



## **Mark Your Calendar for the VACo County Officials' Summit**

**Thursday, August 19, 2021**

For the past several years, the VACo County Officials' Summit has brought state and federal election candidates together to talk about the issues facing Virginia and her localities. This year will be no exception. The plan is to meet in person and hear from candidates for the Commonwealth's highest offices.

Please join us as we talk politics with the candidates on Thursday, August 19, 2021 in Richmond. More details will be released soon. We look forward to a great event.

# Acknowledging Virginia Graduates from the NACo Leadership Academy



Forty-nine (49) Virginia county staff members participated in the NACo Leadership Academy, a 12-week online program that empowers front-line county government employees with fundamental leadership skills. Across the country, 812 county employees participated.

Virginia County staff to complete the Academy are:

- **Trevor Henry**, Assistant County Executive, Albemarle County
- **David Puckett**, Deputy Fire Chief, Albemarle County
- **Mary Stebbins**, Social Services Deputy Director, Albemarle County
- **Angela Rice**, Family Services Supervisor, Alleghany County
- **Bettie McCulley**, Administrative Services Manager, Alleghany County
- **Dawn Riddle**, Director, Alleghany County
- **Ricky Baldwin**, Lieutenant, Bedford County
- **Stephen Anders**, Sergeant, Bedford County
- **Sonny Daniels**, Lieutenant, Bedford County
- **Alfreda Jarrett Reynolds**, Economic Development, Brunswick County
- **Chandra Vaughan**, Solid Waste Director, Brunswick County
- **Leslie Weddington**, Assistant County Administrator, Brunswick County

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- **Michael Blum**, Systems Engineer, Campbell County
- **Jonathan Pingilley**, Network & Systems Administrator, Campbell County
- **Tomeka Smith**, Director of Finance, Caroline County
- **Laura Loveday**, Comprehensive Planner-Development, Culpeper County
- **Heather Hostinsky**, Office Manager-Building & Zoning, Essex County
- **Alexander Taylor**, IT Specialist, Essex County
- **Sidney Johnson**, Supervisor, Essex County
- **Gary Rzepecki**, Parks and Recreation Director, Fauquier County
- **Kelly Belanger Harris**, Assistant County Administrator, Fluvanna County
- **Brandy Rosser**, General Services Director, Franklin County
- **Cora Gnegy**, Tourism Marketing Director, Giles County
- **David Gottschamer**, IT Department, Grayson County
- **James Frydl**, Director of Planning & Zoning, Greene County
- **Mark Taylor**, County Administrator, Greene County
- **James Howard**, Social Services Director, Greene County
- **Gary Cifers**, Acting County Administrator, Greensville County
- **Meagan Doggett**, Management Team-Commissioner of Revenue, Isle of Wright County
- **Jason Purse**, Assistant County Administrator, James City County
- **Rebecca Vinroot**, Social Services Director, James City County
- **Ryan Ashe**, Chief, Fire Department, James City County
- **Stephanie Burton**, Train/Development Coordinator, James County
- **Betty Dougherty**, Social Services Director, King & Queen County
- **Betty Stevens**, Accounts Administrator, Lancaster County
- **Mike Turner**, Ashburn District Supervisor, Loudoun County
- **Lauren Eanes**, Registrar, Madison County
- **Jason Frye**, EMS Captain, Northampton County
- **Sheila DeYoung**, EMS Division Chief, Northampton County
- **M. Terri Christman**, EMS Division Chief, Northampton County
- **Bret Schardein**, Deputy County Administrator, Powhatan County
- **Joshua Lee**, Assistant Director-Area Agency on Aging, Prince William County
- **Anthony Toigo**, Constituent and Legislative Affairs Officer, Stafford County
- **Kelly Moore**, Director of Finance, Sussex County
- **Gage Harter**, Director of Communications, Virginia Association of Counties
- **Jodi Saffelle**, Human Resources Manager, Warren County
- **Mike Berry**, Public Works Director, Warren County
- **Laura Taylor**, Director of Business and Finance, Wise County
- **Pascal Baumeler**, Chief of IT Infrastructure, York County

Congratulations to all of these individuals who completed the program. To learn more about the Academy, [visit the NACo website here.](#)

## Stafford Welcomes New Chief Financial Officer



Stafford County Administrator Frederick J. Presley announces the hiring of Jonathon C. Munch as the County's next Chief Financial Officer. Munch comes to Stafford from Prince William County Government, where he is the Fiscal Reporting Manager. He has more than 24 years of experience in accounting and finance, with over 15 years of local government experience.

"Jon has a wide range of experience in local government, serving in positions ranging from Chief Accountant to Director of Finance," Presley said. "The CFO position is integral to Stafford successfully achieving the goals of our Strategic Plan, and we are confident Jon's skills will complement those efforts greatly."

Stafford conducted a national search to fill the position after former Chief Financial Officer Alex Espinosa left the County for a position closer to his home. Munch's first day of service as Chief Financial Officer began on May 17, 2021.

"I am grateful and excited for the opportunity to join the team of professionals at Stafford County, and to continue in public service with a locality exhibiting excellence in its fiscal management, as evidenced by its triple-AAA bond ratings and a history of achievement in budgeting and financial reporting," said Jonathon Munch. "I look forward to using my experience and skills to help Stafford County build upon a strong foundation and move forward with its vision for the future."

