

Fairfield Glade Fire Department

An All Volunteer Organization

September 2026

501(c)(3)

A Message of Thanks from the Chief

On behalf of every member of the Fairfield Glade Fire Department, thank you to the residents of our community. Your financial support, encouragement, and trust mean more than words can express.

Each year, our pancake breakfasts and other fundraisers do more than raise money—they bring neighbors together, strengthen our bond with the community, and support our shared goal of keeping homes, families, and neighbors safe.

Your donations help us purchase and maintain the equipment, protective gear, tools, and training needed to respond to fires and other emergencies. For a volunteer department, that support is essential to serving families when they need us most.

In the recently completed Community Survey, you gave FGFD/EMS professionalism the highest rating of any sub-attribute, at 96%. Your moral support matters just as much as your financial support. A kind word, a wave, a handshake, or a simple “thank you” reminds our volunteers that their time, training, and sacrifices are appreciated.

We serve because this is our community too—our roads, homes, churches, businesses, and families. When the alarm sounds, we respond because we care deeply about protecting the people and places that make this community special.

Every plate of pancakes purchased, every donation, every volunteer hour, and every word of encouragement makes a real difference.

From all of us at the fire department, thank you for believing in us, supporting us, and standing with us. We are proud to serve you and remain ready whenever our community needs us.

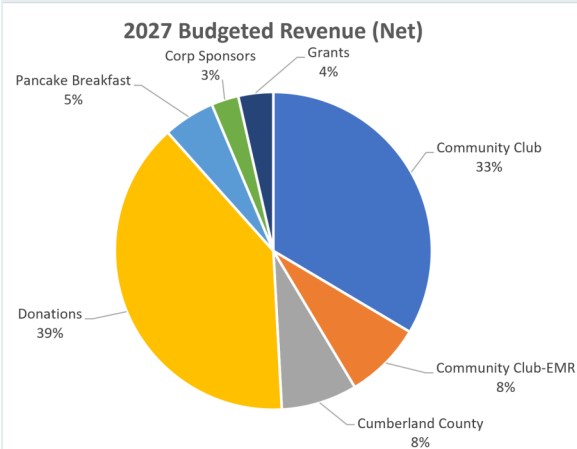
How We Pay for Things

Dear Fairfield Glade Neighbor,

The Fairfield Glade Fire Department (FGFD) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated solely to protecting lives and property in Fairfield Glade and the surrounding community. We are a volunteer organization made up of your friends and neighbors, ready to serve you and respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This year, we launched an Emergency Medical Response (EMR) unit that responds 24/7 in conjunction with Cumberland County EMS. Our unit is trained, equipped, and certified by the State of Tennessee.

To continue to make this effort successful, we need your help. Your generous response to our annual request for support enables us to continue providing high-quality services to Fairfield Glade.

Our annual budget for 2027 is \$646,000. This amount includes substantial funds needed to replace our aging fleet over the next several years. The chart shows the various sources of income we have budgeted for in 2027.



The Community Club's generous donation covers our operating expenses, as well as the costs necessary to equip and train our new EMR program. It is not used for fire department capital expenses.

Capital expenses are paid for through the fundraisers we conduct and through your generous response to this newsletter.

In 2025, your donations helped purchase the \$500,000 Engine 2. This year, with your generosity, we were able to acquire a much-needed brush truck we call Rescue 1. In 2027, we plan to replace the more than 23-year-old Engine 3 at a cost estimated to be over \$600,000.

We are grateful to the Community Club for recognizing the need for the new Emergency Services Center

but, as you can see, we could not provide this protection for your family and property without your continued help.

On behalf of the FGFD, we thank you for your continued support and ask that you once again support our annual fund drive.

David J. Corcoran
President
Fairfield Glade Fire Department Board



Great Food, Good Neighbors, and a 2027 Goal

We're always pleased when guests complement our delicious pancakes or ask whose sausage we're serving (it's Jimmy Dean, by the way). That's how we know our breakfast attendees are truly enjoying the fundraiser. It's also wonderful to see neighbors and families take time to sit, socialize, and sometimes make friends with people they haven't met before.

One opportunity we see is to welcome more breakfast supporters back to the event in the years ahead. Before COVID, our three annual breakfasts served an average of 4,800 adults and children. Our community has been growing by leaps and bounds, putting a bigger strain on emergency resources, yet our attendance since 2022 has averaged about 3,800. That means there's room for 1,000 more neighbors, friends, and guests at the table. We know the potential is there.

Every breakfast ticket helps provide the necessary financial support for our department and the emergency services that our community depends on. We've worked hard to keep the event affordable for families, with tickets still just \$8.00 for adults and \$3.00 for young children. When you enjoy a plate of pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee, you're doing more than sharing a meal — you're helping strengthen the department that is here when our neighbors need it most.

So, Fairfield Glade residents, here's your mission: help us increase our 2027 breakfast attendance by 1,000. Invite your friends, visiting family, golfing buddies, Mahjong group, and neighbors you haven't met yet. With 6,000 houses in our lovely community, let's bring back 4,800 hungry people!

A Special Thank You To Our 2026 Corporate Sponsors

We are grateful for the commitment these companies make to the future of the FGFD.

