Wednesday, August 10, 2022



## Virginia Counties Recognized for Model Programs



**RICHMOND (August 5, 2022)**—The Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) is pleased to announce the 29 recipients of the 2022 Achievement Awards, which recognize excellence in local government programs. VACo received 100 submissions.

Winning entries focused on addressing issues of the pandemic, connecting citizens, and other challenges that counties face daily.

Winning Achievement Award Submissions

Winning Program Descriptions

20th Anniversary of the Achievement Awards Video

"I want to thank all who participated in the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Achievement Awards," VACo Executive Director **Dean Lynch** said. "This is an anniversary year, and I was encouraged to see that we had 100 submissions, our third-highest total ever. This tells me that the VACo Achievement Awards program's mission of identifying and celebrating the innovative work by local government officials continues to resonate with our counties. We thank all who participated and recognize those who won an award."

**Tedd Povar**, retired Associate Director of the Virginia Institute of Government; **Dr. Sheryl Bailey**, Visiting Professor of Practice at Virginia Tech and former Chesterfield County

More on Next Page

Deputy County Administrator; and **Larry Land**, retired VACo Director of Policy Development, served as judges for this year's statewide competitive awards program.

## **Chesterfield County** and its **Connecting All Community Residents to Public Schools** program won this year's **Best Achievement Award**.

"Connecting All Community Residents to Public Schools is a program we need now," Dr. Bailey said. "Chesterfield County believes its schools can be a foundation for a successful community but with 65 percent of households without children 18 or younger, the county knew it had to expand its outreach to the greater community. The results have been very positive and has proven correct the adage 'it takes a village to raise a child.' I speak for the judges when I say we are honored to give this program the Best Achievement Award."

The judges also selected a Best Small County Achievement Award (50,000 or less population) and a Best Large County Achievement Award. **Orange County** and its **Whole Blood Project** program captured the **Best Small County Achievement Award** while **Prince William County** and its **Early Diversion Program in Domestic Violence Cases** program earned the **Best Large County Achievement Award**.

"Congratulations to Orange County for winning its third-ever Achievement Award, and for such an excellent program," Land said. "To deliver the best possible outcomes for patients, the Orange County Fire & EMS Department carried lifesaving 'whole blood' units aboard on-duty response vehicles. This project required extensive training as well as other new protocols and procedures. But now Orange County can provide treatment quickly to help prevent a leading cause of patient mortality – blood loss."

Povar, who has served as judge since the Achievement Awards inception in 2003, said Prince William County's winning program reflects an important criteria for the VACo Achievement Awards. "As judges, we look for how a county uses innovation or ideas to solve a problem," Povar said. "Prince William County's program has an excellent success score, including a zero percent recidivism rate and 98 percent of those charged accept the diversion opportunity instead of going to court or possibly trial. Congratulations to Prince William County for a tremendous program and for continuing to be a leader in the VACo Achievement Awards program."

**Chesterfield County** tops the all-time Achievement Awards list with 44. Chesterfield County has won an award in each year of the 20-year history of the program. **Henrico County** is second on the list with 38 Achievement Awards while **Loudoun County** is third with 27.

The VACo Achievement Awards is a competitive program open to local government members of the association.

<u>Winning Achievement Award Submissions</u> | <u>Winning Program Descriptions Achievement</u> <u>Awards Website</u> | <u>2022 Achievement Awards Entries</u> | <u>Past Winners</u> | <u>Past Judges</u> | <u>20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Achievement Awards Video</u>

#### ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

#### County Connections | Page 3



## Happy 20th Anniversary VACo Achievement Awards!

Great to see so many friends in this video. The VACo Achievement Awards truly does bring us together in pursuit of improving our communities.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the VACo Achievement Awards during the past 20 years.

WATCH THE VIDEO

## Juvenile Detention Study Advisory Committee Meets in Roanoke County

The Commission on Youth's advisory committee for its study of the effectiveness and efficiency of Virginia's juvenile detention centers held its second meeting on July 26 in Roanoke County. This study was prompted by the declining numbers of youth housed in juvenile detention centers and is exploring potential consolidation or repurposing of unused capacity in juvenile detention centers. VACo's Executive Director, Dean Lynch, is serving on the Commission's advisory committee, which was convened to assist with the study.

