

Narrative Description of Activities of the Virginia Archaeology Charitable Trust

The Virginia Archaeology Charitable Trust (VACT) was incorporated on November 9, 2016. Its mission is to provide a fundraising and distribution platform for archaeological research involving Virginia sites.

The VACT shall promote awareness of qualified projects that require funding and connect potential donors to projects through its website. Please refer to Attachments Part VIII 13f and Part VIII 13f(i) for the VACT's project application form and procedures. Donors will make donations or pledges, depending on project type, using the VACT's crowdfunding software and a third-party credit card processing company. For a complete description of the financial procedures please refer to Attachment Part VIII 4a.

Funding shall support projects involving sites located in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Appropriate projects may include, but are not limited to research, excavation, analysis, report preparation, publication, curation and conservation. The principal investigator for each project shall meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications for archaeology (Federal Register 48:44738-9) and be a current full member of the Council of Virginia Archaeologists or the Register of Professional Archaeologists. In addition, the VACT's goal shall be to distribute a small portion of each donation to the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) to support research on Virginia sites threatened with destruction. For a more complete description of the VACT's relationship with COVA and the ASV please refer to Attachment Part VIII 15.

The VACT intends to become the major hub for archaeological fundraising in the Commonwealth by maintaining a comprehensive up-to-date list of funding opportunities and publicizing those opportunities to connect projects with donors.

To date the VACT has established a checking account, created a www.vactrust.org website, and purchased and installed enterprise level crowdfunding software on a WordPress platform. The VACT is beginning to post test-projects on the website and will soon begin soliciting projects from qualified organizations in anticipation of launching a completed website.