



# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT



Central Virginia  
Radio Communications  
Board



Workforce  
Development  
Board



Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization



Connecting the Region's Commuters





**MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION**

**Town of Altavista**

Reggie Bennett, Town Council  
Gary Shanaberger, Town Manager

**Amherst County**

Drew Wade, Board of Supervisors  
Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

**Town of Amherst**

Mayor Dwayne Tuggle  
Sara McGuffin, Town Manager

**Appomattox County**

Trevor Higgs, Board of Supervisors  
Susan Adams, County Administrator

**Town of Appomattox**

Mayor Richard Conner  
Terry McGhee, Town Manager

**Town of Bedford**

Bruce Johannessen, Town Council  
Bart Warner, Town Manager

**Bedford County**

John Sharp, Board of Supervisors  
Robert Hiss, County Administrator

**Town of Brookneal**

(Vacant) Town Council  
Russell Thurston, Town Manager

**Campbell County**

Charlie Watts, Board of Supervisors  
Frank Rogers, County Administrator

**City of Lynchburg**

Jeff Helgeson, City Council  
Wynter Benda, City Manager

**Regional Business Alliance**

Megan Lucas, CEO

**Virginia General Assembly**

Hon. Mark Peake, Virginia Senate

as of December 2023



**FROM THE CHAIR**



In 2023, the Central Virginia Planning District Commission and its staff forged new relationships and strengthened existing partnerships within and beyond our boundaries. Amherst Mayor and Planning District Commissioner Dwayne Tuggle was re-elected first vice-president of the Virginia Association of PDCs and further named vice-president of the Virginia Municipal League.

The organization is building relationships through new funding opportunities with the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission, Growth and Opportunity Virginia, Virginia Housing, the National Fish and Wildlife Federation, the federal Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. CVPDC's collaboration with the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance, Central Virginia Community College; and Virginia's departments of Transportation, Environmental Quality, Conservation and Recreation, and Housing and Community Development continues. Most importantly, the Planning District Commission is bringing member local governments closer together to address critical needs like public safety, workforce development, and housing.

The CVPDC is fulfilling its mission to be a dynamic public forum for matters of regional significance; to create solutions by coordinating plans and building coalitions; and to provide service excellence to Central Virginia localities and the Commonwealth.

*Richard Conner, Mayor of Appomattox*





## CONVENING REGIONAL CONVERSATIONS

The Planning District Commission hosted special guests from the U.S. Congress (Representative Bob Good), the General Assembly (Delegate Wendell Walker and Senator John McGuire), GO Virginia Region 2 Council (Janice Crawford and Luke Towles), and the Virginia Association of PDCs (Executive Director David Blount). These conversations focused on economic development opportunities in Central Virginia and opportunities to tap state and federal resources in collaboration with regional partners and statewide networks.

CVPDC hosted county administrators, public safety directors, and CVCC educators to discuss personnel shortages among firefighters, paramedics, and emergency medical technicians. Meanwhile, CVCC parlayed investments in its CTE Academy by CVPDC

and GO Virginia into a Lab School Planning Grant enabling continued growth of career and technical education in Central Virginia.

Appomattox Christian Academy Board Chairman Bruce Boone presented the ACA Classical & CTE Institute to the Planning District Commission in March. ACA's rehabilitation of the former Carver-Price School opens new and enhanced educational opportunities and community facilities in the town of Appomattox. Central Virginia Community College will expand its welding and EMT training programs at the Institute. CVPDC successfully assisted project partners ACA, Appomattox County, and CVCC with grant applications totaling \$883,000 in 2023.







**\$280,000**

CVPDC was awarded a \$280,000 grant to commission a comprehensive safety action plan for the region.

**GETTING YOU THERE EASIER**

**MEMBERS OF THE  
CENTRAL VIRGINIA TPO  
POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Town of Amherst**

Mayor Dwayne Tuggle  
Sara McGuffin, Town Manager

**Amherst County**

Drew Wade, Board of Supervisors  
Jeremy Bryant, County Administrator

**Bedford County**

John Sharp, Board of Supervisors  
Robert Hiss, County Administrator

**Campbell County**

Charlie Watts, Board of Supervisors  
Frank Rogers, County Administrator

**City of Lynchburg**

Marty Misjuns, City Council  
Wynter Benda, City Manager

Chris Winstead, VDOT Lynchburg  
Administrator

Kenny Craig, Liberty University

Josh Moore, Greater Lynchburg  
Transit Co.

*as of December 2023*

## ADVANCING TRANSPORTATION

CVPDC was awarded a \$280,000 grant to commission a comprehensive safety action plan for the region. The initiative will consider policies, programs, and projects that make our transportation network safer for all users. VDOT's Safety Office is supporting the effort with comprehensive data analysis.

CVPDC houses the **Central Virginia Transportation Planning Organization**, which approved its first Public Participation and Title VI Plans. CVPDC successfully applied to SMART SCALE for \$10.5 million to fund safety improvements on US-460 at Timber Ridge Road in Bedford County. CVPDC's **Ride Solutions** program assisted 394 citizens reach employment and needed services while reducing vehicle miles traveled on our region's roadways by nearly 100,000.





# FACILITATING PUBLIC SAFETY

The **Central Virginia Radio Communications Board** welcomed Campbell County into the fold, thus providing interoperable emergency services communications throughout most of the region. The Radio Board developed a plan to transition radios to Phase 2, which increases network capacity with the latest technology.

