

# NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH

## APRIL 2024



National County Government Month (NCGM), held each April, is an annual celebration of county government. Since 1991, the National Association of Counties (NACo) has encouraged counties to actively promote county roles and responsibilities in serving residents. Counties can schedule activities any time during the month. NCGM is an excellent opportunity for your county to highlight effective or innovative county programs and raise public awareness of services provided to the community.

This year's National County Government Month theme is consistent with NACo President Mary Jo McGuire's focus for the year, **Forward**[Together](#).

**Forward**Together is about connecting, inspiring and leading – pillars of county government that build trust and drive towards solutions. Counties are encouraged to reflect on this theme as you choose how to celebrate NCGM. In particular, consider how NCGM is so intrinsically connected to the responsibility of county leaders to **inspire** our residents to take an interest in and engage with their communities, and how it presents an opportunity to **lead** in new and growing ways.

# Aetna® Statewide Wellness Campaign Brings Comprehensive Master Planning and Wellness Programming to Your County

VACo Premier Partner Aetna believes healthier happens together. That's why Aetna has teamed up with [National Fitness Campaign](#) to address health disparities by increasing access to health and wellness solutions for Virginia Counties.

**In Part 1 of this video series**, you'll hear from **Dean Lynch**, VACo Executive Director, **Trent Matthias**, National Fitness Campaign Director, **Bill Deal**, Head of Sales, Public Sector and Labor, Keystone and Capital Markets of Aetna on the exciting new statewide sponsorship and what it can deliver for your county.

**In Part 2**, learn more about the feasibility study process available for your county and hear from leaders in Virginia like [Pulaski County](#) and the [Town of Dumfries](#) who have successfully launched and integrated the comprehensive wellness campaign in their communities.

## Additional Resources

- [Virginia Campaign](#) – Funding Outdoor Fitness Courts across the state
- [Campaign Video](#) – How the fitness court campaign got started, how it works, and how it involves and impacts communities.
- [Outdoor Fitness Court in Pulaski County](#)
- [Outdoor Fitness Court in the Town of Dumfries](#)
- Please click [here](#) to learn more about getting started!

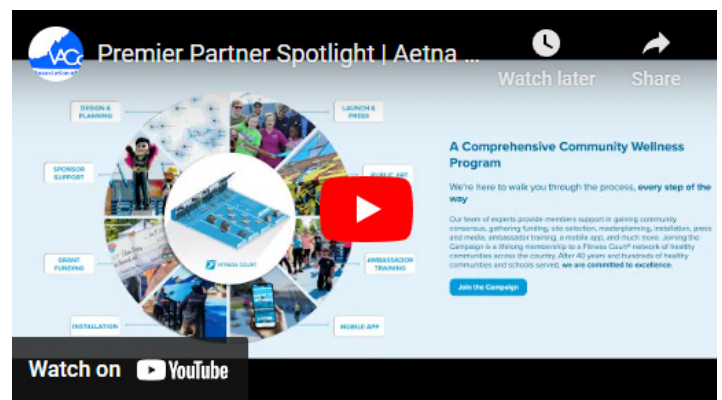
## Aetna Contact

Marcus Duckworth, VP, Client Management | [DuckworthM@aetna.com](mailto:DuckworthM@aetna.com)



## Part 1

[Discover how Aetna's exciting new statewide wellness program can help your county](#)



## Part 2

[Hear from Pulaski County and the Town of Dumfries, which have successfully launched and integrated Aetna's comprehensive wellness campaign](#)

## State Executive Council for Children's Services Announces Intent to Develop Policy; VACo Seeks County Feedback on Proposal

[Home](#)[About](#)[Parents & Families](#)[Resources](#)[CSA Financial Reporting](#)[Contacts](#)

At its March 14 meeting, the State Executive Council for Children's Services (SEC) approved seeking public comment on a [Notice of Intent to Develop/Revise Policy for SEC Policy 4.5.2, Time Frames Regarding CSA Pool Fund Reimbursement](#). This action is the first step in the policy revision process; after the initial public comment period, the SEC will determine whether to move forward and will seek additional public comment.

The proposed revisions to the policy, which may be found at [this link](#), result from discussions at the SEC at its December meeting regarding a set of appeals from several counties that had missed the September 30 deadline for submission of reimbursement requests. Under current SEC policy, counties in this situation may submit a waiver request to the Office of Children's Services, but the Executive Director does not have explicit authority to grant these requests, so waiver requests must be considered by the SEC. The proposed revisions to the policy would allow the Executive Director to grant a waiver based on a determination of "good cause," as defined in the policy. A locality that disagrees with the Executive Director's determination could appeal to the State Executive Council.

VACo seeks members' feedback on the proposed revisions, in particular on the following items:

- Is the proposed definition of "good cause" in Section 4.5.2.3 adequate? Are there other circumstances that should be listed as examples of good cause?
- Does your locality already meet requirements under the proposed new sections D and E under Section 4.5.2.4 (Pool Fund Reimbursements) (a requirement to adopt and implement procedures to reconcile actual CSA reimbursements against expected reimbursements using local general ledgers and certain CSA resources, and a requirement to adopt procedures to address position vacancies, including temporary unavailability, in the roles of Report Preparer and Fiscal Agent)?