Senator David Marsden reiterated in his opening remarks that the care received by youth in the juvenile detention system is "first rate," and that the state-local partnership providing these services is the system's strength. He indicated his interest in working with the Administration on the issue and in approaching the issue of consolidation through incentives for localities rather than mandates and in reinvesting any savings in addressing gaps in services across the state.

Elizabeth Spinney, Policy Analyst with the Commission on Youth, presented <u>an overview of the results of</u> <u>a survey of juvenile detention center directors</u>. The survey captured information on the age of facilities, services provided within centers (including programming provided by community-based groups and volunteers), potential alternatives to detention, and whether detention centers could repurpose unused space for additional residential or community-based programming. Additional data to be gathered include more information on the home ZIP codes of youth housed in detention centers and more detail on transportation costs, as well as a better understanding of the increasing needs of youth being served. A representative of the Virgina Juvenile Detention Association and the Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice, Amy Floriano, remarked on the severity of offenses being committed by juveniles in recent months.

Representatives from a local nonprofit organization discussed their work to serve survivors of human trafficking and their pursuit of a potential partnership with the local juvenile detention center. The nonprofit, Straight Street, and the local detention center have held some preliminary discussions about repurposing some of the detention center's currently unused space as a site where potential clients could be stabilized and assessed; however, challenges for such a project include licensing requirements and renovation costs. Will Egen, Senior Policy Analyst for the Commission on Youth, explained the federal and state laws and regulations governing the operation of juvenile detention centers. Co-locating different types of facilities on the same property can be permissible (for example, a secure facility and a non-secure youth shelter), although another licensing entity may be involved in the process (for example, some facilities would be licensed by the Department of Social Services or the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services).

Issues discussed by the advisory committee included the expected increase in travel expenditures for sheriffs if facilities were consolidated; the need to support family visitation; and the importance of locality buy-in for repurposing unused capacity in detention centers. The meeting concluded with a tour of the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center. The advisory committee's next meeting is scheduled for August 16 in Fairfax County.

VACo Contacts: Dean A. Lynch, CAE, and Katie Boyle

### TOURISM



## Visit Brunswick County and the Brunswick County Courthouse

Location: 216 North Main Street / Hicks Street
Built: 1997 – 1999
Style: Modern
Architect: Browne, Eichman, Dalgliesh, Gilpin and Paxton PC (Dalgliesh, Eichaman, Oglie & Farris)
Contractor: Knightsbridge Construction Company

**Description:** The building faces west and is a two story red colored brick and concrete structure. The building is located on landscaped grounds in the center of Lawrenceville. The west front has a projecting center section with a portico and four white colored columns rising to a pediment at the roof line. The roof is hipped with several dormers. The building houses the County Circuit Court of the 6th Judicial Circuit. The building is named the Albertis S. Harrison, Jr. Courthouse.

SOURCE: American Courthouses | Courthouses.co

County Connections | Page 6

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR



## Let's meet in person at the VACo County Officials' Summit

AUGUST 18, 2022 | <u>REGISTRATION FORM</u> | <u>REGISTER ONLINE</u> <u>DRAFT AGENDA</u>

The 2022 VACo County Officials' Summit hits the road this summer as we travel to Roanoke County. We're excited to invite members of the Youngkin Administration 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.

<u>Register today</u> 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 <u>vrussell@vaco.org</u> to book a hotel room. We looking forward to seeing you at the County Officials' Summit on August 18!

Registration Form | Register Online | Draft Agenda

#### **PREMIER PARTNERS**





Join us in investing in the county workforce.

The Academy is a 12-week online program designed to enable current and emerging county leaders to achieve their fullest potential, making them smarter and more effective resources for their colleagues and communities.

Over 1,600 counties have participated since the launch of the program, with incredible feedback and results.



