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# Thank you for your support

2024-2025



## Private Giving helps shape the W&M Student Experience



**Virginia M. Ambler**

What an extraordinary academic year we had at William & Mary! Students shined brightly in all they

did - from research to study abroad, on playing fields and center stage, in student organizations and internships.

The investment of private funds strengthens William & Mary as we prepare students with the skills they need to meet the most pressing needs of our time. As our mission statement affirms: people come to William & Mary wanting to understand and change the world—and together we do. Your support makes that possible, and I am so appreciative of your generosity.

Recognizing your past support, we want to provide a snapshot of the impact you have had on individual students and our community at large.

Together, let us cheer on our students as they have ventured far and wide this summer. We are particularly proud of our Class of 2025 graduates who enter the world as principled leaders, equipped for lives of meaning and distinction.

We hope you'll continue to partner with us in mission and join us on campus soon to see for yourself the amazing community you continue to be part of.

Hoping you and your family enjoyed a happy and safe summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Virginia M. Ambler".

**Virginia M. Ambler '88, Ph.D. '06, P '24**  
**Senior Vice President for**  
**Student Affairs & Public Safety**

# Unrestricted Support



Through student-centered programs, policies and services, the Division of Student Affairs prepares students to learn, lead and live with integrity and purpose. Annual gifts made to the Division of Student Affairs provides immediate support for the greatest needs of our students.

Specifically, two funds provide this unrestricted annual support for Student Affairs. The first is the **Student Life Impact Fund** and the second is the **Parents Fund** which supports initiatives across campus but also provides over half a million dollars each year to the greatest needs of the Division.

In the past year, **Student Life Impact** funds were used in many areas. Some of the most notable include:

- Support for the new First Generation Student Office
- Outside Fraternity and Sorority Life Policy Assessment
- Speaker series to address men's mental health
- Partnership with the Constructive Dialogue Institute
- Continuing education for instructors in Campus Recreation
- Food and activities on the last day of class
- Neighborhood Party – over 1000 students attended at the beginning of the Fall semester to explore the services available through Student Affairs

## Impact Snapshot Parents Fund 2025

**8,290** free tutoring hours, serving nearly **1,200** students

**400+** mental health support calls

Grief care packages for **45** students

Hazing prevention training for **4,881** students

**15** student internships in the local community





## Civic & Community Engagement

Private gifts to the Office of Civic and Community Engagement made several programs possible this year:

- **Griffin School Partnership** engages W&M student volunteers in Williamsburg/James City County school programs, including a Literacy Lab, after-school events, and one-on-one mentoring.
- The inaugural cohort of 21 AmeriCorps volunteers who offered two programs for local children: **Project Discover Sparks!** engaged middle school students and **Letters & ME** (Mentoring Early) engaged preschool students in early childhood development.
- 4 student **campus-community liaisons** recruited volunteers for local partners like the Williamsburg House of Mercy and Heritage Humane Society.
- **GivePulse** is an online platform that lists volunteer opportunities and helps manage student volunteers for major events like Convocation, Family Weekend and Commencement. This year, the community recorded **16,000+** hours of service across **400+** events.
- **15 community internships** with local non-profit organizations helped students develop civic and career skills. This is what two Community-Capacity Interns say about their experiences:



**Harrison Rohne '26, Government Major**  
Legislative Advocacy Intern at  
NetworkPeninsula.

*"I have met with state and local legislators, bringing new ideas to the table, and worked to advise the Executive Director. With my creation of a local legislator tracker, I hope to emphasize the importance of community members reaching out to their representatives as part of the democratic process. I feel that this was not only important work, but also just a great learning experience."*



**Avery Pike '28, Undeclared**  
Summer intern at Arlington County's Office  
of Sustainability and Environmental  
Management

*"I will work on community outreach, particularly focused on engaging people with stream water monitoring and adopting different eco-friendly practices. Through this summer project, I hope to gain a better understanding of local policies, conservation efforts, and how to engage people in protecting the environment at a local level."*

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# Student Engagement & Leadership

Private gifts to the Student Engagement & Leadership Office sponsored several events hosted by William & Mary's student-driven programming board, **Alma Mater Productions (AMP)**, providing students fun Friday-night entertainment.