Please "like" their Facebook Pages and support them and thank them for supporting us.

Diamond



L to R John Wedgworth,
Brian Kemp, Owner
Laura Kemp, Owner
Chief McLaughlin,
Fritz Ring



Gold



L to R Chief McLaughlin,
John Wedgworth,
Isaac Zuercher,
Fritz Ring



Silver



L to R John Wedgworth,
Chief McLaughlin,
Robyn Hively, Branch Manager,
Fritz Ring



L to R John Wedgworth,
Chief McLaughlin,
Diana Yarbrough,
Derrick Pratt,
Fritz Ring



L to R Fritz Ring,
Chief McLaughlin,
Mark Hyder,
John Wedgworth



Cameron Sexton
Speaker of the House



Bronze



L to R Fritz Ring,
Chief McLaughlin,
Todd Reid,
John Wedgworth



L to R Neikka Starkey,
Dean Gentry, Manager
Danielle Powers, Owner
Chief McLaughlin,
John Powers, Owner
John Wedgworth



How 501(c)(3) Nonprofits Serve Communities Together

Shared Purpose, Stronger Impact

501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations are created to serve public purposes such as charitable, educational, religious, health, and community-benefit work.

Because community needs are often complex, these organizations are most effective when they work together rather than operate in isolation.

How Collaboration Works

Collaboration begins with listening to residents, volunteers, schools, congregations, local leaders, and service providers. By sharing what they learn, nonprofits can identify urgent needs, reduce duplication, and connect people to the right support.

Partnerships may include referrals, shared volunteers, community coalitions, joint programs, shared grant applications, or formal agreements with government agencies and foundations.

Why It Matters

When nonprofits combine their strengths, communities receive more complete and efficient care. By working together, food pantries, clinics, youth programs, housing agencies, and workforce partners build a stronger safety net, use resources wisely, and help neighbors move from immediate need toward long-term stability. Collaboration is one of the most practical ways a community cares for itself.

Did You Know?

- To become a firefighter you must complete over 80 hours of training.
- Each year, firefighters must complete 30 hours of continuing education.
- To become an EMR you must complete over 92 hours of training and pass the National Registry Exam.
- Your FGFD offers free Home Safety inspections.
- It costs over \$17,000 to equip one interior firefighter.
- Your FGFD offers free Wildfire Mitigation inspections.

Would You Consider Volunteering?

The FGFD is always looking for community members who want to serve. Whether you're interested in firefighting, emergency medical response, administrative support, fundraising, public education or community outreach, there is a place for you. No experience necessary—we provide the training.

Call 931-484-3801 and speak to a representative to apply.



Home Fire & Senior Safety

Small Changes Can Make a Big Difference

A safe home is important at every age, but as we get older, a few additional precautions can make an enormous difference. Changes in mobility, hearing, vision, balance, or medications can affect how quickly we recognize and respond to an emergency. The good news is that many of these risks can be reduced with a few simple steps.

Start With Working Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms save lives by giving you early warning to escape. Keep working alarms on every level, inside bedrooms, and outside sleeping areas. Test them regularly and replace them as recommended. For people who are deaf or hard of hearing, use alarms with flashing lights, vibration, or bed shakers. Never disable an alarm for nuisance alerts—fix the problem instead.

Prevent Fires Before They Start

In the kitchen, stay nearby while cooking, use a timer, and keep anything that can burn away from the stove. Keep combustibles three feet from heaters; place portable heaters securely and turn them off before leaving or sleeping. Check cords and power strips; replace damaged cords, avoid overloaded outlets, and never run cords under rugs.

Have a Plan to Get Out

A working smoke alarm alerts you to the fire. An escape plan helps you survive it.

Know two ways out whenever possible and establish a meeting place safely outside the home. Keep hallways, stairs, and doorways clear so you can escape quickly.

Older adults should consider what they would need during an emergency. Keep eyeglasses, hearing aids, a phone, and mobility devices such as a cane or walker within easy reach at night.

If you might need assistance getting out, talk about it before an emergency happens. Include family members, caregivers, trusted neighbors, or others who may be able to help in your plan.

Once you are safely outside, stay outside and call 911. Never go back into a burning home.

Don't Forget Fall Prevention

Falls are another serious risk for older adults, and many can be prevented.

Keep walking areas free of clutter and electrical cords. Make sure stairs and hallways are well lit. Secure or remove loose rugs, install grab bars where appropriate, and use handrails on stairs.

Take a few minutes to look around your home from a safety perspective. Something as simple as improving lighting or moving an extension cord can prevent a serious injury.

Safety Supports Independence

Making a home safer isn't about limiting independence. It's about helping people remain safely independent for as long as possible.

Take time this year to walk through your home—or the home of someone you care about—and look for opportunities to make it safer.

- Check the smoke alarms.
- Clear the pathways.
- Review the escape plan.
- Remove fire and fall hazards.

A few minutes today could make all the difference during an emergency.

Preventing emergencies is just as important as responding to them.

Meet Firefighter Sharon Ricciardo

Sharon and her husband, Patrick, purchased their home in Fairfield Glade in April 2020. They moved here permanently from Northern Virginia, just south of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, in August of that same year.

