation is to provide educational and vocational programs to reduce recidivism.

The Elizabeth Kates Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. A copy of the Foundation’s financial statement may be obtained from: The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218.