

2023 Annual Report



Bernie L. Bates Foundation Incorporated

"Then Perseverance; we want men who will realize that they have a responsibility to stand by any project that they may begin and see it through."

-Bishop Edgar Amos Love

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter to Friends of the Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.....Page 3

Bernie L. Bates, the Name.....Page 4

The Organization.....Page 5

Vision, Mission, and Goals.....Page 6

President’s Report.....Page 7

Financial Snapshot-----Page 9

2023-Statement of Financial Position..... Page 10

2024-Proposed Budget..... Page 11

Governing Documents.....Page 13

Accountability and Control.....Page 14

Board of Directors.....Page 15

Donate to Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.....Page 17



Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.

5900 Barclay Drive #150653 Alexandria, Virginia 22315-0653

Friends of the Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc. (BLB), below you will find our 2023 Annual Report. As we conclude another successful year, I am reminded of Biochemist Helen Dyer's words, "Volunteerism is the voice of the people put into action. These actions shape and mold the present into a future of which we can all be proud."

During 2023, the Foundation was able to benefit from a myriad of opportunities which in turn lead to noteworthy achievements. With unwavering commitment to its core mission, the Foundation, in collaboration with the Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., provides vital support to the most vulnerable members of our community. Central to its operations, the Foundation maintains an investment strategy meticulously tailored to align with its objectives, risk tolerance, and anticipated future capital requirements. At the forefront of its endeavors lies a steadfast commitment to fostering the well-being of all community members.

BLB's sustained commitment to awarding educational scholarships and extending various forms of financial assistance to deserving individuals again exceeded expectations. Through the community recognition component, the President's Privilege Award Recognition and Celebration honors individuals from community organizations who give of themselves through charitable endeavors. Financial stewardship, coupled with its collaboration with other Fairfax County entities has effectively facilitated a continuation of initiatives aimed at uplifting individuals and fostering community growth.

This report offers an in-depth exploration of the Foundation's origins, historical evolution, financial performance, current service offerings, ongoing programmatic initiatives, organizational structure, and both short-term and long-term objectives. Enclosed within are the 2023 financial statements and the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024. This critical financial data aids in evaluating the organization's effectiveness and underscores the need for additional volunteers and active board members. As you review the report, consider areas where your involvement could make a meaningful difference. On behalf of all BLB board members, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support to our commitment to creating positive change and empowering our community.

Sincerely,

Marvin Chisolm

Marvin Chisolm, President Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.



Bernie L. Bates, the Name



Bernie Leroy Bates was born April 8, 1944, in Ashville, N.C. to Ms. Ivy Bates. He was raised in High Point, N.C. by his maternal grandparents, Joe Parker, and Idell Tussey.

Brother Bates credited his grandparents with instilling in him the value of academic excellence and to living a purposeful life. In 1971, he married Patricia Belton. From that marriage, two sons were born: Bernie, Jr., and Belton Parker. Bernie Bates was initiated into the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on April 6, 1963, through Alpha Chapter, Howard University.

Brother Bates enlisted in the United States Army on May 18, 1965. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon completion of Infantry Officer Candidate School in 1967 and was immediately detailed to service in the Military Intelligence Branch. In 1972, he graduated from Howard University, Washington, D.C. with a degree in Political Science. While at Howard University and after graduation, he remained extremely active in the fraternity, participating in Scholarship fundraisers for needy kids and supporting other scholarly activities on their behalf. He received his Law degree from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. in 1975 and transferred to the Judge Advocate General's Corps, United States Army in 1976. He was admitted to the Bar of the District of Columbia and maintained membership in the National Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

As a career military officer, Brother Bates attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His military assignments included: The Defense Language Institute of Monterey, California where he studied Mandarin Chinese and combat in the Republic of South Vietnam. He also served at Fort Meade, Fort Holabird, Fort Bragg and in the Republic of Germany and the Military District of Washington. Lieutenant Colonel Bates earned military awards and decorations which included: The Bronze Star Medal, The Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, The Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, the Parachutist Badge, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Overseas Ribbon.

Bernie L. Bates was a loving Husband, Father, Son, Brother, and family member. A well esteemed member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and leader who exhibited excellence in every facet of his life died suddenly on August 27, 1984, at Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. The Foundation was posthumously named after him due to his enduring example of excellence and community service.



