



## SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2023.** Please include this submission form with the electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

### PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: County of Henrico  
Program Title: Rolling Resource Center  
Program Category: Customer Service

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Brandon Hinton  
Title: Deputy County Manager for Administration  
Signature: 

## **Program Overview**

During the summer of 2022, Henrico County Public Schools and community partners collaborated to bridge, build and boost community relationships across Henrico County. This multidimensional collaboration included strong engagement with apartment communities (e.g., Hope Village, Woodman West and St. Luke) to successfully remove barriers such as transportation, internet access and language support.

Over the course of six weeks, partners engaged families by sharing resources to support basic needs, playing math- and literacy-focused games, connecting with families previously identified as chronically absent and conducting pre-K and kindergarten registration.

Participants in the effort to increase the effectiveness and reach of community engagement efforts included:

- HCPS Division of Family and Community Engagement (logistics, community outreach, basic needs support, family engagement, kindergarten enrollment awareness)
- HCPS Department of Federal Programs (McKinney-Vento outreach, pre-K enrollment awareness)
- HCPS Division of Learning (literacy, math and learner engagement)
- HCPS Department of Student Support and Wellness (social and emotional learning, absentee outreach)
- Henrico County Public Library (literacy, art activities).

Outcomes of this collaborative initiative include 23 visits, which engaged more than 1,500 children and caregivers.

## **Problem/Challenge/Situation Faced by Locality**

HCPS and its community partners identified a gap in available summer opportunities and residents' ability to participate in these programs. The families identified barriers to participating in summer programming as access to transportation, access to funds, awareness and understanding, and lack of logistical support. Further, an analysis of pre-K and kindergarten registration before the end of the school year suggested that an increase in pre-K awareness would be a benefit.

Partner agencies also identified the opportunity to engage families that are new to Henrico County or are transient residents. This proactive approach using the school division's mobile resource

center — a vehicle equipped with education resources — allowed the team to engage, educate and build new relationships with families beyond a traditional school building.

### **How Program Fulfilled Awards Criteria**

As the interest in supporting student, family and educator mental health and well-being increases across the United States, we recognize this is an innovative, holistic approach. By increasing Henrico County's ability to connect schools and the community through effective planning and implementation, we can reach more families, support basic needs and identify opportunities for educators and community partners to collaborate. In short, we supported the needs of more than 300 students, right at their doorsteps. This approach is a seed of trust planted as students and families start a new school year and beyond.

By categorizing support and developing the implementation model, other counties can engage partners to increase family connections, support basic needs, address academic gaps and promote social and emotional growth. Just as importantly, the strain on staff members and service providers was reduced.

### **How Program Was Carried Out**

In the summer of 2019, the HCPS Division of Family and Community Engagement coordinated and facilitated its first "Summer Push-In." This initiative aimed to reduce academic learning loss when students are out of school and not engaging with teachers and curricula, a phenomenon known as the "summer slides." Using Summer Push-In locations aligned with school-zone feeder patterns, organizers aimed to connect with learners who had scored below the standard average on Virginia's Standards of Learning assessments. As our capacity to deliver authentic family engagement grew, Summer Push-In expanded to support middle school students in 2020. In 2021, it grew to include schools beyond the Title I schools it had initially included.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the rate of engaged families decreased, including a decrease in summer program participation. While multiple re-engagement initiatives were implemented across Henrico County, internal and external partners identified the strain on staff members and finances. They duplicated efforts without connecting families and students to other partner agencies in real-time. While the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated a decrease in family engagement, it also magnified the need to form more effective partnerships and increase communication and collaboration to expand implementation in our county. Summer 2022 became the season of synergy.