Member feedback will inform VACo's public comments and may be sent to Katie Boyle ([kboyle@vaco.org](mailto:kboyle@vaco.org)). Members may also submit comments directly to the Office of Children's Services; public comment is being accepted until 5 p.m. on May 2, 2024, and may be submitted online via the Public Policy Comment Form (available at [this link](#)), via email to [csa.office@csa.virginia.gov](mailto:csa.office@csa.virginia.gov), or via U.S. Mail (1604 Santa Rosa Road, Suite 137, Richmond VA 23229). If members submit comments directly to the Office of Children's Services, VACo staff would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of your comments.

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)

# Electric Vehicle Charging Bill Left in Conference



[As previously reported](#), VACo supports [HB 107 \(Sullivan\)](#) as this bill would create the Electric Vehicle Rural Infrastructure Program and Fund. The Program and Fund would make available up to \$25 million each fiscal year and assist developers by offsetting up to 70 percent of the non-utility cost of electric vehicle charging stations. According to the provisions outlined in HB 107, rural Virginia localities would benefit from the passage of this bill.

HB 107 would go on to pass the House and Senate with each chamber adopting different language and amendments. This would lead to the bill being sent to a conference committee. Unfortunately, no further action was taken and the bill was left in conference effectively killing the bill.

VACo would like to thank Delegate Sullivan for bringing forth and advocating for this legislation.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)





Photo Source: [Virginia is for Lovers](#)

## Visit Lunenburg County and the Lunenburg County Historic Courthouse

**Location:** 11435 Courthouse Road / Lunenburg County Road

**Built:** 1827

**Style:** Greek-Roman Revival

**Architect:** Dabney Crosby Sr. and William A Howards

**Contractor:** Dabney Crosby Sr. and William A Howards

**Description:** The building faces south and is a two-story red colored brick and wood structure. The south front has a large portico with four white colored Doric columns rising to a pediment with fanlight at the roof line. There is a bell inside the pediment section. Double stairs ascend to the second story entrance. The interior has been modernized with the old courtroom on north side of the second story. The building is connected on the north side with the new courthouse. An addition in 1857 and 1858 was completed by Ronert Crymes, who raised the courtroom to the second story. The building was enlarged in 1939 and the exterior stairs added. The architect was Marcellus E. Wright, Sr. of Richmond. A further addition was added on the north side in 1973 to 1974.

**SOURCE:** [courthouses.co](http://courthouses.co)



# VACo 2024 REGIONAL MEETINGS

## IN-PERSON MEETINGS

REGIONS 1&4 - MAY 1 | PRINCE GEORGE

REGION 2 - MAY 22 | JAMES CITY

REGION 13 - JUNE 11 | SCOTT

REGION 3 - JUNE | HANOVER

REGIONS 10&12 - JULY | FLOYD

## VIRTUAL MEETINGS

REGIONS 6&7 - JULY

REGION 8 - AUGUST

REGIONS 5&9&11 - AUGUST



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What it means for your community

Photo Speed Enforcement in school zones means safer streets and a safer community.

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We combine public information and education with photo speed enforcement and advanced technology to effectively decrease speeding by an average of 94% and simplify ticketing and collections. Our seamless, comprehensive services cover everything from equipment and surveillance to citations and collections, providing a hassle-free experience. By enhancing police resources, our solutions enable officers to focus on other priorities. Aligned with the principles of Vision Zero, our ultimate goal is to achieve zero injuries, zero crashes, and zero lives at risk.

**Western Virginia RSM Greg Hogston**  
 276-759-8064  
 ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org

**Eastern Virginia RSM Randy Campbell**  
 434-485-4683  
 rcampbell@bluelinesolutions.org



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**Questions?**

Contact Steve Mulroy  
804-648-0635

[smulroy@valocalfinance.org](mailto:smulroy@valocalfinance.org)







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- ORGANIZATIONAL ASSESSMENT
- PUBLIC EDUCATION
- PUBLIC OUTREACH & FACILITATION
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- VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON CONTRACT STAFF

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## Goochland County Announces Gillespie as Deputy County Administrator



Goochland County is pleased to announce Josh Gillespie as the County's new Deputy County Administrator.

Gillespie, who resides in Goochland, comes to the County with over twenty years of planning experience and currently serves on the Goochland Design Review Committee. Most recently, Gillespie served as the Director of Community Development for Louisa County. Prior to his time in Louisa, he served as the Director of Planning and Development Services for Orange County, and as a Planning and Special Projects Administrator for Chesterfield County. Gillespie holds a bachelor's degree in history and political science from Furman University and is an AICP Certified Planner.

In his role as Deputy County Administrator, Gillespie will provide guidance and support regarding operations and ongoing initiatives in Community Development, which includes planning, permitting, transportation and utilities for the County. He will also manage county-wide special projects, in addition to providing operational support to the County Administrator.

