

GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - New River Valley Subregion

Program Metrics to Date

Total Projects Funded	Totals Funds Allocated	Matching Funds Allocated	Jobs Created
64 (45 Projects Completed)	\$23,774,736	\$22,024,894	976

Project Details (Chronological by start date)	Committed Outcomes	Project Synopsis
Falling Branch Corporate Park Site Development <i>Implementation</i> Montgomery County EDA 7/1/23-6/30/26* \$324,000	35 acres elevated from Tier 4 to Tier 5 on VBRSP scale 1,004 feet of sewer line constructed 2,800 feet of waterline constructed	The site development project advances a 35-acre site in Montgomery County from Tier 4 to Tier 5 in the Virginia Business Ready Site Program. Building on prior pad development, the effort includes grading and utility installation to prepare the site for future investment. This project aims to reduce uncertainty and accelerate construction timelines for new prospects.
Developing IT and Cybersecurity Certification Pipeline Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Radford University 7/01/24 - 7/01/26 \$202,872	104 Credentials Awarded 15 Businesses Served	A partnership between Radford and the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Initiative-Southwest Virginia expands IT and cybersecurity certifications while strengthening collaboration among Virginia Tech, Radford, New River Community College, and regional businesses. A new Pearson VUE testing lab in Radford supports credentialing, and the "Talent Connector Program" links certified students to employers through internships and career fairs, building a stronger regional workforce.
Project VITAL Cluster Scale Up <i>Statewide Competitive</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance (RBIA) 1/01/25-1/01/28 \$4,987,029	42 Employees Upskilled 406 Jobs Created/Filled 100 Businesses Served 55 Entrepreneurs Engaged 15 Mentors Engaged \$50 Capital Raised	RBIA, with partners including VT, Carilion, and Virginia Western, leads the state-wide Project VITAL grant in Region 2, a three-pillar initiative to grow biotechnology. The project supports startups through mentoring, compliance assistance, and lab-to-market initiatives; expands access to capital with training, investor connections, and a proof-of-concept grant program; and strengthens talent pipelines through K 12 outreach, higher education programming, internships, and commercialization fellowships.
GO TEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Montgomery County Public Schools 7/01/25-7/01/27 \$994,213	1136 People Trained 1 Program Implemented	Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO-TEC) is launching in Region 2, starting with New River Valley and Roanoke County schools, to give students hands-on experience in high-demand fields through partnerships with education and industry. The program introduces middle schoolers to career pathways in precision machining, welding, IT/cybersecurity, robotics, automation, mechatronics, and advanced materials.
New River Valley Sites Advancement Site Development and Infrastructure <i>Planning</i> New River Valley Regional Commission 8/15/25-8/14/26 \$94,400	Updated Site Inventory and One Page Site Reports, Roadmap Report for elevating sites on the VBRSP site readiness scale, Site Selection Investment Report	This project will update and expand upon the 2019 VBRSP assessment by evaluating industrial sites across 5 New River localities. Infrastructure and site improvements, land ownership changes, and shifting market conditions have impacted site readiness, making an updated assessment necessary. This will identify infrastructure gaps, environmental constraints, and site development needs, providing a clear path for advancing sites through the VBRSP tiers.
VTI Workforce Pathways Plan for ACE Technology Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> VT Transportation Institute 11/15/25-11/14/26 \$99,999	Strategic plan for regional implementation of D2D Workforce Pathways Program for ACE technologies	VTTI leads a supply-chain focused partner base through the Dock to Door Coalition (D2D). The project goals are to define and pilot a process for inventorying assets that support electric vehicle (EV) deployment in the community. The inventory will result in a database that can be used to identify gaps where new programs are needed, identify existing programs D2D partners and the community can benefit from, and build engagement opportunities between D2D partners and the community around EV workforce needs.
Project RISE Entrepreneurship & Innovation <i>Implementation</i> Virginia Tech Foundation 12/9/25-12/8-27 \$648,000	35 Jobs Created 10 New Businesses Created 40 Businesses Served 40 New Mentors Providing Assistance 20 Patents Filed 10 Patents Awarded	Project RISE will add critical momentum to the Entrepreneur Resource Center (ERC) to create a place-based regional hub for startup support and commercialization. ERC will provide technical assistance and commercialization funding to help advance technologies toward market readiness supporting activities such as prototype development and customer discovery. Workshops, events, and digital networking will link founders with regional resources, mentors, and investors.
SBDC Business Preparedness NRV Helene Business Recovery Initiative <i>Implementation</i> Roanoke/NRV Small Business Development Center 1/12/26 - 1/11/28	1 New Program Implemented 50 Businesses Served 2 New Mentors Providing Assistance	The "Ready for Anything: Strategies for Business Continuity and Sustainability in the NRV" program will build capacity, support existing businesses, and strengthen continuity planning and disaster resilience across the New River Valley.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers' efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