Planning for the 2022 Summer Push-In began in March 2022, with a priority of considering ways to minimize staff burnout (and the fatigue associated with outdoor events in hot and humid Virginia weather) while still engaging families. The planning team decided that dividing responsibilities (human, material and financial) was the ideal approach. The HCPS Division of Family and Community Engagement engaged school-level staff (administrators, literacy and math coaches, school social workers and school counselors) to collect school data (attendance and academic achievement) and discuss what support would benefit their school communities during the summer months. The team also understood that families' availability might vary and, as such, committed to more than one visit at six locations (morning and afternoon) and attached the events to existing initiatives, such as FeedMore food bank distribution days.

Using this data and relational approach, the HCPS Division of Family and Community Engagement connected with internal and external departments and partners to construct the 2022 Summer Push-In and deliver a model that would ensure a strong and sustainable experience for all. Each department that supported the efforts had a crucial role in supporting the summer engagement planning and execution. While "family engagement" was the primary goal, the team gained an understanding of the most important pillars of support: connection to basic needs, math, literacy, and social and emotional learning.

More specifically, the Summer Push-In team members contributed in the following ways:

**Family engagement:** To connect families to the initiative, the HCPS Division of Family and Community Engagement engaged the apartment management teams to market the event, connect with specific families with school-aged children and provided logistical support. Summer program providers (YMCA, Henrico PAL) also helped connect students and families to the event. School staff and administrators also used Summer Push-In to connect with their communities in a casual setting. School staff members also provided activities to "play" along with students and supplied their own treats, such as popsicles, for students. New administrators who participated in Summer Push-In reported that they enjoyed the opportunity to engage with families and make connections in the community before the start of school.

**Basic needs:** The Division of Family and Community Engagement partner and resource network, information was prepared about contact information and how to navigate access to food, clothing, low/no-cost internet access, housing support and Henrico Social Services programs. Families received resource packets, and family and community engagement staff engaged in conversations about how they could support each family individually. Families were encouraged

to pass along information they did not need to other community members to expand our reach. The family and community engagement team also provided students with popsicles and snacks. In neighborhoods that were known to have an increased need for food support, planning was scheduled in conjunction with FeedMore distributions that were previously planned in the community.

***Academics (math and literacy):*** The HCPS Division of Learning supported academics through the creation of engaging educational games. These games provided the opportunity to build learning and engage adults in grade-specific activities. Take-away packets were distributed to lower elementary, upper elementary and middle school students. Math and literacy takeaways alternated between visits.

Henrico County Public Library joined to promote library services and reading at home, and facilitated art activities to engage students.

***Social and emotional learning:*** Supported by HCPS' Department of Student Support and Wellness, this team provided:

- Mindfulness and conflict-resolution strategies.
- Education about Anonymous Alerts.
- HCPS' anonymous reporting app for students and families.
- Highlighting community partners to support child development and mental health needs.

The team also engaged in door-to-door outreach. This outreach enabled school social workers and counselors to connect with chronically absent students and families in a more private setting and extend the invitation to join the community celebration in a central location (including games, music and academic-focused activities).

### **Financing and Staffing**

The collaborative approach and commitment to facilitate visits were crucial to maintaining low costs. Strategies to keep expenses low included getting donations from community partners, incorporating two teenage interns through Henrico Area Mental Health and Developmental Services, and committing to consolidating resources and integrating programming during regular operating hours.

## **Program Results**

Outcome Measures: The 2022 Summer Push-In included 11 internal and external county partners to reach 15 sites- increasing our reach from two partners, one external partner, and 500 individual community members.

Additionally, Summer 2022 was the first year the team created and nurtured intentional connections with families living in hotels in Henrico County. More than 200 individuals residing in hotel communities received educational materials (math and literacy) and social service resources.

It is important to note the summer engagement team also connected with residential companies and on-site staff to secure permission, support marketing HCPS visits, and identify opportunities to connect with residents.