On joining Goochland, Gillespie said, "Goochland is a county of many treasures and strong community pride. Since moving to Goochland, I have had the joy of making friends across the county. We live in a great place, and I am grateful to County Administrator Carpenter for trusting me to continue the County's tradition of responsible administration."

Gillespie will officially begin his role with Goochland County on April 29, 2024.



**COUNTY OF FAUQUIER  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

10 Hotel Street, Suite 204  
Warrenton, Virginia 20186  
PHONE 540-422-8001  
FAX 540-422-8022

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 1, 2024**

**Fauquier County Announces New Director of Human Resources**

**Warrenton, Virginia** – Fauquier County Administrator, Janelle Downes, is pleased to announce that Ms. Johnnie Thompson has been hired to take the lead as the Director of Human Resources for Fauquier County Government and Fauquier County Public Schools, effective April 1, 2024. As Director, Ms. Thompson will lead the consolidated Department of Human Resources. The Department provides recruitment, retention, payroll, and employee benefit services for the County Government and Public Schools.

Ms. Thompson states, “I am extremely excited to accept the position as Director of Human Resources for Fauquier County Government. I am looking forward to joining the team and becoming a steadfast resource to all.” Ms. Thompson comes to her new role with more than 26 years of experience as a Human Resources (HR) professional in the private and public sector. She is currently the Director of HR Operations for Stafford County Public Schools. Prior to that, she was a private sector HR Director in the hospital and healthcare industry. Throughout her career, she has also served in HR generalist, payroll and benefits management roles in the business services and healthcare industries. Ms. Thompson holds a BS in Business Administration in HR Management from UNC Charlotte.

Ms. Downes states, “the human resources function is an essential role for both the County Government and School Division. We are excited that Ms. Thompson is joining our team and know she will hit the ground running.”

(ENDS)

## Treasury Releases Updated FAQs for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund

The U.S. Department of the Treasury released an updated set of Frequently Asked Questions regarding the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) on March 29. This FAQ document is available on Treasury's website at [this link](#). As cataloged in the tracking chart at the beginning of the FAQ document, the March 29 edition includes a set of new FAQs that respond to issues regarding the statutory requirements to obligate funds by December 31, 2024, and expend funds by December 31, 2026, as well as updates to several FAQs included in an earlier version of the document.

NACo will be hosting a webinar on April 12 on this updated guidance; registration is available at [this link](#).

Key provisions in the updated FAQs include the following:

- Clarification that recipients may use SLFRF funds to cover personnel costs between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2026, to the extent that an employee is serving in a position that was established and filled prior to December 31, 2024, assuming that the use of funds falls within the scope of an eligible use of SLFRF.
- An explanation of the procedure required for recipients to report to Treasury their estimated amount of SLFRF funds to be used to cover personnel costs between January 1, 2025, and December 31, 2026. FAQ 17.8 explains that a recipient must determine the amount of funds it estimates it will use to cover such costs, document a reasonable justification for this estimate, report that amount to Treasury by January 31, 2025 (for quarterly reporters), or by April 30, 2025 (for annual reporters), and report at award closeout the final amount expended for these costs.
- Clarification of the circumstances under which a recipient may use SLFRF to cover cost increases under a contract entered into by December 31, 2024. FAQ 17.16 explains that a recipient may use SLFRF funds to cover increased costs attributable to change orders or contract contingencies in a contract entered into by December 31, 2024, that expressly provides for change orders or contract contingencies, and may cover the cost of amendments to contracts if the amended contract is within substantially the same scope and for substantially the same purpose as the contract that was entered into by December 31, 2024.
- Explanation of circumstances under which a recipient may use SLFRF funds after December 31, 2024, that were initially obligated but ultimately not expended for an eligible activity.

Treasury has also posted an updated [Project and Expenditure Report User Guide](#) to assist in completing and submitting Project and Expenditure Reports, which are due April 30, 2024. Additional resources may be found at Treasury's Reporting and Compliance page, which may be found at [this link](#).

VACo encourages counties to continue to work toward obligating their funds in advance of the deadline. The degree to which states and localities had obligated and expended their SLFRF allocations was the subject of a recent Government Accountability Office report (available at [this link](#)).

VACo Contact: [Katie Boyle](#)



# VDOT Transportation and Land Use Forum



VDOT will be holding its “Coordinating Transportation & Land Use Forum” on Thursday, May 9. The Forum will be an in-person and broadcast hybrid event.

The Forum will be held at the Daniel Technology Center of the Germanna Community College in Culpeper, Virginia. Details regarding the Forum are posted on the event’s website at [2024 VDOT Land Use Forum](#).

The Land Use Forum focuses on VDOT’s external customers. The event’s primary participants include staff representing localities, Planning District Commissions, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the development community, community groups, and VDOT.

The Forum will begin at 9 AM & should end at 4 PM. This is a free event. For in-person participants, we will be providing a continental breakfast & lunch.