The Organization



The Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc., operating as a 501(c)(3) organization, provides scholarships to college-bound students, supporting high school seniors, and addressing crucial social needs within the Fairfax County Community. Additionally, we actively participate in the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) under campaign number ID 58697.

We invite you to explore our website at www.blbinc.org, as well as the website of our esteemed partner, the Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., accessible at fairfaxcountyques.org. Here, you'll discover our collaborative efforts in youth mentorship, community service initiatives, scholarship opportunities, and other community-related endeavors. Should you require assistance in areas not explicitly mentioned, seek to contribute, or have inquiries, we encourage you to complete the Foundation's web-based contact form.

At the core of our mission is the commitment to building and enriching our community. We firmly believe that through collective endeavors, we can secure funding for deserving students, extend support to senior citizen programs, and extend aid to those in need. Your patronage, support, and contributions play a pivotal role in enabling us to sustain effective outreach and community-based programming. We eagerly anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with you—may we be blessed in our endeavors.

In unwavering partnership with the Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, the Foundation has orchestrated direct and comprehensive engagements aimed at enhancing the quality of life within the Fairfax community. Thanks to the collective efforts of our talented and dedicated members, both the chapter and Foundation have collectively awarded over \$620,000 in scholarships and community support to date.



Campaign ID number 58697



Vision, Mission, and Goals

Our Vision:

As a Foundation we will remain steadfast in our determination to provide ever enhanced assistance to those in the greatest need in our community.

Our Mission:

The Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc. shall:

- Award scholarships to college students and college-bound high school students.
- Provide support to the less fortunate by assisting to feed, clothe, house, and educate them.
- Support food banks, shelters, and other helping facilities in the community.
- Assist in community educational activities such as talent enrichment and college preparation programs.
- Seek out opportunities to support and mentor the youth in our community.
- Provide leadership training opportunities for upcoming and well-established professionals in our community.

Our Goals:

- Solidify effective marketing and branding materials.
- Expand further the impact of the revenue generating potential of the Combined Federal Campaign on the Foundation's financial statement.
- Continue to identify and engage funders offering grant making opportunities consistent with the mission and vision of the Foundation.
- Continue to foster mutually supportive relationships with the Central Fairfax and Northern VA Black Chambers of Commerce.
- Increase Foundation assets by no less than 5%.
- Add no less than ten new participants to the Foundation's Million Dollar Challenge program in 2024.



Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.

President's Report

December 31, 2023

Directors, the conclusion of any season, or in this instance, year, provides us with an invaluable opportunity for introspection and contemplation. It serves as a poignant moment for the rejuvenation of hope and ambition as we chart our course and embark on the journey ahead.

In our customary manner, the Foundation, in a spirit of selflessness, collaborated seamlessly with the esteemed leadership and dedicated members of the Psi Alpha Alpha chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Our combined efforts and resources were fervently directed towards extending support and services to those who are most vulnerable and in need.

As we reflect on the past year, the Foundation's journey forward is illuminated by a comprehensive review of our priorities and achievements, including:

- In 2023, the Foundation proudly hosted the 2nd Fairfax County Community Privilege Award and Community Recognition Celebration, an event revered as the pinnacle of recognition by our esteemed Board of Directors. This occasion garnered widespread acclaim from both the community and our invaluable partners.
- Our enduring partnership with George Mason University (GMU) flourished, manifested in our joint endowment at GMU and our participation in the College of Science Dean's Advisory Board, a consortium of community, business, and academic leaders with shared interests in the College's endeavors.
- Purpose-driven branding initiatives persisted, integrating the Foundation's identity and its community presence, notably through initiatives like the Million Dollar Challenge and the Combined Federal Campaign.
- Protective measures, including maintaining the Dishonesty Bond, Directors and Officers Insurance, and event insurance, safeguarded the Foundation's assets.
- Active engagement in the Central Fairfax and Northern Virginia Black Chambers of Commerce underscored our commitment to advancing the interests of the community.
- Strategic insight was garnered to pursue numerous grants in support of our philanthropic endeavors across Fairfax County.
- With unwavering support from Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., the Foundation successfully hosted the 2023 Scholarship Awards Ceremony and the Annual Memorial Scholarship Golf Classic.
- The Foundation leveraged its website to promote activities, achievements, and events, aiming for enhanced outreach and visibility.
- The integration of the GiveSmart platform streamlined online donations, collection reporting, and financial management, enhancing our operational efficiency.
- Looking ahead to 2024, the Foundation anticipates hosting the annual Privilege Award and Community Recognition Celebration at George Mason University's Center for the Arts.
- We eagerly anticipate continuing our "I Believe I Can Fly" program in partnership with H. J. Aviation from Ft. Washington, Maryland, in 2024.



