2022 VACo Achievement Awards

FUN FACT - Below are the winners from the inaugural year of the VACo Achievement Awards.

2003
Albemarle County (two awards), Amelia County, Augusta County, Botetourt County, Chesterfield County, Fairfax County, Hanover County (two awards), Isle of Wight County, Loudoun County, Roanoke County, and Stafford County.

VACo is excited to begin the selection process for 2022 Achievement Awards. This year is the program's 20th anniversary. Thank you for your continued support of the VACo Achievement Awards and for all your innovative programs that help improve Virginia's communities.

Number of Submissions: 100
Number of Counties Represented: 31

Winners will be announced around the first week of August. If you did not receive a submission confirmation email - please contact ghamer@vaco.org.
IT'S TIME TO HIT THE ROAD FOR THE...

VACo 2022 REGIONAL MEETINGS

IN-PERSON MEETING
REGIONS 2&3 – MAY 23 | HENRICO
REGIONS 6&9 – JUNE 9 | AUGUSTA
REGIONS 5&7 – JULY 12 | FLUVANNA
REGIONS 1&4 – JULY 21 | DINWIDDIE
REGIONS 12&13 – AUGUST 23 | RUSSELL
REGIONS 10&11 – SEPTEMBER 22 | FRANKLIN

VIRTUAL MEETING
REGIONS 6&7&8 – TBA
A workgroup to make recommendations regarding the reduction or elimination of certain fees charged to individuals incarcerated in local or regional jails held its first meeting on June 22. The State Board of Local and Regional Jails convened the group at the direction of legislation passed during the 2022 General Assembly session. As introduced, the legislation would have capped or eliminated certain fees or costs, such as charges for telephone services (the legislation required telephone services to be provided at no cost for numbers on an approved call list) or the cost of items sold in jail stores or commissaries (the legislation capped the cost of items sold at 10 percent above the market rate for items or services sold by major retail stores). Due to the complexity of the issues involved and the potential financial impact on jail operations, the legislation was converted to a study directive, with a report due December 1, 2022.

The workgroup did not have the required in-person quorum at its June 22 meeting, so it was not able to formally elect a chair and vice chair or establish smaller working groups, but it is expected that Senator Joe Morrissey will chair the group and Delegate Amanda Batten will serve as the vice chair. Staff to the Board of Local and Regional Jails are preparing a survey to be circulated to jail administrators that will compile information on fees and the uses of these revenues. Members also discussed the composition of the workgroup, which currently includes one sheriff and one jail superintendent, as well as the need for subject matter experts to be represented on each of the working groups that are planned to be established to delve into specific categories of costs and fees. A follow-up meeting has been tentatively discussed for the second or third week in July.

VACo Contact: Katie Boyle
Alternative Custody Workgroup Begins Discussions

A workgroup to study options to increase the use of alternative custody arrangements for individuals who are subject to an emergency custody order (ECO) or a temporary detention order (TDO) held its first meeting on June 16. The workgroup, which is led by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources and the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, was convened at the direction of legislation passed during the 2022 General Assembly session (SB 202, Newman) in response to the continuing stresses on law enforcement agencies posed by delayed admissions to inpatient psychiatric care. Secretary of Health and Human Resources John Littel pointed to the pressures on law enforcement in the ECO and TDO process as a symptom of larger problems in the behavioral health system overall, citing the need for better capacity, coordination, and communication.

The workgroup is charged with developing recommendations for options to allow law enforcement officers to transfer custody of individuals subject to an ECO or TDO and to increase the availability of beds in order to allow “prompt transfer to an appropriate facility,” including the expansion of crisis intervention team assessment centers and development of regional crisis receiving centers. The June 16 meeting began with the perspectives of law enforcement, represented by the City of Lynchburg's Chief of Police, Ryan M. Zuidema, and Elizabeth Hobbs, Staff Attorney with the Virginia Sheriffs’ Association. Chief Zuidema outlined some of the challenges in his locality, which has experienced a 479 percent increase in TDOs in the last five years. The increasing numbers of TDOs, exacerbated by lengthy delays in admissions, now require the equivalent of ten full-time officers to implement (representing 17 percent of the patrol officers in the department). In addition to the stress on the department’s staff, Chief Zuidema noted that his department’s involvement in the TDO process strains the department’s community relationships and hampers recruitment of new officers.

Ms. Hobbs provided an overview of the TDO process as it is currently set out in statute, and explained the changes made by SB 268 (Favola), which also passed in 2022. This bill requires magistrates to prioritize alternative transportation when determining a transportation provider for an individual subject to a TDO, and allows a law enforcement officer to transfer custody to the designated alternative transportation provider upon execution of the TDO. Since the state’s current contract for alternative transportation only covers the transport of the individual once a bed is available, the bill also requires the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) to amend an existing contract or enter into a new contract for alternative custody of individuals who are subject to TDOs, subject to the availability of funds. (The biennium budget that was signed by the Governor last week includes $2 million in FY 2023 and $3.4 million in FY 2024 for alternative custody.)

Nelson Smith, Commissioner of the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and DBHDS staff Gail Paysour and Suzanne Mayo provided information on numbers of TDOs issued over the last several years, average wait time, and the number of TDO transports handled by the state’s contracted alternative transportation provider, G4S (now Allied). The state’s goal is for 50 percent of TDO transports to be provided by alternative transportation; however, in recent months, that percentage has fallen to as low as 8 percent of TDOs. DBHDS has been in discussions with the company about improving its performance, but staff also indicated that the current structure of the program may need to be revisited in order to allow more individuals to be candidates for alternative transportation, as the current program requirements limit its ability to serve high-acuity patients. Other issues raised in the workgroup’s ensuing discussion included the current regulatory limitations on crisis receiving centers (such as their ability to dispense medications); current Code language regarding an individual’s suitability for alternative transportation (the determination made by the magistrate under the current statutory language), which may not be the same as the individual’s suitability for alternative custody; and the importance of training for custody and transportation providers on de-escalation and the effects of trauma. The workgroup’s next meeting is July 12; a report is due October 1.