Some of the following topics that will be presented at the Forum:

- Arterial Preservation, Innovative Intersections, and Virginia’s Intersection and Interchange Capacity Assessment Program
- Bike/Pedestrian Planning Resources for Everyone
- DRPT Planning and Bus Stop Shelters
- Electric Vehicles: Planning for the Future
- Land Use Planning Decisions and Impact on Land Use
- Role of MPOs in Land Use
- Virginia’s SmartScale System
- VDOT Design and Specific Policies
- VDOT Involvement in Land Use and General Assembly Update
- VDOT Pathways for Planning (P4P)

Prior to May 9, the Forum’s website will be updated to provide additional information about this event.

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)

## VDOT ANNOUNCES AWARDS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE INSTALLATION ALONG THE COMMONWEALTH'S ALTERNATIVE FUEL CORRIDORS

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has allocated \$11.3 million in federal funding for the deployment of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across the Commonwealth. This strategic investment will support the expansion of a robust network of EV charging infrastructure to spur economic development and enable a convenient, reliable, and equitable charging experience for EV drivers. The funding will close existing gaps along I-64, I-77, I-81, I-85, I-95, and I-295 designated as alternative fuel corridors (AFCs).

Under the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, state departments of transportation will oversee the disbursement of \$5 billion through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program. The NEVI Program aims to construct a reliable national network of EV charging stations, with initial stations required to be located along designated [AFCs](#).

As detailed in VDOT's [EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan](#), VDOT intends to distribute over \$100 million over the next four years through the NEVI Program to serve the following goals:

- **Closing the Gaps:** By strategically deploying charging stations, VDOT aims to address gaps in EV charging accessibility throughout Virginia.
- **Convenience and Reliability:** The investment will ensure convenient and reliable EV charging options for residents and travelers.
- **Equitable Access:** VDOT is committed to providing equitable access to EV charging stations across suburban, rural, and disadvantaged communities, supporting the Commonwealth's growing EV market.

The initial \$11.3 million investment under Phase 1-A of VDOT's NEVI Program will facilitate the deployment of third-party owned and operated EV charging stations at 18 sites across 13 counties, adding 66 fast charging ports across the Commonwealth. Notably, 14 of these charging stations are located within a half-mile of federally designated disadvantaged communities. Proposed locations were screened against federal requirements, with awardees selected through a competitive scoring process that evaluated location, station cost, level of applicant match funding, applicant qualifications, nearby amenities such as restrooms, dining, and shopping, and other customer experience-focused factors.

[VDOT presented the awards](#) for NEVI Phase I-A to the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) during the March 19, 2024, meeting. Awards remain subject to potential changes pending environmental reviews, site host commitments, utility connection, and other relevant factors. The VDOT NEVI Program will continue to expand the statewide network of charging stations with multiple upcoming rounds of competitive award solicitations. For detailed information on awards, program updates, federal EV infrastructure grant opportunities, and educational resources please visit [VDOT's Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment website](#).

For comments or questions about the NEVI program please contact [NEVI@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:NEVI@vdot.virginia.gov).

VACo Contact: [James Hutzler](#)

# Enter the 2024 VACo Achievement Awards

## Deadline is July 1, 2024



Dear **VACo Members** –

It's time for the 2024 Achievement Awards Program. Any county department is eligible to compete so **ENTER NOW!**

### [2024 Achievement Awards Submission Form](#)

All entries are required to be submitted in electronic form. No paper copy submissions are necessary. The electronic submissions should be a PDF or WORD file. Email entries to Gage Harter at [gcharter@vaco.org](mailto:gcharter@vaco.org). **Electronic submissions must be received by July 1, 2024.**

Last year, [we processed 135 entries](#) and selected 33 winners from 21 Counties. VACo presented awards at Board of Supervisors Meetings, recognized winners at the 89th Annual Conference, and issued a news release to statewide media.

The judges for the 2024 Achievement Awards will be announced soon.

VACo has received more than 1,000 entries over the past decade. Last year's Best Achievement winner was **Alleghany County** for its "**Alleghany/Covington School Consolidation**" program.

VACo encourages all Counties, big and small, to enter the 2024 Achievement Awards Program. Please contact [gcharter@vaco.org](mailto:gcharter@vaco.org) with questions or for more information.

[Achievement Awards Submission Form](#) | [Achievement Awards Website](#)  
[2023 Achievement Awards Press Release](#) | [Past Achievement Award Winners](#)

**ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**  
**SUBMISSION FORM**

# VACo Seeks to Create Mentorship Program for Supervisors



Dear Members/County Administrators...

VACo is blessed to have many smart and experienced Supervisors. This year we welcomed a slew of newly elected Supervisors, some of whom have expressed interest in being mentored. VACo thrives when Supervisors connect and share experiences and challenges. Therefore, we would like to establish an informal, voluntary mentoring program to offer opportunities for personalized connections among Supervisors.

If you are interested in being a mentor or being connected with a mentor, please contact Karie Walker, [kwalker@vaco.org](mailto:kwalker@vaco.org) or 804-343-2504.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

**Karie Walker**  
Director of Programs and Development  
Virginia Association of Counties



# Learn more about advocacy at the VACo Supervisors' Forum



**May 18, 2024**

**VACo Headquarters and Virtual**

**AGENDA**

Through the Supervisors' Forum, VACo offers county leaders and other officials the chance to examine common issues.

