



Connections

The Newsletter of the Virginia Association of Counties

April 1, 2007

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CSA Costs to Rise

In an unprecedented effort to tap local funding, the Kaine administration last week directed the commissioner of social services and the Office of Comprehensive Services to conform foster care policy to the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA).

By rewriting foster care policy, a new group of children will be eligible for payment of services under CSA. More mandated children equal more local funding. Current total funding requirements are rising five to 10 percent per year; local costs are rising similarly. Local costs will increase with a new population eligible to receive mandated sum-

sufficient funding. VACo, VML and other local government partners worked with members of the 2007 General Assembly to address this issue through the mental health initiative and by working with House Appropriations and Senate Finance staff to add funding to children's mental health services. Additionally, local governments supported the re-enactment clause on SB 1332 (Devolites-Davis) that allowed evaluation of the bill's fiscal impact.

SB 1332 will allow families to



access services through CSA to prevent placement of their children in foster care due to behavioral health issues. The amended bill also includes a clause stating that the provisions are not effective until the General Assembly appropriates funds for the purposes of the bill. It has a re-enactment clause that requires passage in the 2008 General Assembly. The bill was passed by the 2007 General Assembly but not signed by the governor.

VACo worked with Del. Terry Kilgore to develop HJR 774, which calls on the governor to provide children's mental health services through the community services boards and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services. Although VACo, VML, other local government partners and the General Assembly worked on the issue of children's mental health services for the last two months of the session, this week's directive is immediate and requires services to be provided and paid for by the state and local governments.

The decision to change foster care policy was publicly announced on March 27 in a

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New Communications Tax in Place

During the week of March 20, the Virginia Department of Taxation (Tax) transferred to localities their January revenues derived from the new Communications sales tax. The new law was enacted in 2006 and took effect on Jan. 1. Initial receipts were lower than anticipated.

Tax is closely monitoring the administration and development of the new law. The department cautions that it needs several months of data and receipts before drawing short and long term assumptions about future revenue projections. Tax is in regular communication with VACo, VML and the industry about implementation issues.

The new taxes and revenues replace several former local

telecommunication and cable taxes. The new five percent levy applies to all voice, satellite services and cable television. A new landline E-911 tax also applies, 75 cents per phone. The state's wireless E-911 board continues to receive the wireless E-911 tax of 75 cents per wireless phone. Tax will transfer the prior month's receipts before the 20th of each month and intends to transfer June receipts before Aug. 15.

Most general Communications Tax questions can be answered by visiting www.tax.virginia.gov/ct. Tax is continually updating its FAQ page at this site. VACo ran the most recent Tax FAQ in the March 15 issue of *County Connections*.

To request a listing of providers registered for Communica-

tions Taxes, contact Vickie Duffey at vickie.duffey@tax.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-1437.

If you have a question about local communication tax distributions, contact Tracy Sanders at tracy.sanders@tax.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-4054, or contact Reggie Williams at reggie.williams@tax.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-2004.

For specific communications tax inquiries, contact Tracy Sanders at tracy.sanders@tax.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-4054, or contact Sherman Chung at sherman.chung@tax.virginia.gov or call (804) 786-8083.

VACo staff contact: Mike Edwards, medwards@vaco.org, (804) 343-2503 ☞

Are AEDs in Your Future?

Sudden Cardiac Arrest can happen to anyone, anywhere and at anytime - SCA can strike even healthy young people with no symptoms. When SCA occurs, time is a critical factor. For every one minute of delay in treatment, there is a 10 percent decrease in survival rates.

Recent technological advances have made the portable lifesaving device, called an automated external defibrillator or AED, an important medical tool. Trained non-medical people can use these extremely simple machines to treat a person in cardiac arrest.

Outside of the hospital envi-

ronment, where AEDs may not be available, the survival rate from SCA is less than five percent. When AEDs are available, survival rates can soar to 74 percent. Average EMS response times are 8-12 minutes, which makes early defibrillation a vital link to survival. As standards of care are reviewed in individual communities across the United States, most government buildings are being equipped with AEDs.

The VACo-sponsored U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance provides AEDs at discounted prices via



the Homeland Security contract with Hagemeyer. When public agencies are equipping new buildings with AEDs or are replacing older technology, they will find not only excellent discounts via this contract, but also trade-in credits. This contract also contains other health, first responder and disaster relief commodities and includes a grant tracking program when agencies are using federal funds. Additional information can be found at www.uscommunities.org or at www.hagemeyerna.com. ☞

Enter VACo's 2007 Achievement Awards Program

Applications for the 2007 Achievement Awards Program are available now at www.vaco.org. All county administrators and public information officers will receive copies of the application form by mail. Any county department is eligible to apply!