VACo Contact: Katie Boyle
Visit Bland County and the Bland County Courthouse

Location: 612 Main Street / Fairground Street  
Built: 1888 – 1889  
Style: Colonial Revival  
Architect: John I Corder  
Contractor: John I Corder

Description: The building faces northeast and is a two story red colored brick and wood structure. The building is located on landscaped grounds in the center of Bland. The northeast front has a large portico with four tall white colored columns rising to a wide header at the roof line. The entrance is framed with white colored wood with a small balcony on the second story. The first story windows have small pediments above. On the roof is an octagonal white colored wood cupola with flat roof. The roof is hipped. The building houses the County Circuit Court, County General District Court and County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of the 27th Judicial Circuit. In 1929, the front portico was added. Additions were constructed in 1949 and 2003 along the southwest side. The architect was Thompson & Litton.

SOURCE: American Courthouses | Courthouses.co
Let’s meet in person at the
VACo County Officials’ Summit
AUGUST 18, 2022

The 2022 VACo County Officials' Summit hits the road this summer as we travel to Roanoke County. We’re excited to invite Governor Glenn Youngkin and Lieutenant Governor Winsome Earle-Sears to speak about developing relationships with local governments and to share their vision for the future. We’ve also invited several cabinet members to talk about the issues and legislation for the 2023 General Assembly Session.

Register today to join your peers in Roanoke County on Thursday, August 18, 2022, for the VACo County Officials’ Summit. Breakfast and lunch are provided with event registration.

Two time blocks of VACo Steering Committee Meetings will follow lunch on August 18. VACo’s Board of Directors Meeting will take place at 9am on Friday, August 19.

Contact Valerie Russell at vrusell@vaco.org to book a hotel room. We looking forward to seeing you at the County Officials’ Summit on August 18!
Operationalizing Your IT Strategy

Founded in 1993, Inc. 5000-listed AIS Network enables governments and businesses to accomplish IT modernization – from strategy to implementation to support. AISN is the trusted partner of Forbes- and Fortune-ranked global corporations, private sector businesses, governments and the Commonwealth of Virginia. We drive exceptional value through our deep knowledge of data protection, compliance, governance and internal auditing procedures and controls. Our unmatched customer experience is rooted in decades of expertise engaging with clients to deliver solutions built on the world’s leading platforms.

Celebrating a Decade of Work in the Commonwealth

Since 2012, AISN has actively supported the diverse critical IT and cybersecurity infrastructure needs of dozens of executive branch agencies, including delivery of directory services to 60,000 state employees; management of 100+ secure servers and virtual machines for a major state agency; and performance of one of the first cloud-based application risk assessments for a state agency.

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Case Studies

Virginia SWaM – certified #723554

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Our clients range from Fortune 500 clients and multi-billion-dollar government agencies to businesses spanning diverse industries, including government, education, health care and wellness, financial services, manufacturing, technology and engineering.

Strategic Partnerships

AISN has multiple government contracts and a robust partner network, including CGI, Elavon, KPMG, Microsoft, Unisys and others. Contact Geneva Blackwell for a conversation about partnering with us.

Skip the RFP. Leverage Our Contracts to Help Your County

1. Improve public engagement/e-commerce through award-winning websites
2. Build and manage complex IT infrastructure (e.g., hybrid cloud)
3. Optimize security and manage risk to protect against cyber attacks
Legislation enacted during the 2022 session of the General Assembly takes effect today requiring public bodies to report cybersecurity incidents to the Virginia Fusion Center within 24 hours from when the incident was discovered. This Administration supported legislation was filed and enacted in order to improve the Commonwealth’s ability to catalogue and analyze various cybersecurity threats and incidents that impact public bodies at both the state and local level. Reports can be made by visiting www.reportCyber.virginia.gov.

As previously reported, VACo worked with patrons of the legislation and the Virginia IT Agency (VITA) to improve the original drafts of the legislation. One such improvement was to ensure that the existing FOIA protections in place through the Virginia State Police’s Fusion Center would also apply to incident reports submitted to reportCyber.virginia.gov. Additionally, the legislation was given an enactment clause requiring the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Commonwealth to convene a workgroup of multiple state and local stakeholders, including VACo, to review current cybersecurity reporting and information sharing practices and make recommendations on best practices for the reporting of cybersecurity incidents, as well as the scope and implementation of the required incident reporting.

The incident reporting website contains eight easy-to-answer questions designed to provide maximum flexibility to incident reporters. As specified in the enacting legislation, public bodies are required to report all “(i) known incidents that threaten the security of the Commonwealth’s data or communications or result in exposure of data protected by federal or state laws and (ii) other incidents compromising the security of the public body’s information technology systems with the potential to cause major disruption to normal activities of the public body or other public bodies.” The website contains a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section which further details what might constitute a reportable incident.

VACo is appreciative of the efforts of VITA and the Cyber Incident Reporting Work Group to design the website in manner that minimizes the burden upon local governments, protects potentially sensitive information, and enhances cybersecurity collaboration. VACo will continue to participate in the Work Group to ensure that local government perspective is continued to be taken into consideration regarding efforts at coordinated cybersecurity reporting and response by the Commonwealth.

VACo Contact: Jeremy R. Bennett
Joe Kroboth has been appointed as an Assistant Loudoun County Administrator, Loudoun County Administrator Tim Hemstreet recently announced.