Participants are given an overview of local government and the duties of a County Supervisor by local officials who relish in sharing their knowledge and experience.

Contact [Valerie Russell](#) to register today!

# REGISTER NOW



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# 2024 Virginia EMS Symposium Update



As the Virginia Office of EMS (OEMS) continues to face financial challenges and works towards a more sound fiscal strategy, it has been determined there will be no statewide EMS Symposium held in 2024. OEMS understands the importance of in-person training and has collaborated with Virginia's Regional EMS Councils and other EMS partners to continue offering additional educational opportunities and resources.

Check out these upcoming EMS training events that include a variety of hands-on and lecture style classes to help fulfill your CE requirements.

## **In-person EMS Training Opportunities:**

### **Inova Health System and Northern Virginia EMS Council EMS Symposium**

April 29, 2024, 7:30 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. | Falls Church, Va.

Learn more and register online: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024\\_EMS\\_SYMPOSIUM\\_APRIL](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024_EMS_SYMPOSIUM_APRIL)

### **Tidewater EMS Expo**

May 14-19, 2024 | Chesapeake, Va.

Learn more and register online: <https://tidewaterems.org/expo/>

### **Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads (VAVRS) 2024 Rescue College**

June 7-16, 2024 | Blacksburg, Va.

Learn more and register online: [https://www.vavrs.com/site\\_page.cfm?pk\\_association\\_webpage\\_menu=10100&pk\\_association\\_webpage=22468](https://www.vavrs.com/site_page.cfm?pk_association_webpage_menu=10100&pk_association_webpage=22468)

### **First Responder Virginia 5 Conference/Expo**

September 18-22, 2024 | Virginia Beach, Va.

Learn more: <https://www.vsfa.org/2024-conference-expo/>

### **EMS Training Course Locator**

Find in-person EMS training in your region. Search by region, county, level and/or course title. Learn more: <https://vdhems.vdh.virginia.gov/emsapps/?p=200:4>

## **Virtual EMS Training Opportunities:**

- [Online CE training](#)
- [Vector Solutions](#)

For additional questions about continuing education course offerings, please contact the OEMS Accreditation, Certification and Education Division at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/meet-our-staff/>.

[Click here for more information.](#)



## 2024 Investing in Rural America Conference

May 21 - 22, 2024 | \$50 registration fee

The Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center | Roanoke, Virginia

[Learn More & Register](#)

Registration is now open for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's [2024 Investing in Rural America Conference](#), themed *Building and Sustaining Momentum*, a two-day event featuring national experts and local leaders on the forefront of rural development initiatives. This year's conference features **keynote speaker Liz Weaver**, co-CEO of the [Tamarack Institute for Community Engagement](#).

Join us in Roanoke on May 21-22 to hear from speakers on topics including:

- Community Development Financing
- Turning Challenges into Community Assets
- Developing the Next Generation of Rural Leaders
- Measuring the Success of Community Colleges in Developing Our Workforce
- Innovative Strategies to Increase Housing Availability
- Storytelling for Economic Growth
- Collaborative Leadership Tools

The [conference registration site](#) will be updated regularly with the full conference agenda, speaker list, and information on hotel accommodations. A [discounted room block](#) at the Hotel Roanoke is available through April 24 or until the block fills. Can't attend both days of the conference? Simply indicate the sessions you'll be able to attend at registration and join us as you're able.

[Visit the Conference Site](#)



# State Agency Proposal Window OPEN!!

The Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority (OAA) has **launched its Request for Proposals (RFP) from Agencies of the Commonwealth** for awards for abatement projects for the 2024-2025 performance period. The Commonwealth's settlement distribution memorandum of understanding (MOU) and the *Code of Virginia* directs the OAA to allocate 15% of the Opioid Abatement Fund for awards to state agencies.

The documents for submitting proposals, including renewals and/or amendments for current awards, are available on the OAA's [Grants Portal](#) under the State Agencies tab. *Please note:* If an agency has a current award and intends to continue that project into the 2024-2025 performance period, a proposal requesting renewal and/or amendment **is required** including if funds are being carried forward. Proposals will be **accepted** from **March 19, through May 24, 2024**.

Welcome to the Opioid Abatement Authority's Grants Portal. The OAA offers financial assistance to cities, counties and state agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This page connects you to information and resources, as well as to the specific grant types. If you have any questions please email [info@voaa.us](mailto:info@voaa.us).

Resources and General Information

- [Individual City or County Applications - New Applications and "Gold Standard" Incentive](#)
- [Individual City or County Applications - Amend/Renew Current Award and "Gold Standard" Incentive](#)
- [Cooperative Partnerships - New Applications](#)
- [Cooperative Partnerships - Amend/Renew Current Awards](#)
- [Applications, Supporting Documentation and OAA Summary Recommendations for Cities and Counties from Initial Grant Cycle](#)
- [State Agencies](#)
- [Summaries and Recommendations from State Agency Proposals Approved August 18, 2023](#)

**State Agencies**

- Proposal window is open from March 19th through May 24th 2024.**
- [Introduction Letter](#)
- [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#)
- [Summary of Proposal](#)
- [Budget Workbook](#)
- [Project Timeline Workbook](#)
- [Performance Measurement Workbook](#)
- [Progress Reporting Workbook \(Renewals & Amendments\)](#)
- [Terms and Conditions/MOU Template](#)

Executive Branch agencies should look for additional instructions from the Administration related to their submissions.

