

Media Release

December 17, 2020



Green Ridge Creates Scholarship Fund for Cumberland County Students

Cumberland County, VA – Today, Green Ridge Recycling and Disposal Facility, LLC (Green Ridge) created a \$60,000 scholarship fund for Cumberland County Public Schools students. The money will be awarded to minority students, low-income students and students who are the first generation in their family to pursue a post-secondary education program.

“We are committed to supporting this county and that commitment extends to the students of this community,” said Jerry Cifor, Manager of Green Ridge. “Civic responsibility is something we take seriously, and that is reflected in how we conduct our business and how we do all we can to make Cumberland County a great place to live and work. We have supported the county in several ways over the past two years, and this is just the beginning.”

The \$60,000 donation will fund \$12,000 worth of educational scholarships for each of the next five years. Cumberland County Public Schools will determine the number of scholarships, scholarship amounts and recipients. The first recipients of the scholarships will come from the Cumberland County High School Class of 2021.

"The Green Ridge Scholarship will provide a pathway to higher education for many of our children in Cumberland County," said Eurika Tyree, Cumberland County Board of Supervisors Vice Chair. "I am thankful for the gesture, and I hope the recipients will take full advantage of this opportunity afforded to them."

“For many graduating seniors, this scholarship will provide an opportunity to pursue a college education and forever change the trajectory of their lives. This can be life-changing, particularly for young



Christmas came early for Cumberland County! A representative of Green Ridge presented a \$60,000 check to Cumberland County to support a scholarship fund for minority students, low-income students and students who are the first generation in their family to pursue a post-secondary education program. Pictured left to right is Don Unmussig, County Administrator; Robert Saunders, Jr., Board of Supervisors, Member; Dr. Chip Jones, Superintendent, Cumberland County Public Schools; Eugene Williams, Principal, Cumberland County High School; Eurika Tyree, Board of Supervisors, Vice Chair; and Jay Zook, Green Ridge Recycling and Disposal Facility.

students who may have previously thought that high school would be the end of their education,” said Robert Saunders, Jr., member of the Cumberland County Board of Supervisors. “This type of support for our students from Green Ridge lets me know that they want to partner with us to help our citizens find ways to get their children help to pay for college.”

“I want to thank Green Ridge for their continued support of Cumberland County’s students,” said Dr. Chip Jones, Superintendent of Cumberland County Public Schools. “This contribution will go to deserving students that can really use a financial boost to continue their education in pursuit of the career of their dreams.”

The \$60,000 donation for scholarships is the latest in Green Ridge’s contributions to the County. In 2019, Green Ridge provided more than \$4,200 to Cumberland County High School for new band uniforms. That same year Green Ridge paid the County more than \$500,000 to close a budget shortfall which otherwise would have led to a reduction in services or a tax increase for county residents. To date, Green Ridge has made payments to the county in excess of \$700,000.

“Green Ridge is bringing much more than a new source of revenue to the County. They’re bringing a partnership that most localities can’t find in a developer,” said Don Unmussig, County Administrator for Cumberland County. “They are going to help our overall budget and provide funding for additional programs that move Cumberland forward without having to raise our property taxes.”

The Green Ridge Recycling and Disposal Facility is expected to provide \$74 million in host fees over the 30-year life of the project; \$7.5 million in donations to Cumberland County Public Schools for an environmental science education program; \$15 million in Machinery, Equipment, and Tools taxes; and \$7.5 million in county recreation programs – in addition to the real estate property taxes and other taxes and fees that will be paid. Green Ridge will also provide free waste disposal and recycling for County buildings and all County residents – saving Cumberland \$650,000 every year.

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