*DHCD approved a contract extension.

Closed Project Details	Final/Committed Outcomes	Closeout Reporting from Subgrantee
Industry 4.0 for the Automated- Connected-Electrified (ACE) Workforce Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> VT College of Engineering 2/28/23 - 12/31/25* \$500,000	48/35 Businesses Served 140/530 Students Trained	The ACE Workforce project delivered Industry 4.0 training, technology assessments, and student pipeline development while building strong regional partnerships. It raised awareness of Industry 4.0 workforce needs, helped companies begin technology adoption, engaged 99 partners, and developed asynchronous trainings to maintain participation when industry engagement was impacted by shifting federal policies. <i>Project returned \$232,296 to Region 2 available funding.</i>

GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - Roanoke-Alleghany Subregion			
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Strengthening Entrepreneurs Impact Start Up Ecosystem <i>Implementation</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance 12/01/23-8/30/26* \$577,800	70 jobs created/filled 35 existing businesses expanded 8 new businesses created 58 businesses served 58 entrepreneurs engaged 50 mentors engaged	The project supports companies in the technology and biotechnology sectors to grow and scale through the following activities: 1) Launching OnRAMP, a pre-accelerator program to improve barriers to entry for early-stage startup companies, 2) Enhancing the Exit RAMP program, and 3) Enhancing the I&E report by collecting data on early-stage startups.
Project VITAL Cluster Scale Up <i>Statewide Competitive</i> Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Alliance (RBIA) 1/01/25-1/01/28 \$4,987,029	42 Employees Upskilled 406 Jobs Created/Filled 100 Businesses Served 55 Entrepreneurs Engaged 15 Mentors Engaged \$50 Capital Raised	RBIA, with partners including VT, Carilion, and Virginia Western, leads the state-wide Project VITAL grant in Region 2, a three-pillar initiative to grow biotechnology. The project supports startups through mentoring, compliance assistance, and lab-to-market initiatives; expands access to capital with training, investor connections, and a proof-of-concept grant program; and strengthens talent pipelines through K 12 outreach, higher education programming, internships, and commercialization fellowships.
GO TEC Launch in the New River Valley and Roanoke County Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Montgomery County Public Schools 7/01/25-7/01/27 \$994,213	1136 People Trained 1 Program Implemented	Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (GO-TEC) is launching in Region 2, starting with New River Valley and Roanoke County schools, to give students hands-on experience in high-demand fields through partnerships with education and industry. The program introduces middle schoolers to career pathways in precision machining, welding, IT/cybersecurity, robotics, automation, mechatronics, and advanced materials.
VTI Workforce Pathways Plan for ACE Technology Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> VT Transportation Institute 11/15/25-11/14/26 \$99,999	Strategic plan for regional implementation of D2D Workforce Pathways Program for ACE technologies	VTI leads a supply-chain focused partner coalition (Dock to Door Coalition (D2D)). The project goals are to define and pilot a process for inventorying assets that support electric vehicle (EV) deployment in the community. The inventory will result in a database that can be used to identify gaps where new programs are needed, identify existing programs D2D partners and the community can benefit from, and build engagement opportunities between D2D partners and the community around EV workforce needs.
Project RISE Entrepreneurship & Innovation <i>Implementation</i> Virginia Tech Foundation 12/9/25-12/8-27 \$648,000	35 Jobs Created 10 New Businesses Created 40 Businesses Served 40 New Mentors Providing Assistance 20 Patents Filed 10 Patents Awarded	Project RISE will add critical momentum to the Entrepreneur Resource Center (ERC) to create a place-based regional hub for startup support and commercialization. ERC will provide technical assistance and commercialization funding to help advance technologies toward market readiness supporting activities such as prototype development and customer discovery. Workshops, events, and digital networking will link founders with regional resources, mentors, and investors.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers' efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