**TribeLink** is a one stop shop that allows students to connect with **500+ student organizations** and build community. It is fully funded by private support and provides opportunities for students to find their place and people while at William & Mary. During the 2024-2025 academic year:

- **1,493** events were advertised
- Leading to **7,994** actively engaged students



Gifts from alumni, former parents, and community members support William & Mary's membership in the **StopHazing.Org Hazing Prevention Consortium**. Highlights from the 2024-2025 academic year include:

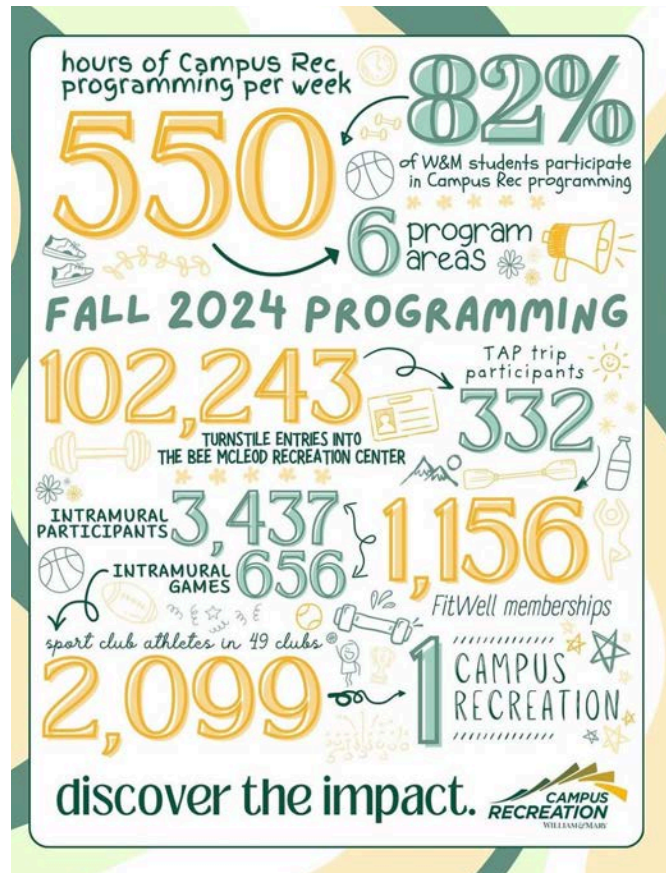
- **4,881** students participating in at least 1 high impact hazing prevention training during the year
- Restructuring of the Hazing Prevention Coalition to facilitate broader reach across campus
- A hazing prevention "road show" to share campus data from the 2024 Hazing Prevention Study (as part of the Consortium). This road show included a presentation to the Board of Visitors.
- Campus Wide Educational Outreach for National Hazing Prevention Week (September 2024) and Love Like Adam Day (February 2025)



## Campus Recreation

### One Tribe One Day Challenge

Thanks to a gift from Will Payne '01 (and Ice Hockey Alum) we were able to provide a challenge to supporters of Campus Recreation. Will gave a \$10,000 gift to be split among the top 3 rec sports teams who gave on One Tribe One Day. Inspired by the spirit of competition, 2,484 students, alumni, and parents made a gift to a campus rec team raising over \$100,000 in all. **What an amazing testament to the importance of campus recreation on our community** - a department that boosts participation from nearly 80% of our student population.



### National Fitness Certifications

Through private donations, Campus Recreation funded 14 students' national fitness certifications. In many cases, students were able to become certified for less than half of the cost of the certification. These certifications allow them to provide the best support to their fellow students and teach or train even after graduation!



## Student Success

### Student Accessibility Services

Thanks to private donors, Student Accessibility Services hosted a new **Summer Connections Program** - a week-long supportive experience for incoming students to help them prepare for their arrival in the fall. The program provides an introduction to academic life, an acclimation to the campus, a chance to make social connections, learn advocacy skills, and practice essential college life competencies. Last year **8** students were enrolled in the inaugural first summer of this program, this year the program has grown to benefit **27** students.

### Sarah Chretien '28

#### Undeclared

*"I am so incredibly glad I attended this program. I've always had difficulty communicating with others, so the experience of actually being able to be bubbly, happy, and myself around others was so exciting, and it gave me hope for my college experience! I had an amazing experience getting used to college life and adjusting to the prospect of living away from home. I wholeheartedly recommend the summer program to any incoming student with a disability!"*

### Care Support Services

Private support of Student Affairs provided:

- Grief care packages for **45** students
- Stuffed bears to students hospitalized in critical care
- An event for **300** students to create self-care kits to support their wellbeing during exams
- A graduate student in the School of Education's Master's in Counseling Program to serve **100** additional students with non-clinical case management and facilitate a small group for students returning from medical leave



Private support sponsored **8,290 free tutoring hours, serving 1,200 students, and employing 140 CRLA Level 1 certified student tutors.** Lead tutors, group tutoring, final exam review sessions, and success coaching are all important elements that help our students thrive academically.