Prior to his current position at Prince William, Munch served as Finance Director for Warren County, Virginia; the Director of Finance for Fauquier County Government and Public Schools; and as the Chief Accountant and Senior Accountant for the Financial Reporting and Control division at Prince William County. In the private sector, he was a Senior Accountant for Collegiate Funding Services and Prison Fellowship Ministries, and an In-Charge Accountant for Hoffman, Fitzgerald & Snyder, P.C. He is also a former President and Executive Board Member for the Virginia Government Finance Officers' Association.

Munch received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from George Mason University. He is currently enrolled at Liberty University pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Public Administration. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant, a Certified Public Finance Officer and a Virginia Contracting Associate.



## Visit Fairfax County and Devereux Station

In 1863, during the Civil War, Pennsylvanian Herman Haupt, a noted bridge designer and superintendent of Union military railroads, commissioned John Devereux, the railroad superintendent in Alexandria, to build a siding on the Orange & Alexandria R. R. on this site, later known as Devereux Station. The station was located on a wartime siding of the Orange & Alexandria Railroad that supplied wood to fuel trains running on the important line. The railroad drove deep into Central Virginia, giving easy access to Union troops and supplies. The O&A was also the target of frequent Confederate raids. When a passenger station was built in 1868, the name was changed to Clifton Station. The station spurred the development of Clifton as a commercial and resort community.

**SOURCE:** [Fairfax County, Virginia](#)





# Become a Certified Supervisor

The Virginia Association of Counties offers the Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program: an opportunity for county supervisors to learn how to more effectively and efficiently lead in their communities.

Since its inception in 2005, more than 80 supervisors representing more than 40 counties have completed this training program, earning credentials as a certified county supervisor. Of greater importance, each supervisor has gained the insight, perspective, and confidence needed to address the challenges and opportunities of the local governance experience.

The Virginia Certified County Supervisors' Program features a five-course curriculum, designed to maximize engagement and enhance scholarship. Each course begins with a six-hour topically driven, classroom session, followed by seven weeks of relevant reading assignments and 90-minute virtual sessions to discuss situation-based exercises. The final component of each eight-week course is a concluding six-hour classroom session, which includes a review of the reading and assignment material.

**VACo Contact:** [Karie Walker](#)

**Inventing Your County's Future: The Role of Community Planning**

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)

**Opening Session** | May 28  
Location TBA

**Closing Session** | August 6  
Location TBA

**Registration Deadline** | May 10

**Governance in the 21st Century: The Role of Leadership**

[Registration Form](#) | [Register Online](#)

**Opening Session** | September 10  
Location TBA

**Closing Session** | October 29  
Location TBA

**Registration Deadline** | August 13



Virginia Association of Counties  
Associate Member Business Cards

VACo's Associate Membership Program is the most efficient and cost-effective way to showcase your company to decision makers from Virginia's 95 counties. This access can play a major role in your marketing efforts, and it benefits counties by identifying potential suppliers in a broad range of services. See how these four VACo Associate Members can help your county.

**John Losh**

Associate Membership Director

**Phone:** 202.661.8832**Email:** [membership@naco.org](mailto:membership@naco.org)**Website:** [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)**[VACo Page Link](#)****Ashton Potter**

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Director

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With the release of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) funds, local governments have the opportunity to address the economic fallout and unequal impact of COVID-19. This is an incredible opportunity to increase trust in local government and tell your community's story of recovery. The Berkley Group can help your community develop a roadmap to maximize return on investment and take the pressure off of managing all aspects of the funds and projects by offering the following services:

- Community Engagement;
- Strategic Planning;
- Capital Improvement Planning;
- Project Management; and
- Program Administration.

Take this time to reimagine your community - building a strong and socially equitable foundation for the future.



**Darren K. Coffey, AICP** | Director of Strategic Partnerships  
434-981-2026 | [www.bgllc.net](http://www.bgllc.net)

## Treasury Releases Guidance on State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from American Rescue Plan Act



# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

On May 10, the Department of the Treasury released allocation amounts for direct recipients of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars -- flexible federal aid provided through the American Rescue Plan Act -- and opened the online portal for counties to request the first tranche of their two distributions of funding.

Treasury also released a set of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and an [Interim Final Rule](#), which provides guidance in determining eligible uses of the funds. The statutory language of the American Rescue Plan Act outlines broad purposes for which the funds may be used:

- Responding to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts
- Providing premium pay to eligible workers
- Providing government services to the extent of the reduction in revenues due to COVID-19 relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the public health emergency
- Making necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

Treasury's Interim Final Rule (which took effect May 17, the date of its publication in the Federal Register) supplies "guidelines and principles for determining the types of programs and services that this funding can support, together with examples of allowable uses that recipients may consider" in each category outlined above. For each category of potential uses, Treasury includes a series of questions on which it invites comments. Comments are due by July 16; details on submitting comments may be found at [this link](#).

County allocations may be found at [this link](#). Allocations for metropolitan cities may be found at [this link](#). Aggregate amounts of funding for the non-entitlement units in each state may be found at [this link](#) (smaller cities and towns in Virginia will receive approximately \$634 million); Treasury is expected to provide additional details on these allocations soon.

State budget language requires that any direct federal pandemic relief funding received by the state after January 1, 2021, be appropriated through the state budget process, rather than being directed by the Administration. Concern has been expressed about how this language might be interpreted with respect to federal funding that is merely passed through the state, such as the Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars for the non-entitlement units. Secretary of Finance Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., suggested a process to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees this week in which the Administration would inform the legislature about its intention to distribute such non-discretionary funding, and would move forward with the distribution in the absence of legislative objections.