Kroboth has had a lead role in the county’s capital construction and transportation infrastructure development since becoming director of the Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure (DTCI) in 2013. Most recently, he has been serving as interim director of the Department of Planning and Zoning.

“Joe is a proven leader who has demonstrated exceptional ability during his time with the county,” said Hemstreet. “I believe his broad knowledge of local government, vast experience, and outstanding leadership skills will serve the county well in his new role as a key member of my senior management team.”

As the director of DTCI, Kroboth has overseen the planning, land acquisition, design, and construction management of dozens of public infrastructure projects; has implemented the policies of the Countywide Transportation Plan; overseen the Loudoun Transit system; coordinated with outside agencies on the design and construction of the Metrorail Silver Line extension to Loudoun and coordinated the planning and programming of transportation improvement funding through various regional and state partners. Kroboth’s prior experience also includes a number of positions with the city of Hagerstown, Md. and Washington County, Md., including director of Public Works and director of Fire and Emergency Services in Washington County.

Kroboth holds a master’s degree in business administration from Frostburg State University and a bachelor’s degree in civil and structural engineering from the University of Maryland.

In his new position, Kroboth will join the other members of the Office of the County Administrator in directing and supervising the day-to-day operations of all Loudoun County departments and agencies that are under the direct control of the Board of Supervisors. The Assistant County Administrator position became available earlier this year when Assistant County Administrator John Sandy was appointed as the county’s Chief Financial Officer.

The Office of the County Administrator is the highest-level management office of the Loudoun County government and also serves as the Board of Supervisors’ official liaison to the constitutional officers, the judiciary, and state and regional agencies.
A stakeholder workgroup tasked with examining the use of Children's Services Act (CSA) funding to support special education needs met on June 21 to continue developing a set of recommendations in advance of a November 1 report deadline. The group was created by legislation that passed in 2021 and is charged with developing a detailed plan for the transfer of CSA private day school and residential placement funding to the Department of Education. The 2021 legislation also directed the group to make recommendations on the use of CSA funding to support students with special educational needs within public schools, to include the use of CSA funds to avoid out-of-school placements, as well as the most effective use of CSA funds to transition students from out-of-school placements back to public schools.

The workgroup began discussions at its May meeting on a draft plan for the transition of private day school and residential placement funding and administration to the Department of Education; at the request of workgroup members, a more extensive draft plan was circulated in advance of the June meeting. Workgroup members agreed to advance the following elements of a recommended plan to the next meeting for final approval:

- Implement the transfer beginning July 1, 2024 to allow additional time for the transition.
- Maintain sum sufficiency funding requirements for students with disabilities who are placed in private day or residential placements and continue to use CSA match rates for these placements, rather than the Local Composite Index (the workgroup requested the inclusion of detailed language explaining the differences between the two match rates and specifying how the fiscal impact on localities would be minimized).
• Incorporate regulatory language and statutory changes required for the transfer.

• Retain funding and administrative responsibility for special education wraparound services within the Office of Children's Services and local CSA programs (these services support children's needs that extend beyond the school day and are funded by a capped allocation in the state budget).

• Include a staffing plan for the Department of Education to support this function. Workgroup members pointed out the need to consider the effects on local school divisions, which will likely be assuming an increased workload in managing contracts for private day and residential placements, as this function has generally been performed by local Children’s Services Act programs.

• Specify that the current process for placing children would not change, nor would student data collection.

• Include provisions for monitoring and accountability.

The workgroup revisited the issue of potential expansion of the Students with Intensive Support Needs Application (SISNA), which was discussed at the May meeting. The SISNA process has replaced the Regional Tuition Reimbursement Program, which was established in the 1970s to assist school divisions with serving children with certain disabilities that were not widespread at the time but required assistance that would stress some school divisions’ resources. The Regional Tuition Reimbursement Program was restructured after a 2015 study so that each school division would have an opportunity to apply for funds. Under the new SISNA process, school divisions identify students who meet the eligibility requirements and apply for funds on a reimbursement basis; the Department of Education works with the school division to determine whether it would be more advantageous for the school division to receive a payment under SISNA instead of standard per-pupil funding (the Local Composite Index is also applied to SISNA payments). SISNA reimbursements are funded by a line-item allocation in the budget; although this allocation is capped, as of yet, the Department has not exhausted the funding. Members were interested in potentially expanding the SISNA program, which currently serves children in six disability categories, to encompass additional categories of disabilities, as a potential parallel support for children with high-level needs, while leaving the structure of the private day and residential placements intact. One legislator participating in the workgroup outlined a potential scenario in which a school division could support a student previously served in a private placement in his/her return to public school with the new transition funding available through CSA for up to 12 months, and then pivot to SISNA funding to continue services.

The next meeting of the workgroup will be held on August 9.

VA Co Contact: Katie Boyle
On June, 22 2022, the Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) released a performance audit of the Virginia Department of Transportation’s Snow Removal process. The report found that sufficient contractor resources are not available to assist the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) for snow removal. This is problematic as without sufficient removal resources, major snowstorms have the potential to be crippling unless assistance from other parts of the state can fill the gaps. However, in the event of a major statewide storm VDOT would not be able to keep up with removal without hiring equipment at costly rates and potentially accepting contractor equipment that has not been inspected or properly insured. VDOT has committed to addressing these issues with OSIG and relevant stakeholders and implementing corrective actions by December 15, 2022.

OSIG performed this audit in response to the 2018 prison sentencing of the former superintendent of VDOT’s Burke Area Headquarters for participation in a bribery scheme that brought in $11 million over five years. According to the audit, OSIG planned the audit of snow removal operations for the 2019-2020 snow season. However, the lack of snow for the season forced OSIG to suspend the audit temporarily. OSIG resumed work in August 2020 and made updates to planned audit procedures for the 2020-2021 snow season. After completing the updates, OSIG concluded that conducting the audit during the COVID
pandemic would not be practical and any value the audit produced would be limited without reviewing normal snow operations. As such, OSIG suspended the audit until August 2021.