Anecdotally, many involved reported having a great experience:

“As the outreach department for Henrico County Public Library, our goal is to connect people with library services outside library walls. Partnering with the Family Resource Center in their re-engagement program during the summer of 2022 provided new opportunities to accomplish this goal by helping us establish connections with new communities and their residents. We are working to leverage this into new ways to provide library services in the community. Working with the Family Resource Center also reinforced our partnership with Henrico Mental Health and Developmental Services’ CONNECT program. We now also provide regular library visits to CONNECT program sites. We are thankful to the Family Resource Center team for inviting us to partner with them and are looking forward to future opportunities.”

- Matt Phillips, Henrico County Public Library

## **Brief Summary**

This large collaborative effort was able to successfully engage a wide range of students, families and community members. All perspectives and angles had to be considered when trying to solve the overall problem of student engagement over the summer. The depth of this program was able to diagnose the problems faced by individual communities and come up with game plans for all of them, and the result was remarkable growth and connection. Whether it was an academic exercise, fun activity or crucial resources, the latest Summer Push-in was able to meet those needs and set up students for a successful and sustainable future at Henrico County Public Schools and beyond. It was an effort that would’ve been impossible without the deep connection and collaboration within various parts of HCPS and the community, and the impact made on hundreds of Henrico families cannot be understated.

**Rolling Resource Center  
Supplemental Material**

Summer Coordination document: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1XuKAAztPi9FMC-TxLGDurUbD3Ya5bSqa5XuUcnvITPg/edit>



**Summer 2022:** HCPS' rolling resource center is back on the road **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** this summer with various stops throughout Henrico.

TUESDAYS	THURSDAYS
<b>June 28</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: St. Luke Apartments (outside clubhouse)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Apartments at Kingsridge (outside clubhouse)</li> </ul>	<b>June 30</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Williamsburg Park Apartments (main office)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Newbridge Village Apartments (clubhouse)</li> </ul>
<b>July 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Woodman West Apartments (outside clubhouse)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Richfield Place Apartments (main entrance parking lot)</li> </ul>	<b>July 7</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Park West End Apartments (parking lot near Bethlehem Road entrance)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Stonebridge Apartments (main office)</li> </ul>
<b>July 12</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Forest Meadow Apartments (parking lot behind rental office)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Coventry Gardens Apartments (mailboxes near clubhouse)</li> </ul>	<b>July 14</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Hope Village Apartments (main office)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Oakmeade Apartments (clubhouse)</li> </ul>
<b>July 19</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Henrico Arms Apartments (clubhouse)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Woodman West Apartments</li> </ul>	<b>July 21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 a.m.-noon: Motel 6 at 7831 Shrader Road</li> </ul>
<b>July 26</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: St. Luke Apartments (clubhouse)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Apartments at Kingsridge (clubhouse)</li> </ul>	<b>July 28</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 a.m.-noon: Express Airport Inn at 5700 Williamsburg Road</li> </ul>
<b>Aug. 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10-11 a.m.: Richfield Place Apartments (near main entrance)</li> <li>Noon-1 p.m.: Henrico Arms Apartments (clubhouse)</li> </ul>	<b>Aug. 4</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 a.m.-noon: Sandston Inn and Suites at 5209 Williamsburg Road</li> </ul>

Routes are subject to change based on scheduling and weather.  
**Questions?** Contact Alexis Simms at 804-226-5233

# Get onboard HCPS' rolling resource center!



## What is the rolling resource center? It's more than you think!

Henrico County Public Schools' rolling resource center brings together families, staff members, volunteers and community partners! It's more than a bookmobile; the resource center visits neighborhoods and events around Henrico County, building community and providing resources. The rolling resource center has fun and engaging activities for students, as well as helpful information for parents and guardians:

- ★ Family engagement packets.
- ★ Helpful parenting information.
- ★ Mini-workshops.
- ★ Interactive activities.
- ★ Books and other literacy material.



Turn this sheet over to see upcoming rolling resource center appearances. For a full schedule and more information, go to [www.henricoschools.us/face/](http://www.henricoschools.us/face/) and scroll to "Rolling Resource Center."

