

# DOLLAR\$ & \$ENSE

APRIL 2024

CONFERENCE TREASURER

## 2024 Annual Conference Offering

For our Annual Conference offering this year, we are excited to share that we will be supporting two important initiatives who are engaged in the work of mission and service in the world. Our first one is supporting the ongoing connectional work with our VAUMC Partnerships of Hope countries: Brazil, Mozambique, Cambodia, Haiti, Vietnam, and Native American Ministries. The other half of our offering will be given towards our conference-wide RIP Medical Debt Campaign to help eliminate medical debt in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is our hope that through this debt campaign, we are able to raise \$250,000 that would help eliminate \$25 million of medical debt that continues to hurt the most vulnerable in Virginia. This campaign will start with the Annual Conference offering and continue through the end of the calendar year.

We thank you for your generosity in supporting these two initiatives!

For more information about Partnerships of Hope, please visit: <https://vaumc.org/partnerships-of-hope/>

For more information about RIP Medical Debt, please visit: <https://www.ripmedicaldebt.org/>

## Native American Ministries Sunday – April 14<sup>th</sup>

Native American Awareness Sunday is one of the six General Church Special Sundays. Half of the funds are sent to the General Council on Finance & Administration (GCFA) and are equally divided between the Board of Higher Education and Ministry to provide scholarships for Native Americans attending schools of theology and the Native American Urban Initiative of the General Board of Global Ministries. For additional information go to [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org) and select Special Sundays. Half of the funds are kept here in Virginia to be in ministry with Native Americans locally.

Record contributions for this cause at the bottom of your apportionment statement, designated as **Fund #4432 – Native American Awareness Sunday** and include the amount in your apportionment check.

## Kits for Conference

One way your church may be preparing for Annual Conference is packing Kits for Conference. Kits will be collected within each district in the weeks prior to Annual Conference. The goal is to pack 2,000 kits! We thank the Central Virginia Mission Hub for partnering and coordinating this event for us!

If you prefer to make a monetary donation towards the supplies for kits, the cost of the supplies are noted below.

UMCOR cleaning kits \$75 each  
Hygiene kits \$12 each  
Menstrual hygiene kits \$24 each

Send \$1 per packed kit (\$3 for cleaning buckets) to the Conference Treasurer for processing and shipping, and \$1 for toothpaste for each health kit. Please do not put the money in the actual kit. Donations for kits contributions for transportation should be sent to the Conference Treasurer's Office designated as **Fund # 5041 – AC Serving Response Fund**.

If you need additional information or want to help volunteer with the kit collection day for your district, contact [davidmagruder@vaumc.org](mailto:davidmagruder@vaumc.org). He will be able to answer questions related to kits as well as connect you with the district representative who is organizing their collection site. For any further questions, please contact the Missional Engagement Office at [missions@vaumc.org](mailto:missions@vaumc.org).

## Support for communications technology

Does your church need help or have questions about general communications, live streaming, social media or video production? As a resource, the conference Board of Communications has a help request form where you can submit your information to get your questions answered by clergy and laity who work in these communication fields daily. Complete the below link for areas in communication technology that your church is interested in learning more:

<https://vaumc.org/need-help/>

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