**5,100+** Program Participants

1,690+ Counties & Associations

**5m+** In Scholarship Savings

#### LAST CHANCE TO ENROLL THIS YEAR September 12<sup>th</sup>

Video Introduction: As Presented by County Leaders



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Expert Facilitation
- ✓ Flexible Schedule
- ✓ Cross-County Peer
   Networking
- ✓ 98% of Participants
   Would Recommend
- ✓ Access for Life

#### LEARN MORE



#### TO ENROLL Visit <u>NACo.org/Skills</u>

QUESTIONS? Call or email for details Luke Afeman lukea@pdaleadership.com 503-908-5381

#### **COUNTY NEWS**

### Franklin County Supervisor Leland Mitchell Passes Away



*Franklin County, Virginia* – Leland Mitchell, Franklin County Board of Supervisors member and Chairman of the Franklin County Broadband Authority, passed away on July 30. Mr. Mitchell was the longest-serving member of the current Board of Supervisors where this past January he began his fifth term.

Mr. Mitchell was first elected to the Board of Supervisors representing the Snow Creek District in November of 2005 where he has continued to serve since taking office in January of 2006. Mr. Mitchell's colleagues elected him as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in 2020 where he helped navigate the County during the early months of the Covid pandemic.

During his tenure on the Board, "Mr. Mitchell became a champion for the deployment of high-speed broadband within the rural areas of Franklin County while serving as Chairman of the Broadband Authority where he most recently worked with his colleagues to secure approximately \$25 million in state and federal funding to now begin connecting thousands of homes and businesses with high speed internet throughout the County," stated Mr. Ronnie Thompson, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.

In addition to broadband connectivity, Supervisor Leland Mitchell worked with his local and regional colleagues to welcome Franklin County as a member of the Western Virginia Water Authority, thereby securing a public system for water and wastewater utilities.

Board Chairman Ronnie Thompson said, "Supervisor Leland Mitchell was a gentleman with a steadying presence on the Board during the great recession helping guide the fiscal policy of the County to ensure the employees and citizens of Franklin County always took priority. Mr. Mitchell was a strong supporter of Franklin County and measured the needs of the Snow Creek district with the needs of the entire County," adds Thompson.

During his tenure on the Board, "Mr. Micthell also kept a keen eye on the County's finances where he strived to promote fiscal polices in helping to maintain the County's high bond ratings" stated Chris Whitlow, County Administrator. "It was a pleasure to work with Leland through the years and he will be missed," added Mr. Whitlow.

## New Kent County Supervisors approve speed zone ordinance, agree to purchase Makemie Woods

By Robb Johnson | <u>New Kent-Charles City Chronicle</u>

The following <u>story</u> was reprinted with permission from the <u>New Kent-Charles</u> <u>City Chronicle</u>. Blue Line Solutions is a VACo Premier Partner.



An ordinance to allow speed cameras to capture violators in school and work zones in New Kent County passed Monday night.

New Kent County supervisors approved the measure 5-0 at the regular board meeting, which yielded only two individuals at its public hearing. Both speakers favored the measure.

At the July 27 work session, New Kent Sheriff J. Joe McLaughlin Jr. recommended the proposal as part of safety measures on the highway. In particular, he focused on school zones as Quinton Elementary School in the western part of the county will be operational this fall.

The sheriff is working with Blue Line Solutions on the project. The company uses photo enforcement on school and work zones, with citations automatically being issued when a vehicle travels through that area at 11 miles per hour or faster than the posted speed limit. A fine of \$15 is levied for each violation by state code, but a civil fee of up to \$85 can be imposed by the locality.

A recent five-day study conducted by Blue Line Solutions revealed that 25,000 vehicles passed the new

More on Next Page

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

elementary school. Of that number, approximately 14,000 vehicles exceeded the speed limit by 11 miles per hour than what is expected to be a proposed 25-miles per hour zone.

With the ordinance approved, Blue Line Solutions will take the next step by providing a 30-day warning period before live summons go out. Along with the warning, a 90-day study will take place with the intent to see speed reduce once violations are issued.

At the work session, McLaughlin emphasized that safety for citizens and drivers was his top priority.

"This is purely about traffic safety," he commented at the work session. "It has nothing to do with revenue. It has to do with vehicle crashes. If you come through that area with a violation, you earned it."

While many people took to both sides on social media on the issue, only two people appeared in person on the matter.

