











## FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER











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## MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES



#### **Foundation Mission Statement**

The Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Foundation assists the College in its mission by increasing financial resources and expanding educational opportunities through community advocacy, teamwork and innovation.

#### **About the Foundation**

Established in 2011, Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Foundation seeks to provide our diverse student population with collaborative programs and support services to improve quality of life and promote economic development in our service area. As a community-centered college, our ambitions are mighty, but resources are essential to support our students on their paths of achievement. Whether you are a graduate, parent, corporate partner, or friend, your financial contributions create the blueprint for our future. The Foundation was granted charitable status on March 30, 2012. Classified as tax exempt status under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 27-4751626. The Blue Ridge CTC Foundation Board meets on a quarterly basis.



#### **Board Members**

**Ken Barton** 

**Board President** 

**Stephanie Harvey** 

**Board Vice President** 

**Matt Close** 

**Board Treasurer** 

Dr. Peter Checkovich

Blue Ridge CTC Founding President

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**Sandy Sponaugle** 

**Dr. Ann Shipway** 

# A LETTER FROM DR. CHECKOVICH



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Our Foundation is a phenomenon. I say that in the sense that it is a remarkable thing, person, or event. And at times it is all three at once. For example, our very successful Merry and Bright celebrations (pre Covid) were terrific events championed by terrific people in our terrific building (the thing in this case). If you follow me so far, it is an easy step to recognize that none of the phenomenal work that our Foundation does would be possible without the support of our donors like you. With your generous contributions of time and money, you are helping multiple generations of students become well educated and trained in areas where there are great career opportunities. When I think of how we are situated in the Eastern Panhandle with all of the new employment options that students have it occurs to me that we are living the dream that most geographic areas wish they had. I have told this story many times and it bears repeating.



I had terrific support in my family for getting a good education. My grandparents, my father's parents, were immigrants from Ukraine. When they arrived in this country in 1909 they had left everything behind including the life they knew. It was a very difficult transition. But my grandfather was a strong and determined man who was convinced that the way for his children to succeed in life was to be well educated. He worked hard and saw to it that his children, my father included, had the resources

and support to go to college. Every one of his seven children earned some form of post-secondary education, including four that graduated from Columbia University in engineering. It is quite the success story. And my father passed along that same encouragement and support for me and my brothers to get the good education that would prepare us for a good future.

Not all students have the kind of financial or personal support needed to attend college and get that good education. I have been in higher education for 35 plus years and one of the saddest stories I have witnessed in all of those years is the individual who wants to attend college and does not have the means to do so. That is where our Foundation is an incredibly good resource. The work we are doing to help those who need it is an act of kindness and generosity that will help many generations of students. The work we are doing is providing the pathway for hundreds if not thousands of capable students who would otherwise not have the opportunity for that life changing education. Through your kindness you just might provide that spark that is needed to change lives for the better. You might not have any idea how many lives you have changed by your generosity, but I can assure you they are there. I see them every day and the roster of names that have received Foundation support is impressive.

I thank all of you for being terrific contributors to our Foundation and for changing lives for the better. And stay tuned for more activity and fund raising opportunities from our Foundation!

Sincerely,
Dr. Peter Checkovich, Founding President

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#### Thank you, FirstEnergy!



Thomas Butcher, FirstEnergy Regional Affairs, presents a \$20,000 check from the FirstEnergy Foundation to Anne Myers, Director of the Blue Ridge Community and Technical College Foundation, in support of the college's Plastics Lab. This grant aligns with FirstEnergy Foundation's priorities to help support key safety initiatives, advance workforce development and education initiatives.



#### Thank you, Volvo!



Marcus Minkkinen, Powertrain Production VP & Plant Manager, Volvo Group Trucks, presents a \$10,000 scholarship donation to Blue Ridge CTC Foundation Board Members.



## Thank you, WVU Medicine/WVU Hospitals East Foundation

\$40,000 grant to Blue Ridge Community and Technical College in support of the Nursing Program.