Use of the state's \$4.3 billion in Fiscal Recovery Funds is expected to be the subject of a special session this summer. On May 12, Governor Northam and Democratic leadership in the House and Senate released a statement outlining shared priorities for these dollars. The statement highlights five key areas for investment:

- public health (to include upgrading state and local public health services, as well as assisting with housing and utility costs);
- aid to small businesses (to include funding for the Rebuild Virginia small business recovery plan; assistance for hard-hit industries, such as restaurants, hotels, museums, gyms, and theaters; tourism promotion; and community revitalization);
- assistance to workers (to include replenishing the Unemployment Trust Fund and upgrading information technology at the Virginia Employment Commission);
- help for public schools (to include rehabilitating and upgrading existing facilities and improving air quality and HVAC systems); and
- broadband deployment

VACo and VML have encouraged the state to collaborate with local governments in the use of these funds, so that state and local efforts can be complementary and not duplicative, a proposal outlined in a [recent op-ed by VACo President Jeffrey C. McKay and VML President Willie Greene](#). Initial discussions with the Administration are underway, and VACo looks forward to a productive collaboration as state and local leaders work to maximize this once-in-a-generation infusion of federal resources.

**VACo Contact:** [Katie Boyle](#)

## State Revenues Maintain Strength as State Contemplates Use of Federal Recovery Funds



Secretary of Finance Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., brought good news to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committees this week as he reported on state General Fund collections, which remain on track to surpass the forecast and are expected to produce a significant budget surplus at the end of the fiscal year. Although changes in the usual tax filing deadlines mean that the months of April, May, and June must be considered as a whole in order to obtain a true picture of state finances, revenues are up 12.8 percent on a fiscal year-to-date basis, well ahead of the forecast of 2.7 percent growth.

Individual income tax withholding collections, the mainstay of General Fund revenues, have increased by 3.7 percent on a fiscal year-to-date basis, outpacing the forecast of 2.7 percent growth. Sales taxes continue to perform well, growing by 8.7 percent on a fiscal year-to-date basis; Secretary Layne noted that sales tax collections have been bolstered during the pandemic by a shift to consumption of goods rather than services. Strong sales tax collections in April reflect increasing consumer confidence amid the reopening of parts of the economy; however, Secretary Layne sounded a note of concern in pointing out that increasing sales tax receipts also reflect rising prices, and it is unclear whether recent indicators of inflation (such as growth in the Consumer Price Index of 0.6 percent in March and 0.4 percent in February) are transitory or signposts of a more lasting trend.

In addition to concerns about inflation, Secretary Layne highlighted several other areas of

caution, including the slow population growth documented in the recent release of Census data, which raises concerns about future labor supply; rising housing prices in lower-cost markets, which may place homeownership out of reach for some prospective buyers; and significant increases in federal deficit spending, which may trigger reductions in defense spending and other federal procurement in the future if the federal government undertakes another round of sequestration or other budget reductions designed to shore up federal finances.

Virginia will be receiving a sizable infusion of federal resources through the American Rescue Plan Act, including \$7.2 billion in direct, flexible aid to the state and local governments through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, as well as \$6.6 billion channeled through various funding streams, such as Head Start, rental assistance, and aid to school divisions. The state has requested its allocation of Fiscal Recovery Funds from the Treasury and expects to receive its \$4.3 billion distribution in one lump sum due to its level of unemployment relative to February 2020 (an indicator Treasury plans to use to determine whether to split state distributions into two tranches).

Counties and larger cities will also receive funds directly from the federal government (although in two tranches), while the state will be responsible for distributing funds to “non-entitlement units” (smaller cities and towns). Although detailed guidance from Treasury is still pending on allocations to non-entitlement units, the state is prepared to work with those localities to obtain their certification that funds will be used appropriately and verify that the amounts received do not exceed 75 percent of their budgets, in accordance with federal law. In order to comply with state budget language that affords the General Assembly a role in directing the use of all federal relief funds provided to the state, the Administration will notify the legislature of planned distribution of funds for which the state has no discretion as to their use – such as the pass-through funding for the smaller cities and towns – and distribute funds in the absence of any legislative objections.

A special session to appropriate federal funds for which the state has discretion as to their use, such as the state’s Fiscal Recovery Funds, is expected to be convened later this summer. Secretary Layne’s presentation is available at [this link](#). Additional detail about resources contained in the American Rescue Plan Act may be found in a presentation by Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee staff, available at [this link](#).

**VACo Contact:** [Katie Boyle](#)

# Joint Commission on Health Care Approves Work Plan for 2021



Members of the Joint Commission on Health Care formally approved three major studies for 2021 during the Commission's May 18 meeting and previewed a new Health Care Dashboard that may point to other areas for the Commission's work in the future. Commission members had developed the 2021 studies through a process of prioritization last fall; additional research topics that were referred to the Commission via legislation in 2021 will be incorporated into current studies or placed in the queue for 2022. A smaller workgroup of Commission members has been developed for each of the research areas and will assist in providing direction to staff as the studies progress this summer and fall.