Additionally, if you have bookmarks or have visited the Grants Portal before, be sure to clear your cached images and files from your browsing history to ensure you have the most up-to-date versions of the files.

Any questions should be directed to [info@voaa.us](mailto:info@voaa.us) and someone will be glad to assist you.



## You are VAcorp

You are not merely a customer of VAcorp; you **are** VAcorp! We are both owned and governed by you – our members! VAcorp is created under 15.2-2700 of the local government code where all assets and surplus belong to the members. In addition, VAcorp is controlled by a Supervisory Board that is elected from and by our members. The Board determines and approves all major risk pool decisions, and as a voting member, you have a voice in the decisions that matter most.

### Know Who You Are

Because you are VAcorp itself, we think it is critical that you understand exactly what VAcorp is and why it exists. Many simply think of us as their “insurance carrier” – writing customized coverages and handling claims when they occur – but we are so much more!

## Our History

### The Birth of Risk Pools

VAcorp is not an insurance company, but rather a Risk Pool.

Unstable economic conditions in the mid-1980s led to a commercial insurance crisis with ballooning premiums and widespread policy cancellations. As a result, Risk Pools began to form as an alternative to volatile traditional carriers, allowing Pool members to exert more control over their coverages and costs. Today, almost all public sector entities throughout the country get their coverage from Risk Pools rather than from commercial insurance companies.

### VAcorp’s Origin

VAcorp was founded by a handful of Virginia counties in 1993. The ultimate goals of the program were to provide **cost stability**, the most **comprehensive coverages** possible, and **custom services** tailored specifically to the unique needs of our members. While we are pleased by how well our prices compare against the competition, our goal was never to guarantee the lowest cost. Instead, we promised to avoid the wild price swings that we’ve seen in other providers and provide stable pricing year after year, and that is exactly what we have delivered. VAcorp rates are actually **lower today in 2024 than they were in 1993!**

### VAcorp’s Growth

Today, VAcorp is the **largest self-insurance risk pool** for public sector entities in the Commonwealth with a membership retention rate of better than 98%. Over the years, we have expanded beyond counties to include municipalities, school divisions, authorities, volunteer fire & rescue companies, state agencies, and non-profits funded by taxpayer dollars. **Over 560 members** have joined VAcorp, including 8 of the 10 largest counties, 8 of the 10 largest cities, and 8 of the 10 largest school divisions. We believe that the extraordinary success of the program can be attributed to our unwavering commitment to our founding principles.

## VAcorp Exists to Serve You

VAcorp was created solely to serve Virginia's public sector entities, and from day one until now, we have never lost sight of that purpose. Because we answer only to our members, every decision is designed to benefit the group over the long haul.

VAcorp advocates for local government through a myriad of partnerships with affiliated associations including: VACo, VSBA, VLGMA, VASS, VFGOA, VASBO, LGA, Regional Jail Association, PDC, etc. While there is a cost associated with these partnerships, they add value to the group by aiding in our ability to lobby the General Assembly on behalf of our members.

You may not always see the immediate payoff, but every VAcorp decision is made in alignment with our vision to serve our members and promote the health and longevity of your program.

Take a look at a few of VAcorp's milestones over the years:

- **1993** - VAcorp is established with 12 founding members and less than \$700,000 in annual contribution.
- **1998** - VAcorp terminates service contract with claims administration vendor and hires staff to promote more control and efficiency.
- **1999** - VAcorp offers coverage to K-12 Public Schools across the Commonwealth.
- **2001** - VAcorp begins offering Public Officials Liability coverage in response to VARisk offering limited coverage.
- **2004** - VAcorp begins providing Environmental Liability coverage to all members at no additional cost. Even in 2024, VAcorp is the only provider offering this coverage with a low \$25,000 deductible. Other providers offer this coverage with a \$250,000 deductible.
- **2008** - VAcorp responded to the great recession by freezing rates and providing financial relief with over \$8,000,000 in dividends to members.
- **2011** - VAcorp introduces Line of Duty Act (LODA) coverage, creates the only LODA trust in the state, and absorbs existing LODA losses in response to the state pushing this cost to the local level. VAcorp paid all of its members 2010 past liability for over \$1,000,000.
- **2013** - VAcorp merges with the VSBA Self-Insurance Group and assumes their liabilities to prevent School Boards from being assessed. This action saves Local Governments in excess of \$5,000,000.
- **2013** - VAcorp becomes the first to offer Cyber Risk coverage in Virginia offering the broadest coverage available to local governments anywhere in the US.
- **2016** - VAcorp offers Student Accident and Catastrophic Accident coverage in order to fill VHSL coverage gaps.
- **2020** - VAcorp provides over \$5,000,000 in rate credits during the COVID pandemic to assist members.
- **2023** - VAcorp includes security risk management coverage (active shooter) for all members (coverage has been included for Schools since 2013).





