



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2022.** Please include this submission form with the electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: Hanover County

Program Title: Matthew and Daniel Baron Memorial Hockey Rink Renovation

Program Category: Parks and Recreation

CONTACT INFORMATION

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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Todd Kilduff

Title: Deputy County Administrator

Signature: 

Virginia Association of Counties Achievement Awards Submission

Location: Hanover County

Project/Program: Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink Renovation

Category: Parks and Recreation

Submitted by: Hanover County Parks and Recreation

Executive Summary

The Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink is a unique amenity in the Greater Richmond Region that supports both youth and adult hockey programs. When faced with the challenge of fully replacing the facility due to age and safety concerns with no available funding, County staff partnered with the Barton family and various corporate partners to find a creative solution. County staff assisted with fundraising and provided in-kind support like site preparation, corporate fundraising, and project management services. Through determination and collaboration, County staff and the Barton family successfully raised enough funding to completely replace the outdoor roller hockey rink at Courthouse Park. The newly improved rink was welcomed by the community and has resumed supporting programs for County residents and visitors. The rink serves as an important asset in keeping Hanover County families active and healthy, while demonstrating the value in community partnerships.

Virginia Association of Counties Achievement Awards Submission

Location: Hanover County

Project/Program: Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink Renovation

Category: Parks and Recreation

Submitted by: Hanover County Parks and Recreation

The Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink is located at Courthouse Park in Hanover County. The rink is the only public outdoor roller hockey rink in the Greater Richmond Region. It serves as a unique amenity that supports youth hockey programs for participants from Hanover County and surrounding areas. The rink was established in 2001 in honor of Matthew Barton, after his untimely death at the age of 10. In 2009, the rink was renamed to include Daniel Barton after his death at the age of 19. The Barton family and the community raised the initial funds needed to construct the rink. Hanover County welcomed the installation of the rink at Courthouse Park and agreed to manage routine maintenance and operations.

After 20 years of normal wear, the rink was in dire need of full replacement. Park Maintenance staff had made numerous repairs over the years but the surfacing and dasher boards had reached the end of their useful lifespan. The rink's fencing, signage, and site amenities also needed replacement due to age and safety concerns. Funding through the County's capital improvement program was not available and wouldn't become available for a number of years due to other existing priority projects.

When the Barton family learned of the need to replace the rink, they immediately began a grassroots fundraising campaign in conjunction with the County. The family raised more than \$20,000 in community contributions through online giving platforms. Parks and Recreation staff began contacting corporate partners and community stakeholders to explore the possibility of sponsorship or other in-

kind contributions. Staff was successful in securing \$25,000 from the Doswell Energy Center, a Hanover County-based business. Staff was also successful in establishing a new relationship with the NHL's Washington Capitals. The Capitals contributed approximately \$100,000 in the form of new dasher boards, fencing, and hockey surfacing for the project. The Capitals also agreed to provide street hockey equipment and hockey training opportunities to all Hanover County elementary and middle school students.

Hanover County Parks and Recreation took on the project management role and provided a variety of in-kind services to support the effort. Department staff removed the existing rink infrastructure and prepared the site for the new materials, equipment, and surfacing. Park staff also installed new signage, seating, and a scoreboard once the rink construction was completed. All costs associated with the project were covered through donations or in-kind support, meaning no taxpayer dollars were used on the project.

The newly renovated Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink was opened for public use on December 13, 2021. The project serves as a shining example of successful community partnerships and collaboration. Hanover County is fortunate to have dedicated residents like the Barton family, in addition to engaged corporate partners like the Doswell Energy Center and the Washington Capitals. Through the dedication and determination of many individuals, the renovated rink will continue to serve the Greater Richmond Region's growing roller hockey population well into the future. Having unique amenities like the rink further Hanover County's mission to keep residents healthy and engaged through active lifestyle opportunities.



New roller hockey surfacing is installed at the Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink at Courthouse Park.



Children enjoy a variety of hockey activities at the re-dedication of the Matthew and Daniel Barton Memorial Hockey Rink.