"I dislike speeders and have no pity for them if they get caught," commented Larry Reynolds. "When I was living in Maryland when speed cameras were introduced, Maryland was not being forthright about cost, revenue sharing, and maintenance.

"If speed cameras are installed in New Kent, please learn from Maryland's mistake and publish all the details about the cost involved and how they are maintained," he concluded.

New Kent leaders took action shortly afterwards with a favorable recommendation.

In another matter handled by New Kent's Board of Supervisors, the group unanimously agreed to purchase Makemie Woods in the amount of \$1,025,000.

At the July regular board meeting, supervisors agreed to a sales agreement with the Presbyterian of Eastern Virginia Inc. to purchase the 274 acres of land. The area began seeing financial difficulty in 2012 when it was failing to draw attention to host camps and retreats.

In May 2022, county leaders denied an attempt by Travis Hall and his Faith Recovery program to bring a facility to Makemie Woods that focused on drug rehabilitation. But that plan did not favor supervisors as they cited a lack of accountability on the organization's part and the impact on small businesses.

From there, negotiations by County Administrator Rodney Hathaway about purchasing the area grew. A public hearing was required by law as the acquisition of the property accounts for more than one percent of the county's FY2022-23 fiscal budget. No speakers addressed the board during the public hearing.

With the approval to purchase the property, Hathaway is hoping to use the area for more recreational opportunities in the eastern part of the county.

#### County Connections | Page 11

#### NACo NEWS

## Shine a light of hope and support for veterans



#OperationGreenLight for Veterans | NACo.org/OperationGreenLight

### **OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS: COUNTY TOOLKIT**

America's counties have a long and proud history of serving our nation's veterans, a legacy that continues to this day as we work with our federal, state and local partners to ensure that the former service members in our communities have access to the resources they need to thrive.

This coming Veterans Day, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) invite the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes, and boroughs to join Operation Green Light and show support for veterans by lighting our buildings green from November 7 to November 13. By shining a green light, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported.

To show support, counties can use this template to pass a resolution declaring your county's participation in Operation Green Light.

<u>Click here for the Operation Green Light for</u> <u>Veterans County Toolkit</u>

#### **STATE NEWS**

## Behavioral Health Commission Discusses Implementation of STEP-VA

## Virginia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services

The Behavioral Health Commission dedicated its July 26 meeting to exploring the implementation of STEP-VA, receiving briefings from the state Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) as well as from two Community Services Boards (CSBs), representing urban and rural perspectives. STEP-VA is a phased initiative that requires nine services to be offered by all CSBs when fully implemented. Common themes among the three presentations included the challenges posed by workforce shortages and the importance of data collection and other administrative infrastructure to successful implementation of the new services.

Dr. Lisa Jobe-Shields of DBHDS <u>explained</u> that the Department has worked with CSBs to implement the nine services that make up the STEP-VA initiative in three phases. Phase 1 is the planning stage, in which definitions and metrics are finalized; in Phase 2, services begin to be implemented, although the Department's oversight is of a qualitative nature at this stage, since data is not yet considered reliable. Phase 3 represents full implementation and DBHDS is able to use validated data to verify that the service is being implemented in accordance with shared definitions. CSBs are either in Phase 2 or Phase 3 for five services of the STEP-VA array; the final three steps, case management, psychiatric rehabilitation, and care coordination, are in Phase 1, with initial implementation scheduled for July 2023 and full implementation scheduled to begin July 1, 2024. (Crisis services were discussed separately, as there are major investments in the crisis system, such as implementation of the Marcus Alert, that are outside the STEP-VA framework.) The state is working to upgrade its data systems, using federal funding, to allow receipt of data directly from CSBs' electronic health records. Dr. Jobe-Shields presented information on the metrics in place for the earlier "steps," including same-day access to assessments and engagement in substance use disorder treatment, and metrics for CSB staff training.