## **Pure, Accurate, and Impartial - three+one is enhancing financial decision-making for public officials across the nation.**

This important message from Bill Cherry, former County Treasurer and three+one's Director of Public Partnerships, continues to resonate with our partners.

[Watch](#) as he shares how three+one is enhancing financial decision-making for public officials across the nation.





## Aetna® Statewide Wellness Campaign Brings Comprehensive Master Planning and Wellness Programming to Your County

Accessible world-class outdoor wellness infrastructure for communities and schools across Virginia is now being made possible thanks to the new sponsorship [announced last month](#) between [National Fitness Campaign](#) and [Aetna®](#). Here's what this means for your County:

- Ability to work with experts on comprehensive wellness master-planning services in alignment with County goals;
- Support with community consensus, to engage people to spend more time outdoors to improve physical and mental well-being;
- Invitation to qualify for grants from a pool of \$350,000 in funding that is now available for municipalities and schools across Virginia to build a wellness culture as part of the Aetna® campaign.



Most recently, the Town of Dumfries and Mayor Derrick Wood [celebrated the first Fitness Court® Studio in the state this past fall](#) after responding to community voices who were asking for enhanced outdoor recreation options in their community. Residents can now walk, jog or cycle to their free Fitness Court® Studio at Ginn Memorial Park. Dumfries joins Loudoun County, Pulaski County and a number of other municipalities as the campaign continues to grow across Virginia.

Grant funding and comprehensive planning services will be allocated to support municipalities, schools, and organizations across the state in joining the growing NFC wellness campaign, an award-winning initiative now celebrating its 500th Healthy Community in America.

VACo is pleased to share this opportunity with our members who may be interested in qualifying for funding and sponsorship. If you would like to learn more about the Aetna® wellness campaign in Virginia and how to qualify, please fill out the short contact form at [nationalfitnesscampaign.com/virginia](https://nationalfitnesscampaign.com/virginia).

Briefings with NFC require attendance from the Park Director, Public Health Director and/or County Manager/Administrator to qualify for funding and participation in Virginia.

**Let's build a healthier Virginia, together.**

[Learn More About the Campaign in Virginia](#)



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

Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** The Academy uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county – saving money and maximizing time.

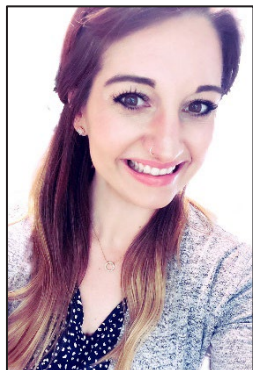
**Empowering county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.**

With a curriculum developed by the late General Colin Powell and public and private sector leaders, the NACo Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

NACo now offers several comprehensive leadership programs, providing a diverse range of fundamental skills and insights for aspiring leaders:

- NACo High Performance Leadership | *12-week online course*
- NACo Cybersecurity Leadership | *12-week online course*
- NACo Leading On Purpose Leadership | *8-week online course*
- NACo Leading In Analytics Leadership | *8-week online course*

**Find out more at [NACo.org/Skills](https://www.naco.org/Skills) or reach out to Kelly Shearer to register today!**



**Kelly Shearer**  
[kshearer@pdaleadership.com](mailto:kshearer@pdaleadership.com)  
D: 971-353-4428

*Kelly joined the Professional Development Academy in 2022 as a Director of Enrollment. She collaborates closely with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support leadership training resources for local government teams as they work to better serve their communities. Her background is specifically in organizational leadership, and as a Virginia native, she's familiar with the unique challenges and opportunities faced by the region's leaders today. In her free time, Kelly loves spending time with her husband and three boys in their Fredericksburg home, traveling when possible--especially to Virginia's beautiful wineries, and winding down with a good book.*



TRUEBLUE PHOTO SPEED ENFORCEMENT

**5 THINGS**  
YOU SHOULD KNOW



04:14

# True Blue Photo Speed Enforcement – 5 Things You Should Know

Answers to Frequent Questions About Blue Line Solutions' Photo Speed Enforcement Program

<https://vimeo.com/860454886>

For more information, contact Greg Hogston | Sales Manager – Virginia  
[ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org](mailto:ghogston@bluelinesolutions.org) | 276-759-8064



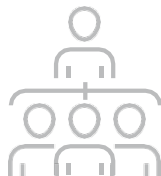
Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** HPLA uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county – saving money and maximizing time.

**THE ACADEMY FOCUSES ON FIVE ESSENTIAL SKILLS:**



**LEAD:**

Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations



**ORGANIZE:**

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently



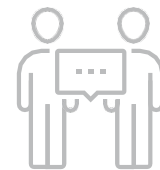
**COLLABORATE:**

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships



**DELIVER:**

Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities



**COMMUNICATE:**

Create clarity, confidence, and community

**The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy empowers frontline county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.**

**NACo Member County cost per enrollee begins at \$1,995.**

Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details.