She began her “first responder” training in 1995 as a volunteer with the Havelock, North Carolina, Fire Department. After about a year, she transitioned into EMS, eventually reaching the paramedic level, where she served for five years. From North Carolina, they moved to the Washington, D.C. area where she worked for the Food and Drug Administration for more than 20 years in the Center for Veterinary Medicine, approving generic animal drugs.

After arriving in Fairfield Glade, Sharon immediately began looking for ways to contribute to the community. Having previously served in the fire service, she stopped by the Fairfield Glade Fire Department (FGFD) to take a look.

Impressed by the people and the training, eight months later, she enrolled in the department's 64-hour firefighter training class. Upon completion of the course, Sharon was officially an FGFD firefighter.

Following a few months as a newbie, the chief sent Sharon to Live Burn training, where you learn how to conduct yourself in a live fire situation. After her successful completion of Live Burn she became an interior firefighter. But she didn't stop there. Sharon went on to complete engineer training and now serves as a backup driver and pump operator. She also completed training in wildland firefighting, Home Wildfire Risk Mitigation, and the Home Fire and Fall Prevention Evaluation Program. Most recently, when the department introduced its Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) program, she volunteered for that training as well.

“The fire service has challenged me in ways I never expected and has required perseverance, humility, and a commitment to continual training and learning,” she said. “I strive to be someone my fellow firefighters and neighbors can count on—someone who shows up whenever I'm needed.” A valued member of the FGFD team, her commitment to the department and the community is exemplary.

When Sharon is not answering fire calls, she enjoys playing tennis, especially perfecting trick shots and trying her hand at landscaping their yard. When you see Sharon around the Glade, be sure to thank her for her service.



The FGFD: Evolving to Serve Our Community

For generations, the Fairfield Glade Fire Department has protected the lives and property of the residents we serve. That commitment remains the same, but our community's needs are changing—and so must we. Medical emergencies now occur far more often than structure fires. In cases involving heart attacks, strokes, breathing problems, falls, and sudden illness, care in the first few minutes can significantly affect a patient's outcome.

To meet this need, the Fairfield Glade Fire Department is proud to announce its new **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division**, an important expansion focused on the services our community needs today and in the future.

Our first initiative is the **Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Program**.

The program's purpose is simple: to place trained medical responders at a patient's side quickly to begin care while Cumberland County EMS is responding. Our Emergency Medical Responders are trained to assess patients, manage airways, administer oxygen, control bleeding, perform CPR, use AEDs, and provide other essential care until the ambulance crew arrives.

The EMR Program is designed to complement—not replace—Cumberland County EMS by starting care during those critical first minutes.

In a retirement community like Fairfield Glade, many residents may never experience a structure fire, but nearly every family will face a medical emergency involving someone they care about. Knowing trained responders are on the way brings reassurance when it matters most. Creating an EMS Division requires training, certification, continuing education, dedicated volunteers, equipment, and a commitment to high standards of emergency care. We have embraced that commitment because serving Fairfield Glade means preparing for the emergencies our residents are most likely to face.

The creation of the EMS Division reflects our commitment to growing alongside the community we serve. As Fairfield Glade evolves, so will your fire department.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support. It is an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Fairfield Glade.

The New Emergency Services Complex

Built for Service, Safety, and the Future

In the coming months, our fire and EMS first responders will move into a new facility that will greatly improve emergency services for our community. More than just a new building, this facility is an investment in faster response times, firefighter and EMS safety, public education, and the long-term needs of our growing community.



The new station will provide important features we do not have in our current facility, including an exhaust removal system to help create a cleaner, safer environment and a climate-controlled meeting and training room for firefighter training, public education, community meetings, and other events.

It will also provide a place to house a firefighter/engineer onsite, which will significantly reduce response times by ensuring trained personnel are ready to respond when every minute matters. The building will also become the new home for Cumberland County EMS ambulances and provide a safe, comfortable space for EMS personnel who will reside there 24/7.

Moving into the new facility does come with significant costs, including the need for furniture, fixtures, and equipment that fit the layout and purpose of the new station. Much of our current furniture will not meet the needs of a facility designed for expanded training, improved operations, 24/7 staffing, and community use.

We are grateful to the Fairfield Glade Community Club for its vision in investing in this impressive facility and thankful for the continued support of our residents. The new station will strengthen public safety, support the health and readiness of both firefighters and EMS personnel, and create a welcoming space where residents can gather, learn, and connect. This facility will serve our department, Cumberland County EMS, and our community well for many years to come.

Be Part of the Solution!

There are many ways that you can make a financial contribution to the FGFD:

A donation using the envelope you'll find inside this newsletter.

Drop off a check donation to the FGFD at the office located at:

7258 Peavine Road,
Crossville, TN 38558

Make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA account. Consult your financial advisor on how.

Scan this QR code to make a donation using PayPal



You can name a charity in your will or your living trust to receive a certain amount of money or a percentage of your estate.

The members of the FGFD and the FGFD Board of Directors

THANK YOU

for your continued moral and financial support!



www.fairfieldgladefire.org