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GO Virginia Region 2 Active Projects - Central VA Subregion

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Center for Entrepreneurship Startup Ecosystem <i>Implementation</i> Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance 3/14/23-3/14/27* \$240,192	42 jobs created 20 businesses served \$400k capital raised	The Center of Entrepreneurship (C.Entr) increases the number of growth-oriented startups by creating an entrepreneurial center of excellence for the Greater Lynchburg region that will serve as an anchor and catalyst for the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem. C.Entr provides new and serial entrepreneurs with access to capital and resources to help take their products to market. This initiative provides dedicated physical space at LRBA to support entrepreneurs.
Appomattox County Welding Institute Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Central VA PDC 6/30/24-6/30/27* \$565,000	54 Student Trained 70 Credentials Awarded	Appomattox County, in partnership with Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) is increasing capacity for career and technical education through a new facility for welding training. CVCC plans to offer students the opportunity to receive portable credentials in welding and pipefitting at the facility. The facility will help meet demand for welding courses not currently met through the existing training centers of CVCC.
Educating Engineers for the Region 2 Workforce Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Randolph College 7/01/24 - 7/01/26	40 Students Trained 40 Internships Created	The new mechatronics and robotics engineering program offers dual enrollment through CVCC for local high schools and will require paid internships for students going through the program, once at Randolph. Guided by an employer advisory board, the program ensures industry relevance. It also launches as a FANUC robotics certified program, allowing students to complete Phase Two of FANUC certification.
Say YES to LYH Talent Portal Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance 10/01/25 - 9/30/27 \$99,999	50 Jobs Created 20 New Businesses Served	The primary deliverable of this grant is the launch of SayYestoLYHRegion.org, an innovative digital talent hub designed to attract, develop, and retain talent in the Lynchburg Region. This online platform will serve as a centralized resource that connects job seekers, students, educators, and employers with high-impact tools and information to support career exploration, workforce entry, and advancement.
Vector Space Robotics Facility Workforce Development <i>Planning</i> Vector Space 11/5/25 - 11/4/26 \$97,200	Feasibility Study, Architectural Plans, Program Curriculum, Interior Floor Plans, Sustainability Report, Budget for Implementation	This study will assess the need for expanded robotics education in Lynchburg to boost talent retention and strengthen the workforce pipeline through enhanced STEM programming. Activities include site visits, focus groups, credential exploration (CTE, CAD), curriculum development, dual enrollment pathways, and employer internships.
Randolph College Mechanical Engineering Program Development Workforce Development <i>Implementation</i> Randolph College 5/1/2026 - 4/30/2028 \$686,340	40 people trained 15 job placements 20 new interns placed 1 new program implemented 40 credentials awarded 15 students completing a dual enrollment program	This project will expand Randolph College's mechanical engineering capacity by developing industry aligned labs, curriculum, and partnerships to create a scalable pathway from education to employment in order to produce workforce ready graduates with high demand skills in advanced manufacturing and materials engineering for Region 2.
AM2 Initiative to Grow Advanced Manufacturing in Regions 2 & 3 Cluster Scale-up <i>Statewide Implementation</i> NRV Regional Commission 5/1/26 - 11/1/2028 \$4,230,160	\$2M raised by businesses served 100 jobs created 40 unique businesses served 25 interns placed 10 people trained 4 apprenticeships created 3 new mentors 1 existing business expanded 1 new business attracted	Improve collaboration amongst manufacturers, streamline and facilitate access to services, and help to attract and grow regional manufacturers. Assist existing manufacturers in designing, refining, & testing technologies and processes to improve manufacturers' efficiency and productivity. Accelerate the commercialization timeline for regional manufacturers to promote sustained economic vitality and global competitiveness. Strengthen the manufacturing career pipeline by creating curriculum and quality work-based learning opportunities from high school through graduate school.

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