The 2021 study areas are as follows:

**Health insurance affordability in the individual market:** This study will determine what level of insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses are affordable to consumers who purchase coverage in the individual insurance market, review actions taken by other states, and examine the impact of potential policy changes on insurance costs, the number of uninsured Virginians, and stakeholders. The workgroup, which met in the afternoon of May 18, received a briefing from the Virginia Poverty Law Center on the Center's work to assist Virginians with enrolling in coverage and the additional subsidies available to consumers in the American Rescue Plan Act. Work group members also heard presentations from the Virginia Hospital and Health Care Association,

the Medical Society of Virginia, and the Virginia Association of Health Plans representing these organizations' perspectives on the drivers of health care and insurance costs.

**Impact of long-term care workforce needs on nursing facility care:** This study will analyze workforce shortages and their potential effects on quality of care, and examine how staffing and quality could be improved. This workgroup received an overview of how nursing facilities are licensed and regulated by the Virginia Department of Health, how they are funded through Medicaid, and the development of a new model for value-based purchasing of care, which was directed through budget language. Programs in other states tie compensation to meeting certain benchmarks or quality standards. Members also received a presentation on the pressures facing nursing facilities and how recruitment and retention of front-line staff could be improved.

**Strategies to support aging Virginians in their communities:** This study will identify services necessary to support aging in place and determine where gaps in these supports exist; it will also review the coordination of state and local programs. Representatives of local Area Agencies on Aging briefed workgroup members on the effectiveness of AAA services in supporting older Virginians in their communities, delaying or avoiding institutional care, and reducing hospital readmissions. LeadingAge Virginia's representatives provided an overview of the continuum of services for aging Virginians, ranging from affordable housing and independent living to nursing home care, and pointed out the particular challenges in serving individuals whose incomes disqualify them from subsidized housing but cannot afford assisted living facilities. Many of these individuals are being cared for by family or other informal caregivers. Members received presentations from Virginia Navigator about the assistance available to caregivers in seeking out services in each locality and from Dr. Richard Lindsay of the Lindsay Institute for Innovations in Caregiving about the emotional, physical, and financial pressures on informal caregivers.

Joint Commission members plan to receive briefings on several additional topics throughout the year, including disparities in maternal and child health; challenges in the behavioral health workforce; and reducing unnecessary use of hospital emergency departments. Staff will report on study findings and recommendations this fall, and members will vote on policy options in December. The Health Care Dashboard will be available on the Joint Commission's website soon, and will document progress in metrics associated with health care accessibility (such as health insurance coverage, provider availability, and access to prenatal care); affordability (such as the percentage of adults avoiding care due to cost); and quality (such as percentage of babies born with low birth weight and preventable hospital admissions).

**VACo Contact:** [Katie Boyle](#)

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# A Tailored Cybersecurity Program for VACo members



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC will join Dean Lynch Executive Director of VACo in this month's premier partner spotlight to discuss how VACo members can take advantage of our tailored cybersecurity program to make cybersecurity services more accessible. This program will feature:

**01**

## Cyber Hygiene Assessment

A complementary cyber hygiene assessment program for members to identify gaps in their cybersecurity program and strategize methods for closing those gaps.

**02**

## Informative Training

A series of joint training sessions scheduled throughout the year to registered members. Sessions will also include training collateral for combating common threats and best practices.

**03**

## Special Membership Pricing

A catalog of discounted pricing to VACo members.  
(Ability to leverage GSA schedule for ease of procurement.)



Carlton Harris CTO of EEC

**View this VACo  
Premier Partner  
Spotlight Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnmFDYIHKol>



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833-720-7770



# Welcome to the VACo County Pulse Legislative Series

## *Episode 4 - Utility-Scale Solar*

Virginia's goals to reduce carbon emissions include significant investment in large-scale solar installations. VACo Director of Local Government Policy Joe Lerch provides the latest update on changes in the law that provide counties additional tools to address impacts as well as enhanced revenue options for local consideration.

[Watch the VACo Pulse.](#)

Here's a [Capitol Contact summary](#) that details the changes in law to solar.

And here's the link to a [County Connections story](#) on the change in the state depreciation schedule for solar equipment.

## Beau Blevins joins VACo Premier Partner three+one®



Beau Blevins has joined [three+one®](#) as a Director of Business Development. Beau will be working closely with VACo, as a Premier Partner, in bringing three+one's innovative finTech solutions to public entities and higher education institutions across Virginia.

Beau, a former VACo team member, is one of the most well-regarded public-sector advisors in the Southeast, having worked closely with local government treasurers, elected officials, CEOs, CFOs, and state associations for the last 15 years.

Beau most recently served as Director of Business Development for VML/VACo Finance, leading business development efforts for finance and investment services. In this capacity, he spearheaded the growth of the Virginia Investment Pool from \$350 million to \$3 billion in assets in four short years. In 2020, *Style Weekly Magazine* named Beau to its list of Top 40 Under 40 business leaders for his efforts.

When asked about his latest career move, he said, "I'm thrilled to join the talented team at three+one and look forward to bringing cutting-edge financial technology and cash-maximization services to Virginia's counties. Partnering with my long-time friends at VACo provides a special opportunity to address the financial needs of local governments and deliver lasting solutions."

[three+one](#) is the only firm of its kind that provides an unparalleled level of liquidity analyses and cash-management data services for public entities and higher education institutions. cashVest® by three+one, a proprietary finTech liquidity-analysis solution, has been deemed a best practice by the National Association of Counties ([NACo](#)). In addition, three+one has a partnership agreement with [VACo](#). Both NACo and VACo have done extensive due diligence to confirm the applicability and usefulness of cashVest as an additional financial resource.

Below you will find resources explaining more about how cashVest can support your public entity.