Share your innovative programs with other counties in Virginia. The application process is easy and there is no fee to send entries. All programs in operation before Jan. 1 are eligible.

The competition is divided into five population categories

so that projects compete with other localities of comparable size. Entries must be postmarked by June 1.

Award plaques will be presented at VACo's Annual Business Meeting on Nov. 13 in Bath County. The winning entries will be featured in a booklet distributed during VACo's Annual Conference and the original submissions will be displayed at the banquet. Recipients will also be recognized on the VACo Web site and in a news release sent to statewide media outlets.

Program categories include community/economic develop-



ment, customer service, communications, criminal justice and public safety, health and human services, information technology, parks and recreation, transportation, and organizational development. Three independent judges with expertise in local government issues will review the entries. ☼

CSA

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memorandum to directors of local social services departments, community and policy management teams, community service board executive directors, family assessment and planning teams (FAPT) and CSA coordinators. The memo can be accessed on VACo's Budget Page on the Web at www.vaco.org.

VACo has many reservations about this policy decision. One concern is caseload management. The local departments of social services are barely able to manage their current caseloads. Federal audit findings are worrisome in that no new funding has been provided to offset high worker caseloads. The state has provided no new substantial funding for staffing requests at the local level. The Program

Improvement Plan (PIP) brokered by the state and federal government continues to get pushed aside year after year in lieu of higher priorities. State funding for local administration is very nominal at best.

Local funding needs are a major concern. Additional appropriations will be required in every jurisdiction. These appropriations will be based on the numbers of children that are presented and approved by FAPT and the specialty services needed and/or requested to be paid. Funding is sum-sufficient and will require an additional appropriation by the state and local governments using the CSA match rate formula.

Additional appropriation and/or workloads will be required to meet the mandatory requirements of developing and completing a uniform assessment instrument (UIA) on many more

children. Localities that have developed their own system will be faced with a major "re-tooling" or defaulting to the state contract.

With a dedicated sum sufficient funding stream for children needing mental health and/or residential care, group homes may proliferate throughout counties. Many localities have determined these facilities invite other problems associated with public safety and health inspections.

VACo, VML and other local government partners will be meeting with members of the General Assembly and a select work group of state and local officials in the coming months to get and provide guidance on the local government impact. Additional information will follow as the issue develops. Staff contact: Dean Lynch, dlynch@vaco.org, (804) 343-2511 ☼

VACo Welcomes New Associate Members

Silling Associates, Inc.

Silling Associates, Inc., is a regional architectural firm specializing in courthouse, judicial and correctional facility design. Since 1902, our firm has been providing exceptional planning and design services in Virginia, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. These services include courthouse facilities master plans, feasibility studies, project cost estimating, architectural design, and construction administration.

In the last three years alone, Silling has developed courthouse and judicial facility designs totaling more than 260,000 square feet at a construction cost of approximately \$70 million. This experience includes projects with construction budgets ranging from as little as \$250,000 to as much as \$15 to \$20 million. Our planning and design expertise includes new, free-standing judicial centers, courthouse additions and renovations, ADA accessibility improvements, courtroom technology, building security, records management, exterior restoration, historic preservation, and detention and jail facilities. Silling provides pre-project consulting that assists counties in determining their facility improvement needs, cost estimates and project phasing opportunities. This allows counties to thoroughly evaluate a proposed project's scope, feasibility and costs prior to entering into a full design and construction contract.

If your county's leadership is considering new and/or improved courthouse facilities, we would look forward to an opportunity to visit your courthouse campus, discuss your needs and answer any questions that you might have. Silling Associates can help determine your project's needs, evaluate your funding opportunities, provide creative marketing assistance for the project, and ultimately bring your visions to reality in a most successful manner.

For more information on how we can be of assistance to your county, visit our Web site at www.silling.com or email us at mmoore@silling.com.

Greehan, Taves, Pandak & Stoner, PLLC

Greehan, Taves, Pandak & Stoner, PLLC, represent local governments and other governmental agencies in Virginia in areas of municipal/local government law, with a focus on land use and zoning, personnel, public safety, public-private partnerships/economic development and real estate tax assessment matters. The firm handles both trial and appellate litigation in federal and state courts, drafting of ordinances, negotiation of agreements, and provision of legal advice as outside counsel.

Prior to the formation of the firm, Sharon Pandak was a Prince William County attorney for 15 years, and then counsel with Sands, Anderson, Marks and Miller. Randy Greehan and David Stoner were partners in the land use practice at Walton & Adams in Reston and are former assistant Fairfax County attorneys. Pat Taves was deputy Fairfax County attorney in charge of the land use section and recently retired from the county attorney's office. Together, the partners have more than 90 years of experience in local government practice.