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# Community Values & Connection

## Conflict Resolution & Education

The office of Conflict Resolution & Education (CRE) provides services, support, and resources that empower the William & Mary community to navigate difficult conversations well and resolve issues productively. Established ahead of the 2024-2025 academic year, CRE is a first-of-its-kind office that is pioneering dialogue and conflict resolution work in higher education, and its **pilot programs were seeded through private support.**

- **800+** students trained
- **20** conflict resolution trainings facilitated
- **122** students served through coaching, mediation, consultation or facilitated dialogues



### Student Specialists

This spring, CRE hired its first cohort of student specialists. 3 undergraduate and 1 graduate student who have received training in coaching, facilitation, and mediation, have begun facilitating workshops, and are prepared to begin taking cases in the fall. Student specialists will build relationships across campus and provide greater access to support.



### Campus Conflict Culture Survey

The Campus Conflict Culture Survey gave the CRE important data to understand student conflict needs in order to build the office, its programming and services to best support students. Private donations sponsored tote bags to incentivize 270 student responses.

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## Student Accountability & Restorative Practices

Gifts from private donors provided wages and training for **12** members of the Student Conduct Council. Council members shadowed professional staff and received feedback and coaching throughout the year. One council member reflects:

*"By shadowing an administrator, I can [...] implement positive and effective guidance in difficult conversations. In one recent reflective meeting [...] a respondent came in, sat nervously, and appeared very concerned. Once she learned of our restorative approach, she cried from relief and actively engaged in our conversation. Her openness going forward demonstrated the importance of our non-traditional approach. Beyond our Student Conduct work, I have been able to apply these skills in my Resident Assistant job and campus life."*

## The Haven

The Haven is a resource center for those impacted by sexual violence and harassment, relationship abuse, and other gender-based discrimination.

**Private** donors covered the cost for The Haven's Graduate Assistant Emily Burkholder '23, M.Ed. '25 who in turn served **78 students who needed support, advocacy, and resources** this spring.

*"My time in The Haven has influenced me to pursue working with survivors through a trauma-informed lens in my future career as a counselor. The support, empathy, listening, and advocacy skills I learned during my time as a peer advocate have been invaluable in my courses!"*

Private donors also supported **The Haven's Peer Advocate Core Training program, a 16-hour course** to learn the skills necessary for the role.

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# First-Generation Student Engagement

Thanks to private donors, **First Gen Fridays** has become a consistent and visible source of belonging for first-generation and limited-income students at William & Mary. These weekly gatherings offer more than just snacks or workshops—they offer students a reason to show up, a space to connect, and opportunities to explore aspects of wellness, identity, and success.

First Gen Fridays include study halls, snacks, and speakers who discuss topics like financial literacy, relationships, and navigating fraternity/sorority life. They feature **partners from offices like Student Transition Engagement Programs, the Student Center for Inclusive Excellence, and Health Promotion—strengthening students' networks while also connecting them to critical campus resources.**



The **Vanguard Cording Ceremony** is William & Mary's signature pre-commencement celebration honoring the achievements of first-generation and limited-income (FGLI) graduating students. This year, the ceremony also included the **Tri-Alpha First-Generation Honors Society Cording**, where inducted students received honorary cords recognizing their academic excellence. The event brought together nearly **250** family members, faculty, staff, and peers to create an affirming and joyful celebration during Commencement Weekend.

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## Student Transition Engagement Programs (STEP)

### My First W&M Weekend

Private donations sponsored community building activities for new and returning students during the first weekend of each semester, including Colonial Williamsburg ghost tours, tote bag painting, an ice cream social & more!

### Off-Campus Housing & Education

Sponsored by private donations off-campus housing fairs and education panels helped nearly 200 students explore housing options, engage with on and off campus support systems, and learn from current students.

### Transition Coaching

Private donations helped launch a peer mentoring program for new and returning students. This spring, 8 student coaches supported 50+ new students on topics like academics, social adjustment, campus jobs and leadership opportunities.

### Transfer Celebration Week

Gifts from our community allowed STEP engage with more than 150 transfer students to help support their sense of belonging at W&M. The week included advising hours with coffee, friendship bracelet making, and a transfer trick-or-treat event.

### Month of the Military Child

Donors helped STEP celebrate military affiliated students during the month of April with a coffee break, swag bags, and hidden purple eggs across campus, helping students connect with each other and with campus resources.

### It's Your Birthday!

Starting February 2025, students received a "Happy Birthday" message inviting them to stop by the Campus Living Center for a birthday button and giveaways like nostalgic birthday pencils and birthday-cake flavored lollipops!