#### Thank you, TSPi!

TSPi Information Technology Scholarship \$2,000 Annually



#### Thank you, TBH!

Thomas, Bennett & Hunter, Inc. Scholarship \$1,000 Annually





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#### **Thank you, Annual Scholarship Donors!**

Berkeley-Jefferson Extension Master Gardener Association (BJEMGA)

Blue Ridge CTC Employees

Bonnie Ballenger

Encova

Friends of Todd Young

**Greg Corliss** 

Hollywood Casino

**Jefferson County CEOS Foundation** 

Leatherman Family

**Melanie Files** 

MidAtlantic Farm Credit Foundation

Paul and Elaine Guttmann

Professional Business Women's Association Scholarship

**Steve Weiss** 

Susan and Ray Benzinger

Thomas Bennette & Hunter, Inc.

**Todd Cimino-Johnson** 

Trudie Holder

**TSPi** 

Valley Health

# EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANTS



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Special Thanks to the Eastern West Virginia Community
Foundation in Support of the Blue Ridge CTC Morgan
County Scholars and JumpStart program!



# BLUE RIDGE CTC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



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Autumn Wilt (left) and Brandon Michael (right)

#### **Autumn Wilt**

2020 Blue Ridge CTC Graduate

#### Q: What do you love about working at Blue Ridge?

**A:** I love working at Blue Ridge CTC because I work around some very talented people. Everyone is so friendly and genuinely cares about everyone else. I also love seeing the students, getting to know them, and watching them grow in their different career choices.

#### Q: What is your favorite cuisine or creation?

**A:** My favorite cuisine to make is Chinese cuisine, but I also love baking!

#### Q. What inspires you about our Culinary Program?

**A:** I love Blue Ridge's culinary program because everyone in this program is so extremely talented; it's was and still is an honor to learn from them. Every instructor loves what they do and loves passing their knowledge onto the students to help them succeed in whatever they decide to do with their degree.

#### **Brandon Michael**

2016 Blue Ridge CTC Graduate

#### Q: What do you love about working at Blue Ridge?

**A:** I love working with my coworkers; you get a sense of family in the kitchen

#### Q: What is your favorite cuisine or creation?

**A:** My favorite thing to do at work is using the grill and our meat smoker.

#### Q: What inspires you about our Culinary Program?

**A:** I love how we are expanding. We have so many new pieces of equipment and the food truck is amazing

# BLUE RIDGE CTC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



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Racquel McCotter (left) and Jennifer Smith (right)

#### **Racquel McCotter**

2020 Blue Ridge CTC Graduate

#### Q: What do you love about working at Blue Ridge?

**A:** One thing that I love about working at Blue Ridge is being able to assist with motivating, teaching & assisting students. It is my job to lead by example, which will help with outstanding job & career opportunities in the future.

#### Q: What is your favorite cuisine or creation?

**A:** My favorite creation is making various cakes/ cheesecakes from scratch. I love baking & enjoy experimenting with new flavors. I also enjoy the "art" in cooking/baking; there's so much creativity that can be expressed in food.

#### Q: What inspires you about our Culinary Program?

**A:** Our Culinary Program consists of a fun, friendly and supportive atmosphere for everyone to love!

#### **Jennifer Smith**

2016 Blue Ridge CTC Graduate

#### Q: What do you love about working at Blue Ridge?

**A:** I love working with the students here at Blue Ridge.

#### Q: What is your favorite cuisine or creation?

**A:** My favorite foods to prepare are British desserts, especially scones and tea service.

#### Q: What inspires you about our Culinary Program?

A: Our Master Chef Tea is a highlight for me.



# Support Our STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Many of our students are balancing employment, family care and their education.

They are GRATEFUL for your support!

#### 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR DONOR SUPPORT:

Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is thankful for over 150 donors for their faithful support!

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: 318 STUDENTS & OVER \$240,000



#### **Contact the Foundation for more information:**

Anne Myers, Foundation Director Phone: 304-260-4380, X2410 Cell: 304-261-7106 Email: amyers@blueridgectc.edu

The Blue Ridge CTC Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit, tax exempt organization.