VDOT is responsible for the maintenance of all interstate, primary and secondary roads with the exception of those in Henrico and Arlington counties. For more than 20 years, VDOT has relied on contracted equipment with operators, often referred to as “hired equipment,” to supplement state forces in each of its nine districts. VDOT’s Maintenance Best Practices Manual requires the Department to plan for and attempt to promptly and efficiently treat and remove snow and ice from all highway systems or make them passable as soon as possible. This is considered an emergency activity and is intended to maintain roadway assets while ensuring the safety of the traveling public and year-round use of the state highways without undue delays.

The audit concluded that some of reasons for insufficient contractor resources available to VDOT include requirements imposed upon contractors such as workers’ compensation insurance and automatic vehicle locator (AVL) monitoring devices. These requirements have caused a reduction in the number of contractors interested in meeting said requirements. The audit’s recommendation is for VDOT to find a balance between having sufficient resources and working with acceptable levels of risk. The audit also examined and made recommendations on the subjects of improper insurance verification, validation of contractor equipment, and central filing of snow plans.

As previously reported, when snow removal cannot keep pace with a winter storm, dire results may ensue such as what occurred during the I-95 Snow Incident of January 3-4, 2022. OSIG is conducting a related audit to the I-95 Snow Incident and will release the results of that audit in a separate report. VACo will provide updates as they become available and has offered to support relevant state agencies in their endeavors to improve the Commonwealth’s response capabilities to major weather events.

The full audit from OSIG can be accessed here. More information from VDOT on snow removal may be found here.

**VACo Contact:** [Jeremy R. Bennett](mailto:jeremy.bennett@vaco.org)
Federal Legislation to Reauthorize Key Substance Use Disorder Programs Passes House

Legislation that would reauthorize several important federal funding sources to address substance use disorder has passed the House of Representatives as a component of a larger bill that addresses a number of mental health funding and policy issues. VACo has endorsed the Summer Barrow Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Act, introduced by Representative Abigail Spanberger, in keeping with VACo’s legislative position in favor of a comprehensive approach to substance use disorders and in recognition of the significant impact of this major public health and safety issue on county governments. This legislation has been incorporated into HR 7666, the Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022, which was introduced by Representative Frank Pallone. HR 7666 passed the House by a large margin (402-20) on June 22.

Major provisions of the Summer Barrow Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Act include:

- Reauthorization of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Treatment Programs of Regional and National Significance program at $521 million per year for the next five fiscal years and reauthorization of the SAMHSA Substance Use Disorder Prevention Programs of Regional and National Significance at $218 million per year for the next five fiscal years. These grants fund a variety of capacity building, training and technical assistance activities at the state, local, Tribal, or nonprofit levels.
• Reauthorization of SAMHSA’s Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness Program ($64.6 million per year for the next five fiscal years), which supports services for people with serious mental illness, including those with co-occurring substance use disorders, who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

• Reauthorization of certain programs to reduce underage drinking ($23 million per year for the next five fiscal years).

• Reauthorization of Emergency Department Alternatives to Opioids Demonstration Grants ($10 million each year for the next five fiscal years).

• Reauthorization of the SAMHSA Jail Diversion Program and Grants ($14 million per year for the next five fiscal years).

Major provisions in the Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act include:

• Reauthorization of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (renamed the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant) at $1.91 billion per year for the next five fiscal years.

• Reauthorization of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (which supports community mental health services for adults with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance and the collection of performance and outcome data, with a required 5 percent set-aside for crisis care services) at $857.6 million annually for fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

• Establishment of a task force to coordinate and inform a national strategy to improve federal and state responses to maternal mental health needs.

• Authorization of $10 million annually for the next five fiscal years for a pilot program for states, localities, territories, Tribes, and Tribal organizations to establish new or enhance existing mobile crisis response teams.

• Direction to convene an interagency working group to increase collaboration among federal agencies in promoting availability of housing, including recovery housing, for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental illness, or substance use disorder.

• Elimination of the ability of nonfederal governmental self-funded insurance plans to opt out of mental health parity requirements.

**VACo Contacts:** [Dean A. Lynch, CAE](mailto:Dean.A.Lynch@VACo.org) and [Katie Boyle](mailto:Katie.Boyle@VACo.org)
Maximizing Your Cash In a Rising Rate Environment

Right now, short-term interest rates are on the rise with the Fed signaling a willingness to keep increases inching upward in attempts to stabilize inflation. In a rising-rate environment, all cash should be seen as a valuable asset in the marketplace.
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DATES TO KNOW
REGISTRATION CLOSES: JULY 15
LIVE COURSES: JULY 20 - SEPTEMBER 8
COMPLETE CERTIFICATE BY: DECEMBER 8

PROGRAM BENEFITS
ADVANCE YOUR OWN CAREER
GROW YOUR NETWORK
TRAIN NEW STAFF

LEARN YOUR WAY
ATTEND LIVE OR RECORDED WEBCASTS
EXTEND LEARNING WITH KEY RESOURCES
INTERACT DIRECTLY WITH PEERS

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Learn Your Way - At Your Pace - Advance Your Career
https://chesapeakestormwater.net
The FEMA National Exercise Division and FEMA Region 3 cordially invite federal, state, local, tribal and non-governmental partners to a **Climate Adaptation Seminar**. This seminar is open to all partners in Region 3 states.

