

**2011 Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions Proposed Allocations
for the Virginia Baptist Mission Board**

Goal: \$1,167,500.00

Submitted to the VBMB Executive Committee (March 2011)

1. New Church Investment Grants.....\$395,000

NCI grants are Kingdom Advance 2.0 opportunities that assist in the launching of new churches starts, multi-site churches, emerging churches, and new worshipping communities including house churches, imaginative gospel communities, and international faith communities by providing:

- Start-Up Grants for:
 - Rent.
 - A/V and sound equipment.
 - Portable storage/transportation.
 - Advertising/Marketing.
 - Other applicable operating expenses.
- Next Level Grants for:
 - Land and Permanent Facilities.
 - Multi-Sites.
 - V³, a church multiplication movement.

2. Bland Ministry Center and Appalachian Region Ministries\$24,250

Appalachia has many needs related to development, employment and evangelism. The **Appalachian Regional Ministry (ARM)** helps local churches and outside volunteers respond to these needs.

The southwestern district associations in Virginia have many viable ministries in their part of Appalachia. Efforts such as the Bland Center excel in addressing issues such as health, education and poverty.

Several of these associations have asked the rest of Virginia to join them in ministry. In our **Southwest Virginia Partnership** we will match meaningful mission opportunities with VA Baptists' intense interest in the area. With a dedicated volunteer housing facility and full-time volunteer coordinators (Venturers), we will be able to send volunteers to Southwest Virginia on a large scale. Funding for project materials will be a strategic and effective investment in the Kingdom.

All of these emphases - A.R.M., specific salient ministries, the new Southwest Virginia Partnership – are worthy of significant support through the Alma Hunt Offering for State Missions.

3. Impact Camps!\$20,000

The great success of Impact Virginia! has allowed Virginia Baptists to expand how we plan and organize mission camps for students. Impact! Mission Camps is now the umbrella terminology for a variety of mission camp experiences for students. Impact Virginia! is our ‘classic’ mission camp that utilizes home repair and renovation as a base of all of its projects. Impact Metro! gives focus to the “downtown” setting and engages students in the urban culture.

Funds would be used to purchase appropriate project supplies and materials, provide resources for the orientation of leadership, the training of students, and the spiritual equipping of teenagers.

4. Disaster Relief.....\$40,000

Disaster Response Ministries are clearly one of the most high profile and engaging ministries supported by the VBMB/BGAV. This fact is affirmed by the nearly 3,200 volunteers that are currently trained in the area of disaster relief, the frequency in which we are called upon to respond and by the generous donations given during times of disaster. However, budgeted funds and donations do not completely cover expenses related to maintaining the fleet, training and equipping volunteers, and responding to needs around the world. This is especially true when we are called upon to respond to disasters that are not high profile and do not garner significant media attention. The Alma Hunt State Mission Offering will enable Virginia Baptists’ Disaster Relief assets and volunteers to engage at a higher level in relief opportunities.

5. Ministers and Families in Crisis\$20,000

Ministers in crisis are growing. Each year, we have received many more requests than the committee can fulfill. The objective of the committee is to provide three months help with mortgage or rent and insurance for ministers in crisis.

6. Development Disabilities Ministries\$20,000

The Developmental Disabilities Ministry serves individuals with developmental disabilities such as mental retardation or other neurological impairments. Residents may also have physical disabilities.

DDM offers care that will help strengthen the family’s care-giving role, and when needed, assist in planning for suitable long-term care for their disabled family members. When appropriate, DDM offers long-term care for adults with developmental disabilities that encourages continued growth toward individual maximum potential within a Christian, community-integrated, home-like environment.

7. Associational Mission Support\$65,000

- Mission projects
- Partnership in missions

8. Virginia Baptists’ Mission History\$18,750

Alma Hunt funds help the Virginia Baptist Historical Society assist churches by:

- preserving valuable records through climate-controlled storage.
- providing microfilming of Baptist history materials.
- offering local church historians help in researching.
- writing Virginia Baptist church histories and planning anniversary celebrations.
- providing educational materials sent to all churches for Virginia Baptist Heritage week.
- maintaining a heritage teaching gallery open to individuals and church groups.