### **WAYS to GIVE**



Pledge or donate a one-time gift in support of an existing scholarship or create a scholarship for students in a targeted program area



Establish an endowed scholarship for long-term support to our students and program areas



Sponsor our annual events that directly support High School students' scholarships



Participate in a Qualified Charitable Distribution: Support student scholarships with a charitable rollover contribution

#### **OUR STUDENTS THANK YOU!**



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"Thank you for this scholarship. This has enabled me to pay for all of my higher education without student debt. I appreciate this opportunity."

#### - Macie

"Thank you so much for the scholarship, it has helped me so much by lowering my costs in books."

#### - Ana

"Thank you very much for sending me these scholarships.

These scholarships have allowed me to continue on with college without having to pull out loans that I could not afford. This has allowed me to spend more time with my studying and finishing homework instead of having to work constantly which has greatly been helpful to me."

#### - Shawn

"I would like to thank my donors for providing the funding necessary to pay for my school expenses. Your generous donation allowed me to focus on my schoolwork and not be stressed by financial obligations and avoid financial debt to afford to continue my education. Your donation used for my scholarship is not only positively impacting my present but is also providing me a path to my future."

#### – Brian

"Thank you very much for your help, I very much appreciate it. If it weren't for people like you, I would not be able to further my education and seek out new opportunities in life."

#### Edward

"Thank you to all the people involved to make these scholarships available. It is a huge asset during such a stressful time in nursing school and life."

#### - Shelby

"Thank you so much for this opportunity. I have been wanting to pursue a degree and didn't think it was possible. I'm looking forward to many improvements in my life."

#### - Michele

"I would just like to say thank you very much, first off this helps me tremendously with school and takes a bit of stress off my back. I am beyond grateful for this opportunity and cannot thank you enough!"

#### - Seth

"I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for making scholarships possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor, and I am deeply appreciative of your support. The scholarship funds will greatly help me achieve my academic goals and give back to the community as I progress in my professionally."

#### - Faizan

"Thank you Blue Ridge Community and Technically College foundation sponsors for your generous gift into my not so distant future. I look forward into the end of this semester having my criminal justice associations degree and exploring the opportunity this has to offer."

#### - Malaina

"Thank you to all who were a part of providing me with scholarships for school. Having these scholarships allowed me to better my career in nursing, with less debt."

#### Abigail

"As an adult returning to college, I feel this generous award has allowed me to realize my dream of a college education and a degree. I hope to be an inspiration to my children that an education is important and that learning is a lifetime endeavor. I aspire to be an advocate for children especially those with learning disabilities and this award is most helpful and appreciated. Thank you very much for your support."

#### - Heather

"Thank you to all of the wonderful donors! The scholarship I received has helped me afford all of my books for the semester."

#### - Viktoria

# Our Students Are Grateful For Your Support











## Thank you, Annual Scholarship Campaign Donors!

Presidential: \$1500

**Dr. Peter Checkovich & Family** 

Virginia Riggers

**Ken and Anne Barton** 

Stephanie & David Harvey









Chancellor: \$1000







**Professor: \$500** 















Scholar: \$325

Raymond & Susan Benzinger







Community: \$150

**Kim Moss** 

# BLUE RIDGE CTC GENERAL INFORMATION



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#### Locations

Main Campus 13650 Apple Harvest Dr. Martinsburg, WV 25403

Technology Center 5550 Winchester Ave. Martinsburg, WV 25405

Morgan County Center
Located at the Pines Opportunity Center
109 War Memorial Dr.
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Virtual Campus Tour: www.blueridgectc.edu/tour

#### **Nondiscrimination Statement**

Blue Ridge CTC is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive culture by promoting diversity, inclusion, equality, and intercultural and intercommunity outreach. Accordingly, the College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, marital or family status, pregnancy, veteran status, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, genderidentity, or gender expression in the administration of any of its educational programs, activities, or with respect to admission or employment. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Printed and/or electronic documents produced by the College do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied, between an applicant or student. For important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students enrolled in Certificate Programs at Blue Ridge CTC, visit: www.blueridgectc.edu/GEinfo