Representatives from a large, rural CSB (New River Valley CSB) and a small, urban CSB (Colonial Behavioral Health) spoke about their experiences implementing STEP-VA. While both directors pointed to advances in the state's behavioral health system facilitated by STEP-VA (such as encouraging the deployment of evidence-based services), both directors also discussed the significant workforce challenges facing their agencies, as well as the administrative costs involved in data collection and billing managed care organizations. Jennifer Faison, Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards, said that CSBs are "laser focused" on workforce issues; she also pointed to the importance of ensuring that funding reflects the true costs of providing services and that outcome measures account for the interconnectedness of the "steps."

#### VACo Contact: Katie Boyle

## Alternative Custody Workgroup Begins to Consider Recommendations

The workgroup studying 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 third meeting on August 9. This workgroup was established by legislation passed during the 2022 General Assembly session in response to the continuing stresses on law enforcement agencies posed by delayed admissions to inpatient psychiatric care. In keeping with the structure of previous meetings, several stakeholder groups kicked off the meeting with presentations outlining their perspectives on issues under consideration. Discussion at the August 9 meeting spotlighted stresses faced by emergency physicians and staff and Community Services Board (CSB) pre-screeners.

Dr. Joran Sequeira, representing the Virginia College of Emergency Physicians, discussed difficulties in the ECO/TDO process manifested in emergency departments, including physicians' frustration that individuals subject to TDOs may wait for hours without receiving treatment, concerns about difficulties managing patients subject to TDOs, and the limitations inherent in the medical TDO process. Ryan Dudley, Director of Crisis Services for the Hampton-Newport News CSB, conveyed challenges facing CSB pre-screeners. Lengthy waits for the resolution of cases are exacerbating workforce shortages, and prescreeners often must operate without knowledge of the length of the state's current wait list or how it is prioritized.

Heather Norton, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), provided an overview of the state's efforts to transform its crisis system, based on an approach that encompasses a crisis call center, 24/7 mobile crisis, and crisis stabilization facilities such as crisis receiving centers. National research indicates that a majority of crisis calls for assistance can be resolved at the call center level or through other community-based supports, averting the need for higher levels of care. To provide opportunities to meet individuals' needs without hospitalization, the state has invested funding in supporting crisis receiving centers, but more sites are needed to ensure statewide access; national best practices would call for one crisis receiving center per 250,000 people, and Virginia's rural geography may necessitate additional sites.

Based on discussions at previous meetings, DBHDS staff circulated a set of potential recommendations for review and comment. The draft proposals include a suite of recommendations regarding alternative custody, to include expanding the current alternative transportation contract, expanding the existing program providing a stipend to off-duty law enforcement who maintain custody of TDO patients, and expanding mobile crisis and site-based crisis services. Other recommendations include clarifying statutory language governing the ECO and TDO process; developing additional training for magistrates; and developing standards for re-evaluating patients during the ECO and TDO process for possible diversion to more appropriate care options.

The workgroup's final scheduled meeting is August 25.

#### VACo Contact: Katie Boyle

## **Technology Happy Hour: EVSE Vendors**



Join us on **August 18 at 4 p.m.** for our Technology Happy Hour featuring several leading companies on state contract in Virginia for EV supply equipment (EVSE). Speakers will include representatives from Autoflex, Bethel Electric, NOVA Charge and OpConnect.

If you're part of a public college or university, state agency or local government, you won't want to miss hearing about these companies' wide array of offerings. Anyone interested in the technology options is welcome to join too.

From affordable Level 2 equipment to more advanced DC fast charging stations, you'll learn what is available now and have the chance to ask questions.

Register at the link below, and we hope to see you there!

**REGISTER HERE** 

#### **STATE NEWS**

### ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grants: Fourth Round Payments & Updates - WEBINAR RECORDING & SLIDES



Thank you to everyone who participated in the webinar "ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grants: Fourth Round Payments & Updates." You can access the webinar recording <u>here</u> and the PowerPoint slides <u>here</u>.

### Don't Miss Out on the Resources Highlighted Today!

#### **Virginia Department of Education Information**

Learn more about the Child Care Stabilization Grants <u>here</u>. Please send your grant questions to <u>childcaregrants@doe.virginia.gov</u>. Stay updated by signing up for <u>Readiness Connections newsletters</u>.