The firm has offices at 14520 Avion Parkway, Suite 210, Chantilly, VA 20151 (phone: 703-378-5770; fax: 703-378-5771), and 4004 Genesee Place, Suite 201, Woodbridge, VA 22192 (phone: 703-680-5543; fax: 703-680-5549). Visit our Web site at www.gtpsllaw.com.

Associate Memberships

All of VACo's Associate Members are listed on the Web at www.vaco.org. Click on "about VACo" and then "associate members." Associate Members are organized by category with links to each company Web site. This is an easy way for counties to contact engineering firms, staffing firms, consultants, waste management companies, law firms and much more. If you don't have access to the Internet, please give us a call at (804) 788-6652 so we can send you a print version of our associate member list. ☞



Mark Your Calendar...

Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance Spring Conference and Trade show
 April 11-13, Hotel Roanoke
 Join more than 600 private and public sector transportation professionals for two days of dialog and discussion on the effective and efficient delivery of Virginia's transportation programs. In addition, more than 70 exhibitors will be a part of the Trade Show, presenting information on the materials and services you need for excellence. Registration information and the conference agenda are available online at www.vtca.org.

Virginia Government Communicators Spring Conference
 April 17, Fairfax County Government Center
 For more information visit <http://www.vgconline.net/> or call Barbara Gordon at (703) 642-4635.

National County Government Week
 April 22-28
 Visit www.naco.org to see ideas and suggestions for holding activities during the week.

The Virginia Industrial Development Authorities Institute
 April 24-25, Hotel Roanoke
 Registration and program information is available at www.cpe.vt.edu/vida/. You can also register by contacting Jane Todd or Liz Wade-Fillman at (540) 231-

9087 or email elwade1@vt.edu. Room reservations should be made directly with the Hotel Roanoke, please mention the VA IDA Institute.

VACo Board of Directors Meeting
 April 27-28, Williamsburg Marriott
 April 27, 2 p.m.- Board retreat and group dinner
 April 28, 9 a.m. - Board meeting followed by a trip to Jamestown Settlement
 RSVP notices and agendas have been sent by email to all board members.

VACo Supervisor Certification Course
 April 29-30, Williamsburg
 Closing session on June 29.
Inventing Your County's Future: The Role of Community Planning

2007 Environmental Summit for Local Governments
 May 3, Phoenix Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.
 Join us for the only national conference dedicated to local environmental professionals. Participate in roundtable discussions with an active community of peers, hear innovative ideas about current environmental practices and programs, and network with professionals from around the country.

Virginia Food Security Summit
 May 11, UVA Alumni Hall, Charlottesville
 8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 Speakers will address why and how Virginia can become more

food secure. Hear practical ideas, proven lessons from other states, policies and incentives to consider, and more. You will have a chance to discuss possible "next steps" to achieve greater food security. A summary report will be produced for broad distribution.
www.nalgep.org

America's Anniversary Weekend
 May 11-13, Historic Jamestowne, Jamestown Settlement and Anniversary Park
 Tickets are available by calling (866) 400-1607 or at www.americas400thanniversary.com.

VACo Resolutions Committee Meeting
 May 24, Albemarle County (location TBA) ☞

Congratulations!

On March 23 Gov. Timothy Kaine announced that he has recommended nearly \$2.2 million in Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funding for 17 projects in **Southwest Virginia**. The funds will help support cultural programs and tourism, build community infrastructure, and promote entrepreneurship and workforce development.

Hayes, Seay, Mattern and Mattern, Inc. (HSMM) announces the addition of Jeffery W. Ganthner, AIA to the professional staff in Roanoke. Ganthner joins the firm with 13 years experience as an architect and project manager.

The Matrixx Group, a supplier of compounded products to the plastics industry, will invest \$9.85 million to open its first Virginia facility in the Bedford Center for Business, an industri-

al park jointly developed by **Bedford County** and the City of Bedford. The company, which will manufacture thermoplastic compounds, will create 40 new jobs. Virginia successfully competed with North Carolina and West Virginia for the project.

Draper Aden Associates is pleased to announce the addition of Stephanie Klaus as staff engineer in the Charlottesville office. Klaus, an engineer in training, will be working in site planning and engineering for the firm.