- [Who is three+one](#)
- [Five Key Benefits of Liquidity](#)
- [Link to video resources on cashVest](#)
- [Our Pathway to Recovery® series](#)

Contact [Beau Blevins](#) at [BRB@threeplusone.us](mailto:BRB@threeplusone.us) or 585.484.0311 ext.714 and learn how you can create better financial outcomes for your taxpayers.

## 6th Step on the Pathway to Recovery®



CONFIDENCE

In a new series of video blogs, our partners at three+one® present their proven methods for turning the tide of economic waves in a changed marketplace since COVID. cashvest® by three+one® offers a comprehensive 6-step plan to navigate these new marketplace realities to provide your county with certainty during uncertain times.

cashvest® by three+one® has developed a comprehensive plan to navigate a changed marketplace since COVID. We previously shared the first five steps in this pathway; today we share Step 6 that reveals how data can give you & your entity's finance team peace of mind & confidence.

- Check out the [6th step video](#)
- Check out the [5th step video](#)
- Check out the [4th step video](#)
- Check out the [3rd step video](#)
- Check out the [2nd step video](#)
- Check out the [1st step video](#)

## Get the latest on federal and state actions to increase access to broadband



**Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Webinar** - Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Virginia localities will be receiving an estimated \$1.6 billion in federal funding. Uses for this flexible funding include investments in broadband infrastructure. VACo has heard from many counties who are interested in using these funds to expedite universal broadband coverage in unserved communities – both in rural and urban settings. Therefore, the Virginia Local Broadband Network (VLBN), in partnership with the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo), the Virginia Municipal League (VML), and the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC) will be hosting a webinar to discuss this funding and broadband. There will be two opportunities to participate - **June 9 at 11am and again at 4pm**. If you or members of your team would like to attend, please [register here](#).

**Emergency Broadband Benefits Program** - The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has announced that the \$3.2 billion [Emergency Broadband Benefit Program](#) launched on May 12. This program will provide a \$50/month (\$75/month on tribal lands) subsidy for the cost of internet service for select individuals for 6 months. The list of Virginia's participating broadband providers can be found - [here](#). Eligible households can sign up for the program directly through their broadband

provider or online. For more information and to sign up, visit the program website - <https://getemergencybroadband.org/>

**FY 2022 Draft Virginia Telecommunications Initiative Guidelines** - As previously [reported](#), the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is in the midst of reviewing the draft guidelines proposed for the FY2022 round of Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) funding. VACo submitted formal comments applauding efforts to increase flexibility for local governments in their efforts to utilize the program to achieve functional universal coverage in their jurisdictions, as well as noting some potential concerns regarding proposed requirements for applications that incorporate Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) coverage. VACo's letter to DHCD can be read [here](#).

For FY 2022, VATI will provide \$49.7 million in funds to eligible applicants. Whether or not the General Assembly elects to use additional state allocated ARPA funds to supplement the VATI program or support broadband expansion through other means remains a distinct possibility. This will likely be a topic of discussion leading up to, and during, the next special session of the General Assembly, likely to convene later this summer at a date to be determined. Demand for additional state funding continues to be high and exceeds available funds. In FY 2021, VATI received applications seeking \$105 million in funding. VACo continues to support additional state and federal funding for broadband and encourages counties to be mindful of both the potential for additional dedicated state ARPA funding and the ability of county governments to delay obligation of local ARPA funds until December 31, 2024.

In addition to the following events and deadlines below, VACo intends to collaborate with the Broadband Association of Virginia (VCTA) to host a joint conference later this year between members of local government and the broadband industry. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

### **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

#### **May 20 - Commonwealth Connect Coalition Meeting**

2pm - 3pm

Webinar link (video and audio) - [meet.google.com/ymk-awgw-njg](https://meet.google.com/ymk-awgw-njg)

Conference Call (audio) - 937-314-3485 Pin: 138 207 605#

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#### **June 17 - VATI How to Apply Webinar**

2pm - 4pm

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#### **July 27 - Deadline for Public Notice for VATI Applications**

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#### **September 14 - VATI Application Deadline**

**VACo Contacts:** [Jeremy R. Bennett](#) and [Joe Lerch, AICP](#)

## Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit Announces Transit Ridership Incentive Program Materials Open for Public Comment



On May 18, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit (DRPT) announced that materials for the Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP) are now open for public comment. TRIP was created as part of the omnibus transportation [bill](#) from the 2020 session of the General Assembly, and is designed to improve regional transit service in large urban areas and reduce barriers to transit access for low income individuals. To accompany these two goals, TRIP is divided into two sub-programs, TRIP-regional connectivity and TRIP- zero fare and low income.

Seventy-five percent (75%) of program funds will be dedicated towards improving regional transit service for Large Urban or Small Urban public service corporations that serve localities with populations in excess of 100,000 and transportation district commissions. Eligible projects would include: the improvement and expansion of routes with regional significance; the development and implementation of regional subsidy financing models; the creation of bus-only lanes on routes of regional significance; and the implementation of integrated fare collection. Twenty-five percent (25%) of program funds would be eligible for transportation district commissions, public service corporations, local governments, and private nonprofit public transit providers to provide subsidized or fully free pass transit to low-income populations, eliminate fares on high-capacity corridors, and deploy an entirely zero fare system. Additional information on the program may be found [here](#).