#### **ARPA Resources**

Check out VECF's **ARPA Resources page**, which includes written guides, video tutorials, and one-onone coaching opportunities – all available in both English and Spanish. And you can **Register for FREE coaching here** to speak with a **FREE** business coach! Providers who participate in the ARPA one-on-one coaching sessions are NOW eligible to receive a certificate for annual training hours required by licensing.

#### You can receive support with a variety of topics:

- Budgeting
- Marketing
- Improving payment and collections
- Reducing costs
- Strengthening systems
- Staffing strategies
- Business tax education
- and more!

#### Wonderschool

Text WONDER to 33777 for a free subscription to Wonderschool. Please note that certificates are not awarded for attendance at today's briefings. Thanks for all you do for Virginia's children!

# 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 - SEPTEMBER 27** 

## VACo 88th Annual Conference

November 13-15, 2022

### **Greater Richmond Convention Center**



As VACo's biggest event of the year, the Annual Conference is a must for every Virginia County Supervisor and county staff member. Drawing in hundreds of officials, dozens of speakers, and a host of vendors and exhibitors, VACo's Annual Conference provides opportunities to learn from others, grow in knowledge, and improve skills.

The Annual Conference includes:

- General Sessions featuring elected officials, local leaders and policy/government experts discussing and analyzing issues
- Breakout Sessions designed to educate and enlighten
- Exhibit Hall featuring companies and organizations showcasing products and services unique to the needs of county government
- Hands-on workshops
- VACo's Annual Business Meeting where the Legislative Program is adopted and the Board of Directors is elected for the upcoming year
- Steering Committee Meetings
- Multiple team-building and networking opportunities
- And Much More

#### Annual Conference Registration Form | Online Conference Registration

**STATE NEWS** 

## **Upcoming FOIA Training**

Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council

Dear Interested Parties:

The Virginia FOIA Advisory Council is hosting the following live webinar FOIA trainings starting this month. The webinars are free to attend and are approved for DCJS or CLE credit, as appropriate. Links to register can be found below and on our <u>website</u>. If you are interested in receiving DCJS or CLE credit, you will need to individually register and attend the webinar so that we can confirm your attendance.

#### Law Enforcement Records

- August 25, 2022 at 10 am
- September 29, 2022 at 2 pm
- o October 28, 2022 at 10 am

#### Access to Public Meetings

- August 23, 2022 at 10 am
- $\circ$  September 27, 2022 at 2 pm
- o October 26, 2022 at 10 am

#### Local Elected Officials Training

- August 9, 2022 at 10 am
- $\circ$  September 13, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 12, 2022 at 10 am

#### Access to Public Records

- August 11, 2022 at 10 am
- September 15, 2022 at 2 pm
- October 14, 2022 at 9 am

#### Please email us at <u>ric-foiatrainings@dls.virginia.gov</u> if you have any questions!



## VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION \$2 million available in latest grant round for open space projects

The Virginia Outdoors Foundation is making \$1.8 million available from its Preservation Trust Fund program and \$200,000 from its Get Outdoors Fund for grants that protect open space for public use and other public benefits.

Preservation Trust Fund grants for the fall 2022 grant round will prioritize projects that result in significant public access, but may also be used for projects that protect exceptional conservation values such as water quality, historic and cultural resources, wildlife habitat, and high-quality farmland and forestland. A real estate interest must either be acquired by a local government or conveyed to VOF to be eligible for funding, and protection must meet the requirements of Virginia's Open-Space Land Act. There is no minimum or maximum on Preservation Trust Fund grants, but historically they have averaged approximately \$150,000.

Get Outdoors Fund grants may be used to fund projects that create, protect, expand, or enhance access to open space in underserved communities. Proposals up to \$25,000 may be considered.

The Get Outdoors Fund requires pre-applications to be submitted through <u>VOF's online grants</u> <u>portal</u> by August 10, 2022. Invitations to submit a full application will be issued within one week of pre-application receipt. No more than 25 applicants will be invited to submit a full application. If an organization has been awarded more than \$5,000 in a past grant round, the previous project must be completed before an applicant may reapply. Past applicants must submit new preapplications. A resubmitted pre-application without significant revision will not be considered. In addition, applicants may not apply more than twice with the same concept.