- Efforts are underway to simplify participation in the Million Dollar Challenge program and establish clearer pathways for individuals to contribute towards specific giving goals.
- The establishment of a Foundation Advisory Board in 2024 will bring invaluable expertise, critical thinking, and strategic insights to shape and amplify the Foundation's narrative, impact, and vision.
- Additionally, the board will explore implementing a Board of Directors evaluation process in 2024, aimed at enhancing governance practices and board effectiveness across multiple dimensions.

Despite prevailing economic challenges and the looming threat of recession, the Foundation's strategies for safeguarding its investments against inflation and economic downturns have proven steadfast and commendable. The dedicated efforts of Director Jerome "Duke" Haggins, Treasurer, Jeffrey Owens, and the financial management team have yielded substantial benefits for the Foundation. Maintaining a targeted growth of no less than 8% in Foundation assets remains a realistic and attainable goal.

Director Farrell Duncombe's leadership was instrumental in orchestrating the successful execution of the 2023 BLB Scholarship and Recognition Awards Ceremony. As has been consistently observed, the Foundation's achievements owe much to the selfless dedication of chapter leadership and members. Through fruitful partnerships, our presence was prominently felt in events such as the Annual BLB Memorial Golf Classic, Talent Hunt, Stuff-the-Bus, Backpack-Giveaways, Reading for Success, and Achievement Week Programs.

Once again, the Foundation collaborated with Psi Alpha Alpha to support foster care youth graduating from high school and college, as well as the "Reading for Success" program. These initiatives continue to show great promise, fostering a sense of fulfillment among both board members and the youth and staff involved.

Looking ahead to 2024, optimism abounds as we further enhance the Foundation's branding efforts through effective marketing materials, the evolution of our signature "Privilege Award" event, leveraging virtual technology, and setting measurable goals to showcase our impact.

From the President's perspective, the Foundation's future shines with promise and optimism.

Respectfully submitted,

Marvin Chisolm

Marvin Chisolm, President Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.