The following draft is open for public comment: Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) policy brief and application guidelines. These materials outline eligibility, program priorities, and project evaluation details. **Comments on the [Draft CTB Policy](#) are due June 18, and comments on the [Draft Application Guidelines](#) are due July 7.** DRPT will then review feedback and revisit application materials before seeking Board approval and deploying the program. The application is tentatively scheduled to open in late July.

Draft materials and program details can also be found on the [DRPT TRIP webpage](#).

**Please send comments to [TRIP@drpt.virginia.gov](mailto:TRIP@drpt.virginia.gov).** If any questions or comments arise, please contact [TRIP@drpt.virginia.gov](mailto:TRIP@drpt.virginia.gov) or contact the program manager:

Lauren Fishbein  
Statewide Program Manager  
[Lauren.Fishbein@drpt.virginia.gov](mailto:Lauren.Fishbein@drpt.virginia.gov)  
cell: 804.351.6791

**VACo Contact:** [Jeremy R. Bennett](#)

# Nationwide and NACo College Scholarship

*The application period for the Nationwide and NACo College Scholarship is open through May 31.*



**Nationwide®**  
is on your side

Are you the parent, grandparent or legal guardian of a high school senior? If you have an active account funded by employee dollars to a 457(b) Plan offered through the NACo Deferred Compensation Program, your student is eligible to apply for one of four \$2,500 college scholarships. Scholarships will be awarded in the fall of 2021. In its 18<sup>th</sup> year of existence, the NACo/Nationwide scholarship essay contest is an educational opportunity for high school students transitioning into a new stage of their lives. Engaging young people in civic life and responsibilities is a great way to show high school students the valuable roles that counties play in the lives of their residents. The 2021 scholarship program's goal is to help ensure that young people get involved and stay involved in local government -- and understand the importance of being good stewards of their future finances.

To help students consider the importance of saving early and consistently, students are asked to write an essay that answers the following question:

*The pandemic has changed the way we interact and engage with each other on a daily basis. As it relates to our Counties and Jurisdictions in America, it has accelerated planned initiatives to explore various mediums of access to reach current and future customers. Due to this new reality, what are 3 creative and strategic ways that you would recommend in preparing and securing financial wellness in this new digital world? Please incorporate technology options as well as forms of education and access into your response.*

## Eligibility requirements

Graduating high school seniors who are legal U.S. residents are eligible to apply. Please keep the following criteria in mind:

- The applicant's parent, grandparent or legal guardian must be enrolled in and have a current employee funded 457(b) Plan offered through the NACo Deferred Compensation Program.
- Applicants must enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study no later than the autumn term of the 2021-2022 school year at an accredited Trade School or two or four-year college.
- Immediate family members of NACo employees, members of the NACo Defined Contribution and Retirement Advisory Committee or its governing board of directors, staff of individual state Association of Counties that are members of the LLC and Nationwide employees are not eligible to apply; this program is not offered outside the United States.
- The application and entry must be submitted online at [nrsforu.com/scholarship](https://nrsforu.com/scholarship) between April 1 and May 31, 2021.

## Application process

Parents, grandparents or legal guardians should talk to their eligible high school seniors about applying right away. Applications can be completed online at [nrsforu.com/scholarship](https://nrsforu.com/scholarship) beginning April 1.

— BOOST YOUR —  
RETIREMENT READINESS

## Women and retirement webinar

May 27, 2021  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ET

Nationwide® has created educational webinars on topics of interest to pre-retirees as they look ahead. Our next session is about the challenges women face in planning for retirement income. Listen in to discover considerations that may apply to you or the women in your life.

### Topics covered:

- Women's unique retirement journeys
- Social Security considerations
- Health care and long-term care
- Planning a holistic retirement

Investing involves market risk, including possible loss of principal. No investment strategy can guarantee to make a profit or avoid loss. Actual results will vary depending on your investment and market experience. Nationwide representatives cannot offer investment, tax or legal advice. You should consult your own counsel before making retirement plan decisions. NFM-19340MI.1 (03/21)

**The number of participants is limited, so ensure your space by signing up today.**

Register online and learn about our other webinar topics at **[nrsforu.com/webinars](https://nrsforu.com/webinars)**.



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IT'S ALMOST TIME TO HIT THE  
VIRTUAL ROAD FOR THE...

# VACo 2021 REGIONAL MEETINGS

REGIONS 4&10 – MAY 11

REGIONS 9&11 – MAY 25

REGIONS 3&5 – JUNE 8

REGIONS 1&2 – JUNE 29

REGIONS 6,7&8 – AUGUST 3



## Enter the 2021 VACo Achievement Awards

Dear VACo Members –

It's time for the 2021 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so ENTER NOW!

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#)

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary. The electronic copy should be a PDF or WORD file. Email entries to Gage Harter at [gcharter@vaco.org](mailto:gcharter@vaco.org).

Submissions must be received by July 1, 2021.

Last year, we processed 76 entries and selected 21 winners from 14 Counties. VACo presented awards at 14 Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the virtual Annual Conference, and issued a news release to statewide media.

The judges for the 2021 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received more than 800 entries over the past decade. Last year's Best Achievement winner was Prince William County for its "Human Rights Student Leadership Council" program.

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2021 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact [gcharter@vaco.org](mailto:gcharter@vaco.org) with questions or for more information.