Full applications for both programs must be submitted online using our <u>grants application</u> <u>portal</u>. Full applications must be submitted by August 22, 2022. Grant awards will be announced sometime in October. Eligibility requirements, sample applications, and other materials may be found online at <u>https://vof.org/ptf</u> and <u>https://vof.org/go</u>. VOF encourages potential applicants to contact staff prior to applying to discuss eligibility and seek guidance on producing a successful application. Contact <u>grants@vof.org</u> or 434.282.7054 with questions or for information on how to apply. <u>Click here for more information</u>.

#### **CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY**



### VIRGINIA COLLECTIVE BARGAINING & COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES TO LABOR RELATIONS

#### VIRGINIA LERA CHAPTER CONFERENCE

#### Thursday, September 22, 2022

#### **Richmond Marriott Downtown**

#### https://lerachapter.org/virginia/upcoming-events/

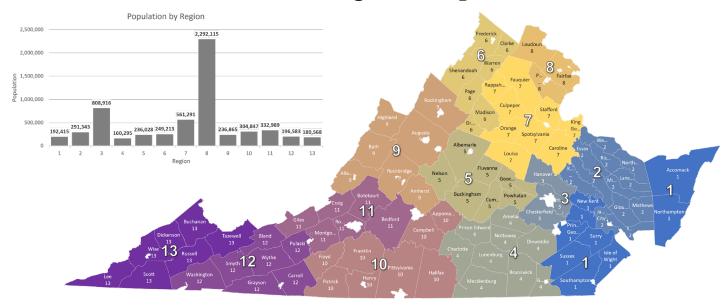
You are invited to the Virginia LERA Chapter's inaugural one day conference. This is an opportunity to learn and network with speakers and colleagues representing employers, unions, neutrals, and academics. Join us for coffee and breakfast between 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM. The conference program will begin at 9:30 AM and conclude at 4:00 PM. The conference registration fee is \$75 for members and \$125 for non-members. Register soon as space is limited.

#### **Conference Plenary and Breakout Session Topics Include:**

- Employer-Employee Relations that Serve Both Employees and Employers
- Creating a Collective Bargaining Resolution Fairfax County Public Schools
- Introduction to Interest Based Decision-Making or Negotiations
- Collective Bargaining in Virginia County & Cities
- Collective Bargaining at Richmond Schools
- Using an Understanding of Interests to Improve Results
- Predictions on the Future of Collective Bargaining in Virginia
- Distinguished Lunch Speaker: Professor Homer La Rue, President, National Academy of Arbitrators

#### **VACo NEWS**

#### New VACo Regional Map



### **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

More on Next Page

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.

County Connections | Page 23

#### **PREMIER PARTNERS**

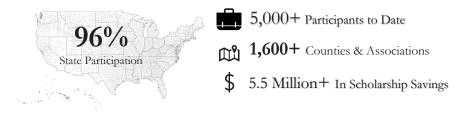


## Take Your Leadership Skills to the Next Level Through the NACo High Performance Leadership Academy

The <u>NACo High Performance Leadership Academy</u> 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 <u>NACo High Performance Leadership Academy</u> webpage at NACo.org/Skills.

For questions and assistance in enrolling, please contact Treina Smith-Slatt at <a href="mailto:treinas@pdaleadership.com">treinas@pdaleadership.com</a>



"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

#### **PREMIER PARTNERS**



## Premier Partner Spotlight

## **Blue Line Solutions**



#### **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: <u>ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org</u> or 276.759.8064 or visit <u>https://bluelinesolutions.org</u>.

Watch the <u>Blue Line Solutions Video Part 1</u> Watch the <u>Blue Line Solutions Video Part 2</u> Watch the <u>Blue Line Solutions Video Part 3</u> Watch the <u>Blue Line Solutions Video Part 4</u>

### **STATE NEWS**



## 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

### **STATE NEWS**

## **#InvestinChildCareVA**

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! <u>#VaPromise</u> <u>#ChildCareIsEssential</u> <u>#MoreChildrenMoreChoices</u> #WeNeedChildCareVA #InvestinChildCareVA



#### Virginia Promise in Action - Video Campaign Compilation - YouTube

## VIRGINIA PROMISE Partnership



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

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## JEREMY BENNETT

DIRECTOR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



## VIRGINIA COUNTY SUPERVISORS' MANUAL

### **EIGHTH EDITION**



## ORDER YOURS TODAY \$75 EACH

(SHIPPING IS INCLUDED)





#### Virginia County Supervisors' Manual 8th Edition





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.