9. Chaplain Service Prison Ministry of Virginia.....\$20,000

These funds will be used to assist the Chaplain Service of the Churches of Virginia provide ministry to prisoners and their families.

10. Deaf Ministry.....\$5,000

These funds provide leaders of our deaf community with quality training on an annual basis that serve as:

- a platform for building stronger affinity/networks which are critical in helping our deaf community face their unique challenges.
- an opportunity to increase the number of qualified interpreters adhering to stricter American Sign Language (ASL) guidelines.
- an incubator for the development of effective chronological bible storying techniques for the Virginia Great Commission Initiative.

11. Kingdom Advance Venturers\$30,000

The **Venturer** Program, which was officially launched in 2006, has engaged multiple individuals and couples who have committed six months to two years of their lives to advancing God’s Kingdom. By design, the Venturer Program offers three different funding venues; fully supported by the BGAV/VBMB, fully supported by the requesting partner, or fully supported by the Venturer. Venturers serving in positions of high strategic value are often completely funded by BGAV/VBMB sources, one of which being money received from the Alma Hunt Offering.

12. Latino Ministries in Virginia\$10,000

LUCHA Ministries, Inc. is committed to helping Spanish-speaking immigrants with limited English skills become more productive, integrated, and involved in their local communities. In partnership with churches, social service agencies, and other human needs organizations, it provides a holistic approach to meeting needs and sharing the message of Christ. Funds received through the Alma Hunt Offering help provide for ongoing ministries that include emergency assistance, counseling and pastoral care, spiritual guidance, help with basic human needs, and a ministry to youth and their families. LUCHA also provides cultural competency training and offers internships for students interested in working with Latinos.

13. Arab/Muslim Outreach Ministries\$7,500

These funds will enable an ongoing statewide strategy for evangelizing and connecting to Virginia Baptists’ Arab/Muslim neighbors in a respectful and faithful way. Alma Hunt Offering funds are requested to help facilitate the following:

- Muslim Background Believers Conference – 2011 conference to be held at FBC, Alexandria, VA.
- The Oasis Friendship Center in Falls Church, VA
- People of the Book Ministry
- Cross-cultural training for Virginia Baptists as they relate to Arabic and Muslim neighbors
- ESL training
- Student ministries for Arab/Muslim background youth

14. Migrant/Rural Ethnic Ministries.....\$10,000

The Eastern Shore and Southside Virginia farming operations attract and utilize many ethnic workers, most of whom are migrant and poverty stricken. The Alma Hunt offering can help district associations and local churches that seek to provide ministry with these workers.

15. International Student Outreach in Virginia.....\$5,000

The Emerging Leaders Team respectfully requests consideration for ministry to international students through Baptist Collegiate Ministries to be a giving priority for the 2011 Alma Hunt Offering. The funds could be made available to BCMs across the state engaging in creative ministry to internationals.

Virginia Tech is an example of such a ministry. God has brought the world to our doorstep at Virginia Tech with over 2000 international students representing around 120 different countries. For several decades the BSU/BCM at Virginia Tech has welcomed arriving international students with furniture, but in recent years this ministry has grown significantly and the opportunities and impact have multiplied. We host a one-day furniture giveaway every August and in recent years we have served an average of over 200 international students with over 400 pieces of furniture. Around 60 local church volunteers make connections with the students that day and are able to continue to serve these students through follow-up visits and welcoming them into their homes. What an exciting open door for the love and gospel of Christ! This event also funnels students into our Friday night gathering for internationals, which focuses on language helps, culture sharing, and opportunities to learn about the Christian faith. These Friday gatherings, called ACROSS, continue throughout the fall and spring semesters.

16. Sustaining Long-Term Pastoral Leadership\$7,000

Recognizing the at-risk nature of some of our Virginia Baptist leaders, this would provide a 3-6 week intervention aimed at sustaining the long-term health and viability of their leadership. These funds would provide things such as supply preaching during the leader's absence, leadership coaching, marriage/family counseling, retreat and respite time for the couple and family. Our goal would be a proactive input to keep our leaders in the game.

Total\$697,500.00