The Climate Adaptation Seminar will provide:

- An overview of climate change and climate adaptation
- Information about hazards and vulnerabilities impacting states within Region 3
- Various emergency management perspectives on climate impacts
- Available tools and resources to assist emergency managers with climate adaptation planning initiatives

The Climate Adaptation Seminar will be held **July 27-28, 2022**. Registration for the Seminar will be available in a few weeks.

*If you have any questions, please contact Chris Nemcheck: Christopher.Nemcheck@fema.dhs.gov or Duane Keel: Roy.Keel@fema.dhs.gov*
You’re invited to a zoom with the office of Sen. Mark R. Warner and the White House Infrastructure Team!

**Tuesday, July 26, 2022 • 3:30 – 5:00 PM**

In an effort to help Virginia stakeholders understand how to access funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Sen. Warner’s office is hosting a webinar with the White House Infrastructure Team. This webinar will cover the various formula-based funding streams within the law and provide information on some of the competitive grant programs. **The presentation will be followed by a Q&A.**

Register at this URL: [sen.gov/VZ75](sen.gov/VZ75)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.
Proposed Reapportionment and Bylaw Amendment

The VACo Bylaws provide for reapportionment every ten years beginning in 1991. The VACo President named a reapportionment committee in 2021 and the committee began the process when the census data was available. The committee presented its recommendations to the VACo Board of Directors at its meeting on June 4, 2022. The Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the committee which would add three seats to the VACo Board of Directors consisting of one rural, one suburban and one urban area seat. The Board also endorsed a proposed Bylaw amendment which would allow the three seats to be added to the Board of Directors. The proposed reapportioned map of regions and the Bylaw proposal are as follows.

The Membership of the association will vote on the proposed Bylaw amendment at its Annual meeting on November 15, 2022.

Article IX entitled Board of Directors, shall be amended in Section 2 by adding the words Regional Directors and deleting the words twenty four members as indicated below.

**ARTICLE IX**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Authority and Responsibility.** The governing body of this Association shall be the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the Association, its committees, and its publications; shall determine its policies or changes therein; and shall actively prosecute its objectives.

**Section 2. Composition and Election.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, The President-Elect, the First Vice-President, the Second Vice-President, the Secretary-Treasurer, the Immediate Past-President, the three next most recent Virginia
Association of Counties past-presidents who currently hold office as elected Virginia county supervisors who may serve only for 3 more years after their term as immediate past president, and **Regional Directors** twenty-four members elected on a “one person - one vote” basis from compact and contiguous Regions into which the State shall be divided for purposes of representation. Such regional directors shall be selected at the annual meeting by the member counties located within the region which the director will represent. The Board of Directors shall designate at least one member of the Board to represent the Association on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties. Any county supervisor who serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties shall also serve as an ex-officio member of the VACo Board of Directors.

**Section 3. Qualification.** Only elected county supervisors representing Virginia counties in good standing shall be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors.

**Section 4. Term.** Regional Directors shall be elected for two-year staggered terms with approximately fifty percent of its members elected and installed at each Annual Business Meeting. No Regional Directors shall serve more than four full consecutive terms. Any tenure as an officer of the Association shall not be included as any part of the tenure of the aforementioned four consecutive terms. The Regional Directors elected and installed at the Annual Business Meeting shall assume office immediately after the close of such meeting. Such Directors shall hold office until their successors are elected and installed. No Director shall continue to hold office after formally leaving office as an elected Virginia county supervisor. Past presidents may serve in that capacity for only three more years after their service as Immediate Past President.

**Section 5. Reapportionment.** Beginning in 1991, and every ten years thereafter, regional representation on the Board of Directors shall be reapportioned.

**Section 6. Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall hold quarterly regular meetings at such time and such place as the Board may prescribe. Notice of all such meetings shall be given to the members not less than thirty days before the meeting is held. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President or at the request of any three Directors elected from separate Regions of the Association. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be held by conference call or other electronic means and votes may be taken.

**Section 7. Quorum.** At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the members present, and voting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Association. Any such business thus transacted shall be valid providing it is affirmatively passed by upon by a majority of those members present and voting.

**Section 8. Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors between Annual Business Meetings shall be filled by the Board. A Director so elected to fill a vacancy shall serve the unexpired term of the predecessor.
Dear VACo Members –

Just touching base regarding the Volunteer Firefighters' and Rescue Workers' Service Award Program (VOLSAP) (§ 51.1-1200–51.1-1211 of the Code of Virginia) to let you know that there are updated resources for the program.

VOLSAP is a service award program established to provide a financial incentive and monetary award to eligible volunteer firefighters and rescue squad workers who participate in the program. The program allows eligible volunteers to contribute money that is then invested alongside the VRS pension trust fund in a widely diversified portfolio. Local departments, squads and localities may, but are not required to, make matching contributions. The state may also make matching contributions, although no such match has been provided to date.

The following resources can inform and help recruit and retain volunteer firefighters and rescue squad workers in Virginia communities. Resources include:

- **VOLSAP Program Overview (Animated Presentation):** This animated presentation can be shown at meetings or volunteer orientation or used by volunteer coordinators to recruit staff.

- **Introduction to VOLSAP (PowerPoint Presentation/PDF):** This can be shown at meetings or volunteer orientation.

- **Brochure:** Serving as a good overview, units can print these out to use as a handout at a recruitment event or included as a link in an email or newsletter.

- **Flyers:** These can be printed and posted on bulletin boards or included in emails and newsletters.

- **New promotional video:** This 60-second video gives a good overview of the VOLSAP program.

- **Procedures Guide:** Directed more toward local squads, the guide gives information about the program and required forms.