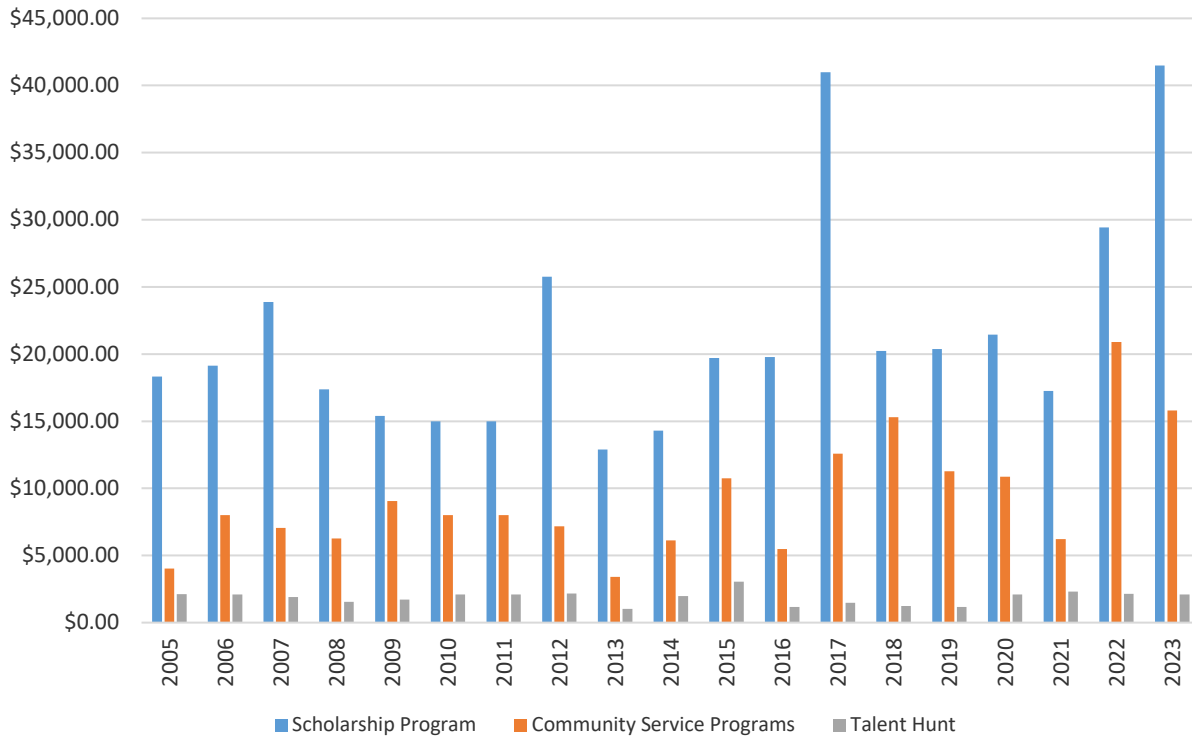




Financial Snapshot

*To paraphrase BLB does not always wait to learn from their own mistakes.
We choose to learn from the mistakes of others and avoid trouble.*

Dashboard -- \$619,615.24
Supporting the Community...2005 - 2023



Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2023

Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 48,301
Notes Receivable	\$ 56,146
Investments	\$ 346,748
Total Assets	\$ 451,195
Liabilities	
Notes Payable	\$ 130,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 130,000
Net Assets (Foundation Equity)	
Temp Restricted Net Assets	\$ 73,853
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 247,342
Total Net Assets	\$ 321,195
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 451,195

“A budget is more than just a series of numbers on a page; it is an embodiment of our values.”

– Barack Obama



2024-Proposed Budget

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
Revenue	
Contributed income	105,000.00
Donations directed by individuals	26,200.00
Total Contributed income	131,200.00
Investment income	10,000.00
Sales of Product Revenue	2,000.00
Uncategorized Income	10,450.00
Total Revenue	\$153,650.00
Expenditures	
Advertising & marketing 4,000.00	
Awards & grants to others	49,400.00
Banquet	81,000.00
Contract & professional fees	1,800.00
Accounting fees	3,000.00
Fundraising fees	400.00
Investment management fees	800.00
Legal fees	500.00
Total Contract & professional fees	6,500.00
Insurance	1,500.00
Office expenses	1,500.00



Bank fees & service charges	1,000.00
Memberships & subscriptions	500.00
Merchant account fees	1,150.00
Office supplies	500.00
Printing & photocopying	500.00
Shipping & postage	400.00
Software & apps	5,700.00
Total Office expenses	11,250.00
Total Expenditures	\$153,650.00



Governing Documents

- ❖ **By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation**
- ❖ **Policies and Procedures Manual**
- ❖ **Internal Revenue Code (501 (c) (3))**
- ❖ **Statement of Conflict of Interest**
- ❖ **Commonwealth of Virginia Incorporation**
- ❖ **General Liability – State Farm**
- ❖ **Director Bonding Liability – JT McKinnon Financial Services**

The Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc. (BLB) operates within the framework of the laws of the State of Virginia and the governance policies outlined in its Bylaws. These Bylaws, determined by the Board of Directors (Board), delineate the responsibilities of various entities within the organization. The Board and its Executive Committee bear the primary responsibility for overseeing the organization's management.

BLB adheres to established accounting principles in preparing both annual and interim financial statements. An independent auditor, appointed annually by the Board, conducts any necessary audits. The organization strives to maintain accurate and transparent records of its actions and transactions.

Ultimate decision-making authority lies with the Board of Directors and its delegates. Operational activities are coordinated by the board's president in collaboration with the Executive Committee. Day-to-day responsibilities are delegated to volunteer members assigned to specific project areas, ensuring efficient execution of tasks across various initiatives.



Accountability and Control



1. The President bears ultimate responsibility for overseeing the operations of the Executive Committee.
2. All financial books and records adhere strictly to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, ensuring accuracy and reliability.
3. Transparency is paramount. All financial books and records are readily accessible for public inspection upon request.
4. Within three months following the close of each fiscal year, the Foundation prepares an annual report. This comprehensive document details the current financial standing of the Foundation and highlights significant progress achieved in its projects.