For the second year, **Virginia** has been designated as America's most business-friendly state in the annual independent study *Top Ten Pro-Business States: America's Economy in the 21st Century*. The evaluation of state and federal economic development policies was produced by a top U.S. corporate relocation firm, Pollina Corporate Real Estate, Inc. ☿

EPA to Award \$2.7M through CARE program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) will award about \$2.7 million in cooperative agreements in two levels through the Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) program. The CARE program, which began in 2005, helps to build broad-based local partnerships for reducing risks from toxic pollutants that come from numerous sources. The application deadline for the 2007 CARE Cooperative Agreements RFP is April 9. For additional information about CARE, projects awarded in 2005 and 2006, or how to apply for the cooperative agreements, visit USEPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/care> or contact Kelly Zonderwyk at (202) 942.4224 or kzonderwyk@naco.org. ☿

Employment Opportunities

Employment ads have been edited due to space considerations. To view the full versions, visit www.vaco.org.

Budget & Management Analyst/Chesterfield County
Req. #07-155. A Chesterfield County application is required and must be submitted online by 5 p.m. on April 5. Visit careers.chesterfield.gov to view instructions and to complete and submit an application. (804) 748-1551

County Administrator/ Scott County
Salary is DOQ/DOE, plus benefits. Submit letter of interest, detailed resume, list of references, and salary history in a sealed envelope marked "Confidential" to: Chairman, Scott County Board of Supervisors, 112 Water Street, Suite 1, Gate City, VA 24251. Application deadline is April 30.

County Administrator/ Stafford County
Salary negotiable. Submit letter of application, detailed resume with salary history and work related references to: John A. Anzivino, Senior Vice President, Springsted Incorporated, 1564 East Parham Road, Richmond, VA 23227; Fax 804-726-9752 or e-mail Richmond@springsted.com by April 25. For a complete

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Employment

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community/position profile visit www.springsted.com.

Director of Community Development/ King William County

Hiring salary approximately \$63,000 DOQ and benefits. Send county application form or resume including five professional references and salary history to King William County Administrator, P. O. Box 215, King William, Virginia, 23086. Application form may be obtained on the county Web site at www.kingwilliamcounty.us. Position is open until filled.

Economic Independence Division Chief/ Arlington County

Salary to mid-\$120s. Submit REQUIRED Internet application at www.arlingtonva.us/pers as soon as possible in order to ensure consideration. Questions? Call (703) 228-3500 or email pers@arlingtonva.us.

IT Programmer Analyst/ Campbell County

Salary \$31,881 - \$35,523 Contact Campbell County for a County application by calling (434) 332-9818 or visiting www.co.campbell.va.us. Open until filled.

IT Integration Specialist/ Campbell County

Salary \$38,754 - \$43,180 Contact Campbell County for a County application by calling (434) 332-9818 or writing to

P.O. Box 100, Rustburg, Virginia 24588. Applications are available at www.co.campbell.va.us. Completed County applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Legislative Liaison

#0016/Henrico County
Deadline Date: April 29
Salary Range: \$58,679 - \$103,000
For additional information and to apply for this position, please visit the County's Web site at www.henricojobs.com.

Part-Time Fiscal Officer/ Central Shenandoah PDC

Salary based on qualifications. Submit resume and three professional references to Ray Griffin, Executive Director, Central Shenandoah PDC, 112 MacTanly Place, Staunton, VA 24401 or via e-mail to rita@cspdc.org. Position opened until filled.

Planner-Data and Geographic Analyst/Chesterfield County

REQ NO: 07-595
Hiring Range: \$32,779 - \$38,578
Closing Date: April 5
To apply, visit <http://www.chesterfield.gov/HumanResourcesManagement/job.asp>

Planning Director/Middlesex County

Salary commensurate with experience; include requirements with resume and county application. Applications and information may be obtained from the County Administrator's Office or from the county's Web page at www.co.middlesex.va.us.
Deadline: April 16 at 4 p.m.

Senior Planner/Isle of Wight County

Performs long-range planning and special projects with an emphasis on providing planning level research and land-use policy development to support the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Salary \$41,286 - \$51,607 DOQ. Interested candidates should submit an application and resume to: HR, P.O. Box 80, Isle of Wight, VA. Visit our website at www.iwus.net or call 757-365-6304. Open until filled.

Transit Director/City of Winchester

Must have considerable experience in administration of transit operations. Salary is commensurate with experience. Apply to Administration Department, Rouss City Hall, 15 N. Cameron Street; Winchester, VA 22601. (540) 667-1815 ext. 1449. TDD (540) 722-0782. www.winchesterva.gov.

Utilities/General Services Director/Powhatan County

Grade - M3 - Salary Range \$60,500 - \$94,531
Applications and a full job description may be obtained at the Powhatan County Administration Office located at 3834 Old Buckingham Rd. Powhatan, VA or at www.powhatanva.gov. Open until filled. ☞

1001 E. Broad St., Suite LL 20
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Executive Committee

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Administrator, (888) 822-6772

VACo exists to support county officials and to effectively represent, promote and protect the interests of counties to better serve the people of Virginia.

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