Please contact Jeanne Chenault at jchenault@varetire.org or visit www.volsap.org if you have any further questions.
Meet the Candidates: Phyllis Randall

Loudoun County, Va. Board of Supervisors Chair Phyllis Randall is running to be NACo’s second vice president

Why are you interested in serving as a NACo officer?
As the COVID-19 pandemic becomes an ongoing endemic, my background makes me uniquely qualified to address the issues we will confront as a nation for many years in the wake of this historic challenge. A mental health/substance dependence crisis, or what I am referring to as the second pandemic, is likely to sweep our nation with immeasurable, long-term health impacts in the coming years. As a mental health/substance abuse therapist for over two decades, I have seen firsthand the lasting harm untreated mental health issues can have on individuals and families. National policy will be significantly shaped by this “invisible” health crisis over the next three to five years, and NACo will need to engage on this issue during that timeframe.

Secondly, as the Chair At-Large of a County with Urban, Suburban and Rural Policy Areas, I have in-depth, practical working knowledge of the diverse needs and challenges facing almost every county in the nation. For example, supply chain disruptions have clarified for us the importance of supporting the farming and agriculture economies in our rural counties. At the same time, as local elected governing bodies have worked to sustain service delivery, enduring, equitable distribution of services to communities of color and poor communities has become a major issue for our Urban/Suburban counties.

What do you consider to have been your most important contribution to the National Association of Counties to date? What do you consider to have been your most important contribution to your state association of counties?
In just seven years as an elected official, I have become very involved in the National Association of Counties. To date, I would count my most important involvement as being a founding member of the NACo Economic Mobility Leadership Network (EMLN). In fact, the new Sister City relationship between Loudoun County, Virginia and Holmes County, Mississippi, and supported by NACo, has been key and very important as NACo has contended with economic and health equity throughout the nation.

In 2019, NACo asked me to testify before a Congressional Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives regarding how counties should conduct their 2020 census and how the Federal Government could support the efforts of the nation’s Urban, Suburban, Rural and Frontier counties in completing the most accurate census counts possible.
Finally, I have tried to incorporate my passion regarding the importance of treating mental health as we do every other health condition: de-stigmatizing the diseases of mental health and substance abuse. I have participated as an expert panelist or facilitator at numerous VACo and NACo conferences on the subject. In addition, in my state (commonwealth) organizations, I have been actively involved in writing legislation, serving and having leadership roles on various committee assignments.

- First Term in Office January 2016 - December 2019
- 2016-2019 National Association of Counties Health and Human Services, member
- Loudoun County joins NACo Heath County initiative
- Loudoun County joins NACo Stepping Up initiative
- Loudoun County joins NACo Women in Government
- Loudoun County joins NACo Women in Leadership
- 2018 Founding member NACo Economic Mobility Leadership Network
- 2016 Virginia Association of Counties Board of Directors
- 2016 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, member
- 2017 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, member
- 2019 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, Vice Chair
- Second Term in Office January 2020 - Present
- 2020 Virginia Association of Counties Board of Directors
- 2020 Virginia Association of Counties Health and Human Services Committee, Chair
- 2021 National Association of Counties Healthy Counties Committee, Chair
- 2021 Behavioral Health Subcommittee of the National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee, Chair
- 2021 National Association of Counties Health Steering Committee, member
- NACo appointee to the Bipartisan Policy Center Public Heath Forward Task Force

What do you consider to be the two or three most important challenges facing NACo in the near future on which the Officers/Executive Committee/Board of Directors should focus? Why?

A. Counties are being inundated with unfunded mandates. Although I agree with some of these — increased funding for education, for example — federal and state governments need to ensure they can fully fund their own priorities without requiring counties to “match” federal/state program mandates. Many counties, especially smaller or rural counties with limited budgets, have neither the population nor the inclination to incur the added expenses of such programs and often simply cannot afford these federal/state budget mandates.

B. Across the nation, many state legislatures are introducing legislation to usurp power from local governing bodies. These initiatives include critical curtailments in areas such as taxing authority, zoning/land use issues, election management and the voting process. Many state legislatures are now aggressively attempting to legislate items that have historically been the purview of local governments. I believe local elected bodies, comprising elected officials closest to those they represent, should retain control of local issues without interference from state bodies.

C. Over the past two years, local elected officials have been required to not only perform our many “regular duties,” but also to manage a 100-year pandemic and all its related community...
trauma. I never imagined a time when I would know the running count of my constituents who were hospitalized or died as a result of COVID-19. This, of course, touches on another aspect of our growing mental health crisis. Just as we have cared for our constituents, we must increasingly recognize the mental health toll these past two years have exacted on our local elected officials. Local elected officials cannot care for our constituents if we do not have the appropriate coping mechanisms, tools and resources to respond to our own mental health needs.

What measures would you recommend to increase and retain NACo membership and to encourage broad participation in NACo by elected officials and employees of NACo member counties? What specific role would you be willing to assume to help build and sustain membership in NACo?

Although Loudoun County has always been a member of NACo, our elected officials have largely not attended NACo conferences or been significantly involved in NACo activities. Shortly after taking office, I realized how beneficial NACo and the Virginia Association of Counties are in accomplishing many of our collective goals. NACo not only offers networking opportunities and support from other local elected officials, it provides invaluable materials, information and resources to foster better governance. I believe if county staff and elected officials more fully understood the obvious benefits of NACo and their state associations, they would be much more likely not only to become financial members, but also actively engaged participants in all NACo programs. Some ideas to increase membership are:

a. Offer a one-time membership discount to smaller counties that are not members.

b. Hold a NACo cohort meeting in an underrepresented area.

c. Offer to send a NACo representative or expert to an inactive county for consultations with the local elected bodies.

d. Have NACo officers and board members dedicate themselves to reach out and visit inactive/non-member counties.
Visit the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions Website for more information.
CONGRATULATIONS TO CHESTERFIELD COUNTY!

