



**The Wawa Foundation Announces the Four Finalists for The Wawa Foundation Virginia “Hero Awards,”  
With Call-To-Action for Public Vote on Hero Awards Recipients from November 20-December 4**

*Four Virginia Non-Profits Will Be Celebrated by The Wawa Foundation in Honor of Wawa’s 20-Year “Wawaversary”  
in Virginia, with Grant of \$20,000 Going to the Winner and Grants of \$5,000 Going to Three Runners Up*

**Wawa, PA. (November 20, 2018)** – After reviewing all submissions, The Wawa Foundation Inc., is thrilled to announce the finalists for its Virginia “Hero Awards,” an honor that will be given to non-profit organizations serving Virginia that assist others and build stronger communities through preserving our independence, protecting our safety and mentoring and inspiring our youth. The Wawa Foundation Virginia Hero Awards are part of Wawa’s 20-Year Virginia “Wawaversary”—marking two decades of service since the grand opening of its first store in the state of Virginia.

Three awards will be presented, one in each of the markets Wawa serves, recognizing the important role non-profits and all citizens have in improving and building stronger communities. The following grant awards will be presented: **One Hero Award (\$20,000 grant) and three Runner-Up Awards (\$5,000 each) in each of the following markets: Northern Virginia, Central Virginia, and the Peninsula & Hampton Roads.**

**The finalists are:**

- **Northern Virginia**
  1. Variety – the Children’s Charity, Capital Region
  2. Hope for the Warriors
  3. Hire Our Heroes
  4. The Stafford County Volunteer Fireman's Association
- **Central Virginia**
  1. Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads
  2. Greater Richmond ARC
  3. Henrico Police Athletic League
  4. Miracles In Motion
- **Peninsula & Hampton Roads**
  1. Communities In Schools of Hampton Roads
  2. Hero Kids Foundation
  3. Real People Educating Others
  4. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Virginia Peninsula

**Vote from November 20 – December 4 to Help Choose a Winner**

The Wawa Foundation is asking the Virginia public to be a part of choosing The Wawa Foundation Virginia Hero Awards Recipients. The winners will be chosen by public vote on [The Wawa Foundation’s website](#) from November 19 – December 4. The organization receiving the most votes will be presented to The Wawa Foundation Hero Award Panel for final approval.

**The Hero Award and Wawa’s 20-Year Virginia “Wawaversary”**

Launched during Wawa's 20-Year Virginia "Wawaversary," The Wawa Foundation Hero Awards will be presented at events to be held the week of December 17, 2018.

### **About The Wawa Foundation Virginia "Hero Awards" Submission Process**

Non-profit organizations applied by submitting a video and/or a short story to The Wawa Foundation website that provided background on their organization's work with, and impact on, the community. The Wawa Foundation Grant Committee selected four compelling stories of organizations serving Virginia with the best fit to the award focus area and criteria. The four finalists will be put to a public vote, and the organization receiving the most votes will be presented to The Wawa Foundation Hero Award Panel for final approval and determination. The winning organization will receive a **\$20,000 grant** from The Wawa Foundation, and three runners-up will each receive **\$5,000 grants in each of the following markets: Northern Virginia, Central Virginia, and the Peninsula & Hampton Roads.**

For more information on The Wawa Foundation Virginia Hero Award finalists and to vote, please visit [www.TheWawaFoundation.org](http://www.TheWawaFoundation.org).

### **About The Wawa Foundation**

*The Wawa Foundation is an extension of Wawa's commitment to making the world a better place by fulfilling customers' lives every day. The Wawa Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation founded by Wawa, Inc. to support the company's charitable giving and philanthropic activities – and ultimately to help build happier, stronger communities. The Wawa Foundation focuses its support on organizations committed to health, hunger and everyday heroes through local, state and national grants and in-kind donations. Since 2014, Wawa and The Wawa Foundation have donated more than \$60 million to causes supporting health, hunger and the heroes who serve our communities every day.*