#### ORDER YOUR ALL-NEW VOLUME NOW

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Or FAX credit card purchases to 804.788.0083



Questions? Call 804.788.6652.

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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.



PLANT MANAGER Chesterfield County | Posted August 9

A.A.A. Town of Ashland BUSINESS **DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR** Town of Ashland | Posted August 9



**RECORDS CLERK** Hanover County | Posted August 9



**RADIO INSTALLATIONS TECHNICIAN** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 8







LIBRARY ASSOCIATE

- TEEN | Culpeper County | Posted August 8



#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATE - CHILDRENS SERVICES | Culpeper County | Posted August 8



**BUSINESS ANALYST |** Chesterfield County | Posted August 8



PROGRAMS ASSISTANT | **Culpeper County** Posted August 5



SAFETY MANAGER Henry County | Posted August 5



**EROSION & SEDIMENT <u>CONTROL INSPECTOR</u> | Mecklenburg** County | Posted August 4



#### **UTILITY ENGINEER**

Hanover County | Posted August 4



#### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **OF FINANCE/TAX ADMINISTRATION**

Prince William County | Posted August 4



ADMINISTRATOR | Pittsylvania County | Posted August 4

#### County Connections | Page 29



FACILITIES TECHNICIAN

III | Gloucester County | Posted August



**INSPECTOR I OR II OR COMBINATION INSPECTOR Gloucester County** | Posted August 2



ATHLETICS PROGRAM SPECIALIST - PART TIME **Gloucester County** | Posted August 2





**DEVELOPMENT** | Roanoke County | Posted August 2



**PLANNING TECHNICIAN** 

**Chesterfield County** | Posted August 2



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR **OF REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENT Chesterfield County** | Posted August 2



ENGINEERING **SUPERVISOR** | Chesterfield County | Posted August 2



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** | Spotsylvania **County** | Posted August 1

#### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**



**DEVELOPMENT SERVICES** 

MANAGER | Botetourt County | Posted August 2



SENIOR ENGINEER |

Chesterfield County | Posted 29



SENIOR ENGINEER PART

**TIME | Chesterfield County |** Posted July 29



HVAC MECHANIC | Chesterfield County | Posted July 29



EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN | Chesterfield County | Posted July 29



SEASONAL MAINTENANCE WORKER | Chesterfield County | Posted July 29



SENIOR SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN | Chesterfield County | Posted July 29





#### BROADBAND PROJECT

MANAGER | Montgomery County | Posted July 29



VIRGINIA DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COORDINATOR | Botetourt County | Posted July 29



**SENIOR DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** | **Hanover County** | Posted July 29



**DEPUTY CLERK I** | **Culpeper County** | Posted July 28

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY III | City of Chesapeake | Posted July 27



#### **BUDGET/MANAGEMENT**

ANALYST | Hanover County | Posted July 27



<u>PARKS & RECREATION</u> <u>DIRECTOR</u> | Frederick County

Posted July 26



ADMINISTRATOR | Rockbridge County | Posted July 26

#### County Connections | Page 30



**COUNTY** 

ADMINISTRATOR | Grayson County | Posted July 26



**REAL ESTATE DATA** 

**ENTRY CLERK** | Culpeper County | Posted July 26



MEDIUM HEAVY TRUCK

TECHNICIAN | Chesterfield County | Posted July 25



LEAD CASHIER

<u>GROUNDS ATTENDANT</u> | Chesterfield County | Posted July 25





**DETENTION HOME)** | Chesterfield County | Posted July 25



RADIO COMMUNICATIONS/ELETRONICS SPECIALIST | Chesterfield County | Posted July 25



CASHIER/GROUNDS ATTENDANT | Chesterfield County | Posted July 25

### **BACK PAGE**

#### County Connections | Page 31

## 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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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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