BEST IN CATEGORY

**Arts, Culture and Historic Preservation**
- Catawba County, N.C.
  - Hmong Keeb Kwm: The Hmong Heritage Project

**Children and Youth**
- Boulder County, Colo.
  - The Young Leaders Academy (YLA)

**Civic Education and Public Information**
- Chesterfield County, Va.
  - ‘Mental Health Is A Puzzle, But We Have The Missing Piece’ Youth-Centric Social Media Campaign

**Community and Economic Development**
- Harford County, Md.
  - The Grove at Harford

**County Administration and Management**
- Clark County, Nev.
  - Online Mineral Processing Tool for Air Quality Permitting

**County Resiliency**
- Santa Barbara County, Calif.
  - Santa Barbara County ReSource Center

**Criminal Justice and Public Safety**
- Saline County, Kan.
  - Community Corrections UTrust

**Financial Management**
- Palm Beach County, Fla.
  - Palm Beach County Community Services Prevention of Improper Client Assistance Payments

**Health**
- Summit County, Ohio
  - Utilizing collaboration and innovation to abate the opioid epidemic

**Human Services**
- Lassen County, Calif.
  - Fatherhood Initiative Outreach “The Brandon Story”

**Information Technology**
- Miami-Dade County, Fla.
  - Surfside Building Collapse Support

**Libraries**
- Yuma County, Ariz.
  - Smart Start Kits

**Parks and Recreation**
- Charlotte County, Fla.
  - Sam and Charlotte’s Super Safari

**Personnel Management, Employment and Training**
- San Diego County, Calif.
  - Investing Learn to Earn Virtual Event

**Planning**
- Union County, N.C.
  - Union County 2050 Comprehensive Plan

**Risk and Emergency Management**
- Larimer County, Colo.
  - COVID-19 Recovery Outreach Dashboard

**Transportation**
- Outagamie County, Wis.
  - Outagamie County Highway “CA” / West College Avenue Reconstruction

**Volunteers**
- Salt Lake County, Utah
  - Hounds Around Town (HAT)

www.naco.org/achievementawards

NACo is pleased to announce the winners for the 2022 Achievement Awards. Explore the Best in Category winners above by [clicking this link](#).

All winners are available in our [searchable awards database](#), where winning programs are searchable by year, category and state dating back to 2009.
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act:
Opportunities to Invest in Water Infrastructure using State Revolving Funds Webinar

Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2022
Time: 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Webinar Registration Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vx4z1REDTqGIxVb4R6TIlQ

Overview:
The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) includes billions of dollars in competitive funding available to cities, towns, and municipalities across dozens of new and existing programs. As local governments begin to rebuild and reinvest in their communities, there are federal resources to support local leaders as they combine funding streams, organize around their priorities, and build local support for long overdue infrastructure projects. States are coordinating funds through their Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds programs. This workshop will provide an overview of the IIJA as it can support water, share current jurisdiction plans for the resource and offer local government examples for funding. The goal is to address questions, learn of jurisdiction plans and consider funding projects that address long standing water infrastructure needs.

Welcome
Jasmine Gore, LGAC Chair, Hopewell, VA
City Councilmember

Introduction
Adam Ortiz, Director, EPA Region 3 (invited)

Overview of IIJA
Maggy Cunningham, Regional CWSRF Coordinator, EPA
Carolyn Berndt, Legislative Director, Sustainability National League of Cities
Sarah Gimont, Assoc. Legislative Director, National Assoc. of Counties

Clean Water & Drinking Water SRFs
Jeff Fretwell, Director, Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration
Brent Sailhamer, Legislative Affairs Specialist, PENNVEST
Lauren Linville, Program Coordinator, Virginia CWSRF

Q&A
Attendees

Wrap-Up
Jasmine Gore, LGAC Chair
Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with the most fundamental leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

NACo and the Professional Development Academy created the interactive program in collaboration with the late General Colin Powell, Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, private sector executives, and local government officials—all to enable your existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potentials.

More than 5,000 participants have enrolled from counties across the country since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results. In fact, the positive feedback and demand for this NACo program has been truly unprecedented: to the point that NACo now has four scheduled opportunities to attend each year.

The Academy has proven relevant and non-disruptive for self-paced and collaborative learning. Participants have the opportunity to engage with peers from other counties and receive expert guidance from program facilitators throughout the 12 weeks of course materials, all with a flexible 4-5 hour per week time commitment.

The cost per enrollee begins at $1,645. Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details for your state.

To enroll, visit the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy webpage at NACo.org/Skills.

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at treinas@pdaleadership.com

“This is a transformational leadership program that has proven to be the most scalable, cost effective, and efficient way to make your leaders better.”
- General Colin Powell

Top 10 Participating Counties & Associations:
Hennepin County, MN
Fairfield County, OH
Texas Association of Counties
Montgomery County, MD
Douglas County, NE
Riverside County, CA
Tulare County, CA
Maricopa County, AZ
Sutter County, CA
Hamilton County, OH
Blue Line Solutions

VACo Premier Partner Blue Line Solutions offers a TrueBlue Highway Safety Program that can be implemented in School Zones and Construction Zones, where data has shown that drivers are unaware that their driving behavior is not in alignment with public safety. A key element of this program - drivers are first educated through several media outlets, that their driving patterns through these zones need to change to keep their communities safe. The education has had a profound and positive effect on driving behavior.

Please contact Greg Hogston for more information: ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org or 276.759.8064 or visit https://bluelinesolutions.org.

Watch the Blue Line Solutions Video Part 1
Watch the Blue Line Solutions Video Part 2
Watch the Blue Line Solutions Video Part 3
Watch the Blue Line Solutions Video Part 4
11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

Connections Matter

When: November 1 - 2, 2022
Where: The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center in Roanoke, VA

FREE Pre-Conference Events on the afternoon of October 31, 2022:

Adaptive Leadership - CSA Coordinators
Strategic Planning - CPMT Members

(Registration required for all pre-conference sessions.)