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#) | [Achievement Awards Website](#) | [2020 Achievement Awards Press Release](#) | [Browse all of the 2020 Entries](#) | [Past Achievement Award Winners](#) | [Past Judges](#)



## REGISTER TODAY FOR THE 2021 NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL | JULY 9-12 | PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, Md.*

Please join county elected and appointed officials from across the country in Prince George's County, Maryland for the [National Association of Counties \(NACo\) 2021 Annual Conference & Exposition](#). Network, learn and connect through in-person and virtual attendance options and thoughtfully designed events.

**The Annual Conference is the premier national opportunity for counties to exchange cutting-edge practices, elect the association's leadership and shape NACo's federal policy agenda for the year ahead.**

**REGISTER TODAY**

**VIEW SCHEDULE\***

*\* Due to evolving public health circumstances, **the conference schedule is tentative and subject to change** based on expected conference attendance, capacity considerations and public health protocols.*

## REBOOTING EDUCATION WITH FURNITURE AND SANITATION

It's 2021 and schools are faced with the complex task of getting students, faculty, and staff back into classrooms safely. This task will require a variety of well thought out plans. Plans that address the logistics and scheduling of a greater number of smaller class sizes and plans that support keeping those spaces clean. With extensive experience, The Supply Room can help ease the stress of designing and executing these plans.

### FURNITURE



Desk and table shields with mobile and multi-functional furniture is one key factor in making spaces both safe and flexible. Creative plans will include scenarios for how and when to turn a gymnasium, cafeteria, or common area into a classroom and back in minutes. Flip-top tables can be nested and moved aside quickly when not in use. These tables and shields can also create health checkpoints, sanitation stations, and help direct the flow of traffic at building entrances and in common areas. This combined with clear and consistent signage will ensure students and faculty have the time and space to keep safe.

### SANITATION

Knowing the difference between cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing and when to do each is the second key to developing your plan. To start, what is the difference?

- **Cleaning:** removes visible dirt, soil and debris – it does not disinfect.
- **Disinfecting:** eliminates bacteria, fungi and certain viruses – it does not remove dirt.
- **Sanitizing:** reduces the number of germs on surfaces or objects to a safe level, as judged by public health standards or requirements – it does not fully eliminate them.



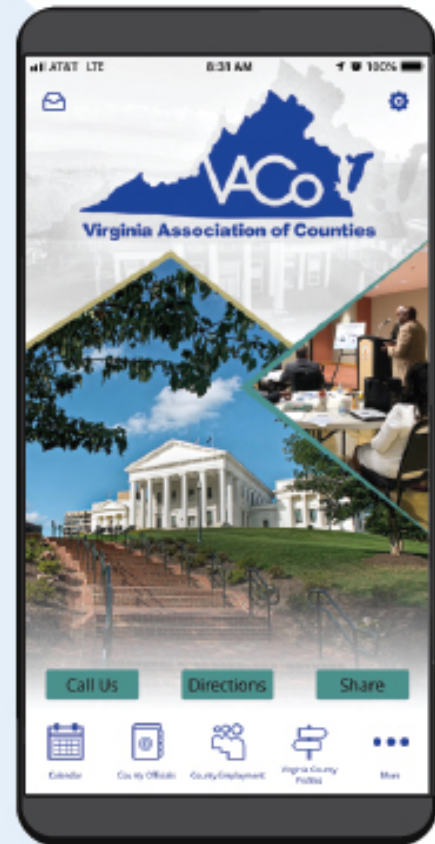
Sanitizing and disinfecting products also vary in their dwell time (the length of time that a chemical must be in contact with the surface and remain wet, in order to achieve the product's advertised kill rate.) Dwell times can range from a matter of seconds to 10 minutes. Our janitorial and sanitation experts are here to help recommend the best products for your space and put your plan in place.



While the situation with the pandemic is rapidly evolving in every direction, it is important that the solutions you create are adaptable and resilient. Designing a creative plan to keep your faculty and students safe with the ability to flex will help reduce infection and create a stable learning environment. Let's start a conversation – visit our website or call to get help with your plans and implementation today.

# DOWNLOAD

our new app



The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) mobile application is a valuable tool for County officials and staff to better serve their communities. With the VACo mobile app, users can easily stay informed about issues important to Counties with many features, including:

- \* VACo Events Registration and Info
- \* VACo Member Directory
- \* Legislative News and Alerts | Capitol Contact
- \* VACo Chat
- \* County Pulse Podcast
- \* Employment Opportunities

### Downloading the app is easy...

- Scan the QR Code or search "Virginia Assn of Counties" from the iTunes or Google Play Store
- Opt-in for VACo Push Notifications to receive important VACo alerts
- For access to the most features, request an account with your email and a password
- Once your account is approved, members will have access to all the features.

# VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

## EIGHTH EDITION, 2019



ORDER YOURS TODAY  
\$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)



## Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition - NEW FOR 2019



The Eighth Edition (2019) of VACo's **Virginia County Supervisors' Manual**, is now in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

### ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW

## ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY (OR ORGANIZATION): \_\_\_\_\_

SHIPPING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY / STATE / ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Manuals are \$75 per copy. Number of Copies \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Check enclosed for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Make payable to **VACo Services, Inc.**

### CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION:

Charge Options: \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ VISA

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for credit card receipt: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail completed form to:

Virginia Association of Counties  
1207 East Main Street, Suite 300  
Richmond, VA 23219-3627

Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083

Questions? Call 804.788.6652.



The Virginia Association of Counties accepts employment ads in a PDF file or a link to a job site. Please include information for applying, and a link to other important information. Please do not fax your employment ad. VACo members are not charged for placing an employment ad. The cost is \$50 per ad for non-VACo members. VACo publishes the ad on its website and mobile app as well as the upcoming County Connections issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please email [Valerie.Russell](mailto:Valerie.Russell@vacounty.org).



