2026 Blowing Rock Tour of Homes Grants over $85,000 to Local Non-Profits

Thirty-one local non-profit organizations serving the High Country will share the $85,100 net proceeds from this year's 68th annual Blowing Rock Tour of Homes. The St. Mary of the Hills Outreach Committee received over $183,000 in requests from programs serving those in need, demonstrating that the work of the many volunteers who pitched in to make this year's Tour a resounding success is more urgent than ever. The programs feed the hungry, provide shelter and sanctuary, offer educational and recovery services, and care for children. Fr. Andrew Hege announced the grants saying, "We are called by the Gospel to care for those who need us, and the Tour provides one way to answer that call."

The following programs are now receiving grants: Hospitality House Shelter and WeCan; Hunger and Health Coalition; WAMY; Western Youth Network; Blue Ridge Conservancy; Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture; Casting Bread Ministry; Blowing Rock Cares; Blowing Rock Library, Parks and Recreation, Women's Club, and Police; Blowing Rock School Permanent Book Box Program; Club 12; Boone Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation; Make-A-Wish Central & Western NC; Women's Fund of the Blue Ridge; Crossnore School; Green Valley School; F.A.R.M. Café; High Country Caregivers; Mountain Alliance; BRAHM; OASIS; Quiet Givers; Foscoe Home Team; Watauga Arts Council; Watauga Children's Council; Watauga Humane Society; and the Watauga Community Housing Trust.

These grants are only possible thanks to the countless local volunteers who were donors, hostesses, flower arrangers, drivers, organizers, bakers, and cleaners, the generosity of those who underwrote Tour expenses, the Caudle, Gottschalk-Ulus, Phifer-Johnson, and Mann families who opened their lovely homes for the 1300 people who participated in the Tour, Rumple Presbyterian Church who made their Ben Long frescoes open, and the Blowing Rock Art and History Museum, which opened its doors for the Tour café.

The Blowing Rock Tour of Homes is held each year on the fourth Friday of July, and all net proceeds are given as grants to area non-profits serving neighbors in need.