Register Today!

11th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference

We are excited to welcome everyone back to an in-person event of the 11th Commonwealth of Virginia’s Annual Children’s Services Act Conference, where “Connections Matter.” Please join us for two days of impactful training, vendor visits, and activities focused on the resiliency of Virginia’s CSA community, the changes in child welfare arising from various initiatives and national trends, and the evidence-based practices that inspire positive outcomes in engaging the youth and families in our work.

Register Today!

When: November 1-2, 2022
Where: The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
**PLAN 2022-2023**

As you plan your budget and build your Capital Improvement Plan for FY 2022-2023, the Berkley Group offers localities the following services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT</th>
<th>STRATEGY &amp; ENGAGEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Executive Recruitment</td>
<td>• Board &amp; Staff Retreats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pay &amp; Classification Studies</td>
<td>• Strategic Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Job Description &amp; Employee Handbook Updates</td>
<td>• Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Organizational Strategic Assessments</td>
<td>• Community &amp; Stakeholder Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Capital Improvement Planning</td>
<td>• Public Meeting Facilitation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANNING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Comprehensive Plans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Zoning &amp; Subdivision Ordinance Updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Historic Preservation Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mapping &amp; GIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Project Planning, Development &amp; Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS</th>
<th>DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Resilience Plans</td>
<td>• Interim Executive Management Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hazard Mitigation Plans</td>
<td>• Planning &amp; Zoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Envision Assessments</td>
<td>• Human Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Renewable Energy Diagnostics &amp; Policy Updates</td>
<td>• Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Solar &amp; Wind Third-Party Application Reviews</td>
<td>• Emergency Management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REQUEST ASSISTANCE**

The Berkley Group is the go-to local government consultant for Virginia counties. Contact us at info@bgllc.net for any of your local government needs.
We are proud to be a member of the Virginia Promise Partnership, a coalition of 30+ leading organizations committed to quality, affordable child care for all Virginia families.

Please watch and share this video to show your support for child care!  
#VaPromise  
#ChildCareIsEssential  
#MoreChildrenMoreChoices  
#WeNeedChildCareVA  
#InvestinChildCareVA

Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign Compilation - YouTube

“Access to safe and affordable childcare is an essential component to allow local businesses and county economies to thrive.”

Jeremy Bennett  
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
Virginia Association of Counties
VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS’ MANUAL
EIGHTH EDITION

ORDER YOURS TODAY
$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)
The Eighth Edition of VACo's Virginia County Supervisors’ Manual is in stock. The Supervisors' Manual is the number one resource on the framework of county government and the responsibilities of the county board.

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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 $100 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@vaco.org).

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**BROADBAND PROJECT MANAGER |** Montgomery County | Posted July 1

**DEPUTY CLERK II |** Culpeper County | Posted July 1

**COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK TECHNICIAN |** Shenandoah County | Posted June 30

**TOWN MANAGER |** Town of Crewe | Posted June 30

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES |** Albemarle County | Posted June 30

**BUS DRIVER-TRANSIT |** City of Harrisonburg | Posted June 30

**CUSTODIAN SENIOR |** City of Harrisonburg | Posted June 30

**FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST-PART TIME |** Montgomery County | Posted June 30

**SENIOR SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN |** Chesterfield County | Posted June 30

**PROBATION PRETRIAL OFFICER |** Culpeper County | Posted June 29

**DEPUTY REGISTRAR |** Albemarle County | Posted June 29

**BUDGET MANAGER |** Westmoreland County | Posted June 29

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PART TIME |** Montgomery County | Posted June 29

**PARAMEDIC-PART TIME |** Montgomery County | Posted June 29

**MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST |** Hanover County | Posted June 28

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF IT/CHESAPEAKE CONNECTS ADMINISTRATOR |** City of Chesapeake | Posted June 28

**SENIOR SQL SERVER DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR |** Chesterfield County | Posted June 28

**PLANNER I/II |** Central Shenandoah PDC | Posted June 28

**PROGRAM MANAGER PLANNING & ASSET MANAGEMENT |** Western Virginia Water Authority | Posted June 27

**CDL-A DRIVER |** Chesterfield County | Posted June 27

**NATIONALLY REGISTERED EMT TO PARAMEDIC |** Essex County | Posted June 24

**PLANNING TECHNICIAN |** Loudoun County | Posted June 24
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Posted Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL PLANNER</td>
<td>Isle of Wight County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>SENIOR PLANNER</td>
<td>Augusta County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE STAFF SPECIALIST III</td>
<td>Westmoreland County</td>
<td>June 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF FINANCE</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson PDC</td>
<td>June 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OPERATIONS COORDINATOR</td>
<td>The Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at UVA</td>
<td>June 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER SUPERINTENDENT</td>
<td>Wythe County</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT</td>
<td>Wythe County</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEPUTY CITY MANAGER</td>
<td>City of Lynchburg</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL SPECIALIST III</td>
<td>Fairfax County</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIVIL ENGINEER</td>
<td>Frederick County</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAMILY SERVICES SPECIALIST</td>
<td>City of Winchester</td>
<td>June 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFFICE MANAGER</td>
<td>King George County</td>
<td>June 22</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL ENGINEER</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER ELECTRICAL CONTROL SPECIALIST (JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN)</td>
<td>Chesterfield County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGINEER I</td>
<td>Loudoun County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCE TECHNICIAN</td>
<td>Shenandoah County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES</td>
<td>Spotsylvania County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRAMS ASSISTANT</td>
<td>Culpeper County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE TECHNICIAN – PART TIME</td>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>June 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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

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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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