## PLANNING ASSOCIATE

**II** | Fauquier County | Posted May 18



## ADMINISTRATIVE

**ASSISTANT – ENVIRONMENTAL** | New Kent County | Posted May 18



## BENEFIT PROGRAM

**SPECIALIST I** | Montgomery County | Posted May 18



## HVAC TECHNICIAN

Montgomery County | Posted May 18



## FINANCIAL REPORTING

**ANALYST III** | Chesterfield County | Posted May 18



## SENIOR AUTOMATION

**ANALYST – PLANNING** | Chesterfield County | Posted May 18



## REGISTERED NURSE

Chesterfield County | Posted May 18



## ACCOUNTING

**TECHNICIAN** | Greene County | Posted May 17



## COMPUTER ANALYST/

**TECHNICIAN** | Greene County | Posted May 17



## SECRETARY

Frederick County | Posted May 17



## MAINTENANCE

**MECHANIC ASSISTANT** | Frederick County | Posted May 17



## COUNTY

**ADMINISTRATOR** | Madison County | Posted May 17



## PLANNER I or II

Thomas Jefferson PDC | Posted May 17



## DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Madison County | Posted May 13



## PROCUREMENT

**MANAGER** | Fauquier County | Posted May 12



## UTILITY INSPECTOR

**II** | Town of Leesburg | Posted May 12



## TOWN MANAGER

Strasburg | Posted May 12



## PUBLIC & COMMUNITY

**RELATIONS OFFICER** | Henry County | Posted May 11



## FLEET MANAGER

City of Harrisonburg | Posted May 11



## ASSISTANT TO

**THE BUILDING OFFICIAL** | City of Portsmouth | Posted May 11



## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC

**WORKS** | City of Covington | Posted May 11



## FINANCIAL REPORTING

**MANAGER** | Chesterfield County | Posted May 11



## REAL ESTATE APPRAISER

**III** | Goochland County | Posted May 10



**SENIOR PLANNER** |  
Albemarle County | Posted May 10



**ZONING**  
**ADMINISTRATOR** | City of  
Harrisonburg | Posted May 10



**COMMUNITY**  
**ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR** |  
Gloucester County | Posted May 10



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** |  
TransTech Alliance - Brunswick  
County | Posted May 10



**RESIDENTIAL**  
**COMBINATION INSPECTOR** |  
Albemarle County | Posted May 10



**CHIEF OF FACILITIES &**  
**OPERATIONS** | Albemarle County  
| Posted May 10



**ASSISTANT ELECTIONS**  
**MANAGER** | Albemarle County  
| Posted May 10



**DEPUTY CHIEF OF**  
**TREASURY DIVISION** | Albemarle  
County | Posted May 10



**INTAKE/SUPPORT**  
**SPECIALIST** | Albemarle County  
| Posted May 10



**PRINCIPAL PLANNER** |  
Culpeper County | Posted May 7



New Kent  
**PART TIME ACCOUNTING**  
**CLERK ASSISTANT** | New Kent County  
| Posted May 7



**ASSISTANT COUNTY**  
**ASSESSOR** | Montgomery County  
| Posted May 7



**REAL ESTATE SUPPORT**  
**SPECIALIST** | City of Fredericksburg  
| Posted May 7



**INFORMATION SECURITY**  
**OFFICER** | City of Fredericksburg  
| Posted May 7



**DIRECTOR OF**  
**FINANCE** | Town of Farmville | Posted  
May 7



**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
**OF FINANCE** | Rockingham County  
| Posted May 5



**GIS TECHNICIAN** |  
Campbell County | Posted May 5



**COUNTY**  
**ADMINISTRATOR** | Greenville  
County | Posted May 5



**bakertilly** **FINANCE**  
**DIRECTOR** | Town of Middleburg  
| Posted May 4



**PART TIME LIBRARY**  
**SPECIALIST - BOOKMOBILE** |  
Gloucester County | Posted May 4



**CLASS I - WATER**  
**TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR** |  
Gloucester County | Posted May 4



**ASSISTANT**  
**COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY I** |  
Gloucester County | Posted May 4



**DEVELOPMENT**  
**PLANNER** | Montgomery County  
| Posted May 4



**PERMIT COORDINATOR-**  
**BUILDING INSPECTIONS** |  
Montgomery County | Posted May 4



**ASSISTANT**  
**DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC**  
**DEVELOPMENT** | City of Manassas  
| Posted May 3

## VALUE OF VACo



### ADVOCACY

VACo's lobbying efforts have helped stem the tide of unfunded mandates and have saved Counties millions of dollars every year.



### EDUCATION

Our educational programs offer County leaders and staff opportunities to become more effective in their communities.



### MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Some of VACo's best moments are when members convene and work to improve communities all over the Commonwealth.



### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Our business development opportunities offer savings and innovative approaches to delivering services at the County level.

## VACo LEADERSHIP



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**Jeffrey C. McKay**  
Fairfax County



President-Elect  
**Meg Bohmke**  
Stafford County



First Vice President  
**Jason D. Bellows**  
Lancaster County



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**Ann H. Mallek**  
Albemarle County



Secretary-Treasurer  
**Donald L. Hart, Jr.**  
Accomack County



Immediate Past President  
**Stephen W. Bowen**  
Nottoway County

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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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