With a curriculum developed by the late *General Colin Powell* and public and private sector leaders, NACo High Performance Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

**Find out more at [NACo.org/Skills](https://www.naco.org/Skills)**







## OneDigital is thrilled to be one of VACo's newest Premier Partners.

What truly distinguishes OneDigital as a leading **insurance, financial services, and HR consulting advisory firm** is our holistic approach to creating environments that enable people to do their best work and live their best lives. OneDigital understands that counties face rising insurance costs while still struggling to attract/retain talent. This is why we use proprietary software to provide accurate and predictable insurance consulting projections for those core benefits that impact your bottom line and incorporate solutions to improve retention. While voluntary benefits may be the focus of other providers, OneDigital has the expertise in alternative funding strategies, best-in-class analytics, and an in-house actuarial team.

OneDigital has a track record of providing cost-saving solutions to counties. This has been achieved through creative funding strategies, rate holds, and exclusive partnerships with various carriers. One of these exclusive partnerships is through VACORP and Anthem Life. OneDigital is responsible for the inception of the Virginia Local Disability Program (VLDP) which is through the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). Our team of fierce advocates negotiated a 5-year locked rate, including short-term and long-term disability benefits. Your division may already work with us in this capacity, as we currently serve over 270 public sector entities in the VLDP program.



### OUR SOLUTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS

#### MANAGE

- Talent Planning
- Recruiting
- Development & Training

#### SUPPORT

- Benefits & Compensation
- Total Wellbeing
- Productivity
- Retirement Readiness

#### ENGAGE

- Culture
- Education & Fiduciary
- Literacy
- Communications

#### PROTECT

- Compliance
- Workplace Safety
- Operational Continuity
- Cyber Security



**Sarah Anne Struckmann**  
**Business Development Executive**  
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 434-987-2240



At OneDigital, we harness the power of one to solve complex challenges for businesses and people. Scan the code to the left to watch the video and learn more.

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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

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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).

[ASSISTANT COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY](#) | Louisa County | Posted April 4

[CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER](#) | Hampton Roads Transportation Accountability Commission | Posted April 4

[DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION](#) | Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission | Posted April 4

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[PERMIT PROFFER MANAGER](#) | Loudoun County | Posted April 2

[FLOOR CARE TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

[SENIOR CLINICIAN – ADULT DRUG COURT](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

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[EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

[SITE SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

[LEAD CASHIER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted April 2

[EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES](#) | Spotsylvania County | Posted April 1

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[VICTIM ADVOCATE](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[CARE TEAM NURSE MANAGER \(LIMITED TERM\)](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[DEPUTY COMMISSIONER III](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[CAPITAL PROJECT INSPECTOR I/II/III](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[SENIOR ACCOUNTANT](#) | James City County | Posted April 1

[TAX TECHNICIAN I](#) | Montgomery County | Posted April 1

[CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER](#) | Hampton Roads PDC | Posted March 27

[COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR](#) | Stafford County | Posted March 27

[HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR](#) | Town of Morrisville, NC | Posted March 27

[DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM DEPUTY DIRECTOR](#) | Louisa County | Posted March 27

[DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR](#) | Louisa County | Posted March 27

[DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES](#) | City of Charlottesville | Posted March 26

[CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICER](#) | City of Fredericksburg | Posted March 26

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[ADMINISTRATION DIVISION MANAGER](#) | Loudoun County | Posted March 20

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[FIRE AND EMS CHIEF](#) | Prince George County | Posted March 20

[SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT](#) | Montgomery County | Posted March 19

[RADIO INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[CRISIS CLINICIAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[LIBRARY ASSISTANT BRANCH MANAGER](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(M-F 10:30AM-4PM\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT \(M-F 7:30AM 2PM\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURAL BUILDING INSPECTION SUPERVISOR](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[REGISTERED NURSE](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[RESIDENTIAL AIDE \(IN-HOME\)](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

[SENIOR CLINICAN](#) | Chesterfield County | Posted March 18

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[DEPUTY CLERK CIRCUIT COURT PART TIME](#) | New Kent County | Posted March 18

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[ASSISTANT COMMONWEALTH ATTORNEY I](#) | Gloucester County | Posted March 15

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[ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN/ INSPECTOR](#) | Town of Ashland | Posted March 15

[SUPERVISOR-MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT](#) | City of Covington | Posted March 14

[REGIONAL JAIL SUPERINTENDENT](#) | Smyth County | Posted March 14

[SENIOR ACCOUNTANT \(HYBRID\)](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 13

[ACCOUNTANT I \(HYBRID\)](#) | Isle of Wight County | Posted March 13

[SENIOR PLANNER – CURRENT PLANNING](#) | Prince William County | Posted March 12

[AGENDA MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR](#) | Loudoun County | Posted March 12

[CSB CLINICIAN – MHSUD CHILDREN'S TEAM](#) | Hanover County | Posted March 12

[FACILITIES TECHNICIAN/CODE COMPLIANCE](#) | Essex County | Posted March 12

## 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.

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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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