

# TIPS FOR KOVAR DONATIONS

## Feb. 2025

### PARISH COLLECTIONS.

- **Councils have had great response to KOVAR collections in parishes.**
- **Considerations for these collections:**
  - Get permission from the pastor for the collection and the information to the parish
  - Schedule the collection when another “2<sup>nd</sup> collection” isn’t happening. You don’t want competition!
  - Once you get permission for the collection get your council members support for 2 consecutive weekends
  - Get your parish bulletin to publicize both events, trifold pass-out and collection, in church announcements, to raise awareness of the collections.
  - Add the KOVAR QR code to your bulletin announcement so prospective donors can go direct to the KOVAR Give Direct web site.



- QR CODE=
- This is the same QR code that appears on all the KOVAR Media (trifolds, rack cards & posters)
- Get the count of weekend masses. You will need trifolds for 1/3 of the persons attending the weekend masses. Pass out one trifold to a family unit or single attendee.

- Have the council spend a couple \$ to put stickers on the trifold that indicates “KOVAR COLLECTION NEXT WEEK BY THE KNIGHTS”
  - Consider putting each trifold a small (6.5” x3.5) envelope with the KOVAR Treasurer address (PO Box 20872, Roanoke, VA 24018-0088). Put your council # at the bottom, front left of the envelope so your council receives credit.
  - At the first weekend distribute the KOVAR trifold after mass to the parish as they leave the weekend masses. If your church has a Commons area this is especially convenient. Otherwise outside the church.
  - A couple hints on the advance trifold distribution:
    - This raises awareness about KOVAR and how their contributions will be used
    - Have the Knights assemble after communion, wearing the KOVAR vests. Be forward in passing out the trifolds. Just standing there without greeting the departing parishioners won’t get the job done!
    - Hand out the trifold to the lady of the family groups or couple as the ladies are usually more receptive to the trifold information
    - Get stickers printed to put on the trifold indicating when the date of the collection will be; try to schedule the next weekend after the trifold is distributed.
  - THE COLLECTION:
    - Get your Knights to be in the collection area as soon as communion is completed with their vests.
    - If you are using tootsie rolls have these ready to pass out.
    - Set up a table where parishioners can write checks or use the QR code on the trifold to make a donation.
  - The weekend after the collection have a bulletin announcement thanking the parish for their support.
- **WE HAVE USED THIS PROCESS IN SEVERAL RECENT KOVAR CHURCH COLLECTIONS AND DOUBLED THE DONATION AMOUNTS COLLECTED. ONE RECENT COLLECTION YIELDED \$5000.**

## **STOREFRONT COLLECTIONS**

- The KOVAR Rack Card contains information similar to the trifold but is less expensive and can be given to folks who don't have cash in hand to donate during your collection
- The Rack Card is a dual-sided card that is the same size as the trifold, and has all the information on how to donate to KOVAR.
- The KOVAR Give Direct has a page on the web site for collection of donations
- For the ABC storefront collections, be sure to put in your application at least 7 months in advance. See <https://kovarva.org/council.html> for the application form.
- You may also be asked to confer with the property manager for store collections. See the KOVAR Insurance policy that covers these events at <https://kovarva.org/council.html> under liability policy.
- **Contact me if the property manager needs a customized document.**

**REMEMBER THAT IN ADDITION TO THE QR CODE THAT APPEARS ON ALL KOVAR MEDIA DONORS CAN ALSO USE THE PAYPAL APP ON THEIR PHONE- THE KOVAR ACCOUNT=. KOVAR CORPORTATION**

## **DONATIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES**

**THE BROTHERS AT THE CULPEPER COUNCIL # 6328 GET ABOUT 70% OF THEIR KOVAR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES.**

**Here is how they do it:**

- Letters and cold calls to businesses - see the sample letter below
- Asking brother Knights in the council to help with the outreach to businesses.

- Keeping a record of incoming donations from businesses- here at the KOVAR fundraising management we can see these donations and their attribution as well as track them.
- In the Culpeper council Steve Zajkowski can help you with how their council has made this work for them. Contact info= [steve.zajkowski@comcast.net](mailto:steve.zajkowski@comcast.net)

### **SAMPLE LETTER**

DATE

NAME

BUSINESS ADDRESS

Dear Owner or Manager,

The Knights of Columbus (KoC) Council based In (fill in your information) is kicking off its KOVAR fundraising campaign for 2025. The KoC is an organization founded on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The largest of the charities is KOVAR and the people it supports needs your help more than ever.

This year the KoC extends an invitation to you to join us in helping individuals in our community with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) by donating to our annual campaign. KOVAR is a Virginia Knights of Columbus 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity established in 1971 to provide financial assistance through grants and home loans to tax-exempt organizations providing training and opportunities to persons with intellectual disabilities (ID). KOVAR has provided over \$19 million in grants and \$6 million in no-interest home loans to non-profit organizations who support persons with ID within the Commonwealth of Virginia. KOVAR is the largest nongovernmental provider in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services estimates there are about 78,000 persons in Virginia with ID. The services provided to these persons covers a wide spectrum from adult group homes for community living accommodations to day care, education, sports, and job training. The more serious the ID condition of the person the more care that is needed.

KOVAR Corporation exists to improve the quality of life for Virginians with Intellectual Disabilities. This is done through the grant and home loan programs and is facilitated by the efforts of Virginia Knights of Columbus Councils who raise money for KOVAR and individual donors. Local KOVAR grants awarded: ➤ FILL IN LOCAL GRANTS USING THE INFORMATION FROM THE KOVAR TRIFOLD FOUND ON THE KOVAR WEB SITE. COUNCIL INFORMATION. OR YOU CAN CONTACT BARRY HOLLAND FOR THIS INFORMATION

The KoC NAME YOUR COUNCIL Council's 2024 KOVAR fund raising campaign was a great success! The Council raised over \$\_\_\_ up from \$\_\_\_ in 2023. The Council's success would have not been possible without the financial support of the people and businesses of NAME YOU AREA and the local towns and communities.

Please make your tax-deductible check payable to KOVAR of Virginia, and mail it to: KOVAR c/o  
PUT IN THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR KOVAR CHAIRMAN.  
Should you need additional information about KOVAR please visit our web site, <http://www.kovarva.org>, or you can call me, YOUR NAME & PHONE NUMBER or any of the committee members listed below.

Sincerely,

I HAVE MODIFIED the Council 6328 LETTER TO FIT YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL'S NEEDS. NEED SUPPLIES- PLEASE CONTACT ME.

**Barry Holland**

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