This annual report is distributed automatically to all major donors, particularly those engaged in the Foundation's Million Dollar Challenge program and is available to other donors upon specific request. Additionally, it is accessible to the public online and can be freely downloaded. Non-donors may request a hard copy of the report, which will be provided by mail at cost.

“Creating a culture of integrity and accountability not only improves effectiveness, it also generates a respectful, enjoyable and life-giving setting in which to work.” – Tom Hanson



Board of Directors



In accordance with the Foundation Bylaws and guiding principles, the Board oversees the management of BLB. As outlined in the Foundation's articles of incorporation, the Board is currently comprised of 17 members appointed either through a formal vote or by virtue of their position within collaborating organizations. Each director is expected to actively engage in the Foundation's endeavors and maintain a hands-on approach to its activities. Additionally, directors are obligated to disclose any circumstances that could be perceived as a conflict of interest, ensuring transparency and integrity in the governance of BLB.

The Board exercises diligent oversight over BLB, making pivotal decisions regarding strategy, investments, organizational structure, and finances.

- The Board ensures proper management and organization operations, including supervision of accounting and financial control.
- A defined working order, detailed in the annual report and on the organization's website, guides the Board's actions.
- From among its members, the Board elects a President and Vice President to lead and represent the organization.
- The organizational structure is subject to approval by the Board.
- Annually, the Board conducts a thorough evaluation of its performance.
- The By-Laws undergo annual review by the Board, with amendments made as necessary.
- Regular meetings, convened at least six times a year, provide a forum for the Board to deliberate on matters crucial to BLB's mission and objectives.



2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President
Marvin Chisolm
President@blbinc.org



Vice President
Hector Sheppard, Jr.
VicePresident@blbinc.org



Secretary
Kenneth M. Younger
Corporate Sponsorship & Grants
Secretary@blbinc.org



Assistant Secretary
Bradford M. Caldwell
Community & Social Media Outreach
DirectorCaldwell@blbinc.org



Treasurer
Jeffrey L. Owens
Fiscal & Portfolio Management
Treasurer@blbinc.org



Assistant Treasurer
Kerry W. Bell
Fiscal & Portfolio Management
DirectorBell@blbinc.org



Director
Ray A. Buckner
Fundraising Campaigns
DirectorBuckner@blbinc.org



Director
James W. Cherry II
Community & Social Media Outreach
DirectorCherry@blbinc.org



Director
Antonio S. Coleman
Scholarship & Mentoring Programs
DirectorColeman@blbinc.org



Director
Jerome W. Haggins
Fiscal & Portfolio Management
DirectorHaggins@blbinc.org



Director
Chester W. Keller
Fundraising Campaigns
DirectorKeller@blbinc.org



Director
Myron B. McDaniels
Community Recognition & Acknowledgement
DirectorMcDaniels@blbinc.org



Director Emeritus
Norris C. Middleton
Foundation Advisory Board
DirectorMiddleton@blbinc.org



Director
Maurice A. Cogdell
Corporate Sponsorship & Grants
DirectorCogdell@blbinc.org



Director
Farrell J. Duncombe II
Scholarship & Mentoring Programs
DirectorDuncombe@blbinc.org



Immediate Past President
Richard G. Morris
Community Recognition & Acknowledgement
DirectorMorris@blbinc.org



The Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.



The BLB Foundation Inc. is a
tax-deductible 501 (c)(3) entity



Text blbdonate to 41444

CFC #58697 

For more information:  blbinc.org/contact
 www.blbinc.org

Scan the QR code with your camera
phone now and go directly to the
donation page and DONATE NOW to
The Bernie L. Bates Foundation.

“UPLIFTING THROUGH PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE”

Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.

5900 Barclay Drive # 150653
Alexandria, VA 22315-0653

The Bernie L. Bates Foundation was incorporated on April 21, 1995. The Foundation was incorporated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, meeting all requirements of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Together our combined efforts can yield funding for scholarships to deserving students, facilitate support for senior citizen programs, and engender sharing with those in need of a helping hand. Your patronage, your support, your contributions—all make it possible to gain and maintain effective community programs.