The Radio Board was awarded a \$250,000 State Homeland Security Program grant to fund generators at three tower sites. Thanks go to Campbell County for filing the application to VDEM on behalf of the region.

## MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA RADIO COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

Bradley Beam, Amherst County

Shannon Walker, Town of Bedford

Jeff Johnson (interim), Bedford  
County

Tracy Fairchild, Campbell County

Melissa Foster, City of Lynchburg

*as of December 2023*



**\$250,000**

The Radio Board was awarded a \$250,000 State Homeland Security Program grant to fund generators at three tower sites.

**CONNECTING  
COMMUNITY  
COMMUNICATIONS**





**\$300,000**

CVPDC will manage a \$300,000 grant to stabilize the banks of the Staunton River in English Park in 2024.

## KEEPING OUR ENVIRONMENT PRISTINE

### SAFEGUARDING THE LANDSCAPE

CVPDC is investing a \$500,000 grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency to assess “brownfields”—properties in which redevelopment or reuse is complicated by the presence of hazardous materials, pollution, or contaminants—for remediation. The portfolio of projects includes an area-wide plan in the heart of Appomattox.

CVPDC further received grants to commission a regional resiliency plan and a preservation plan for the James River. Central Virginia’s current hazard mitigation plan positioned the town of Altavista to receive a \$300,000 grant to stabilize the banks of the Staunton River in English Park, a project that CVPDC staff will manage in 2024.





## SUPPORTING THE REGION THROUGH MANAGEMENT

CVPDC provides financial and human resources management to the **Central Virginia Workforce Development Board (CVWDB)** and the **Region 2000 Services Authority**. CVWDB is navigating the transition to the commonwealth's new Department of Workforce Development and Advancement and implementing two grants totaling \$175,000 made available by Governor Youngkin's administration directed toward younger job seekers. The staff of the Workforce Development Board (dba Virginia Career Works—Central Region) connects businesses and job seekers through a statewide network of employment professionals.

The **Region 2000 Services Authority** manages municipal solid waste on behalf of Campbell County, the city of Lynchburg, Appomattox County, and Nelson County. The Authority is managing the Concord Turnpike landfills during its post-closure maintenance period and receiving waste at its Livestock Road facility near Rustburg. The Authority recently completed construction on Phase 5, providing capacity into 2029.

### MEMBERS OF THE REGION 2000 SERVICES AUTHORITY BOARD

Susan Adams, Appomattox County Administrator  
 Frank Rogers, Campbell County Administrator  
 Greg Patrick, Deputy Manager, City of Lynchburg  
 Candy McGarry, Nelson County Administrator

*as of December 2023*

## CENTRAL VIRGINIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

### Chief Local Elected Officials

Drew Wade, Amherst County  
 John Hinkle, Appomattox County  
 John Sharp, Bedford County  
 Jon Hardie, Campbell County  
 Mayor Stephanie Reed, City of Lynchburg

### Members

Lauren Anderson, Lynchburg Regional Society of Human Resource Management (LRSHRM)  
 Dr. Annette A. Bennett, Appomattox County Public Schools  
 Gary Campbell, Johnson Health Center  
 Dr. John Capps, Central Virginia Community College  
 Anthony Cardoza, Framatome  
 Christopher J. Caudill, Aerofin  
 Andrew Crawford, Bedford County Department of Social Services  
 Michael "Scott" Francis, Integrated Technology Group, Inc.  
 Cheryl Giggetts, CTA Consultants LLC  
 Laura Hamilton, Lynchburg Beacon of Hope  
 Mike Hertzler, Finance Professional  
 Dana Hogan, C.B. Fleet  
 Christine Kennedy, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance  
 Ron Lovelace, Norvelle, Mathews, & Crews, PC  
 Bryan Lyttle, Old Dominion Job Corps  
 Kimberly McIvor, Virginia Employment Commission  
 Charles Mann, IAM & AW Local Lodge 10  
 Nat Marshall, BWXT  
 Alisha Meador, Lynchburg Office of Economic Development and Tourism  
 Sam Penn, United Steel Workers  
 Sierra Phillips, Southern Air, Inc.  
 Samuel Pinn, United Cherokee Indian Tribe of Virginia  
 John Redding, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce  
 Tamara Rosser, Lynchburg Community Action Group  
 Luke Saechao, ACE of Central Virginia  
 David Sage, Virginia Technical Institute  
 Jason Shockley, Industrial Plating Corporation  
 Sonya Todd, L3 Harris  
 Karen Walker, Foster Fuels, Inc.  
 Carrie White, Centra Health  
 Sterling Wilder, Jubilee Family Development Center  
 Christian Wiscovitch, Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

*as of December 2023*





**\$2 MILLION**  
 CVPDC is investing \$2 million from Virginia Housing in 63 affordable housing units of all types across the region.

## INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

CVPDC is investing \$2 million from Virginia Housing in 63 affordable housing units of all types across the region. The town of Altavista joins non-profit and for-profit organizations in creating new single- and multi-family homes for prospective renters and owners alike.

CVPDC assisted the Town of Bedford, the Town of Altavista and Amherst County with successful CDBG applications for revitalization of the Hilltop Neighborhood, Mosley Heights, and Madison Heights. Bedford received a \$1 million award for rehabilitation of 11 homes following successful execution of Phase 1.



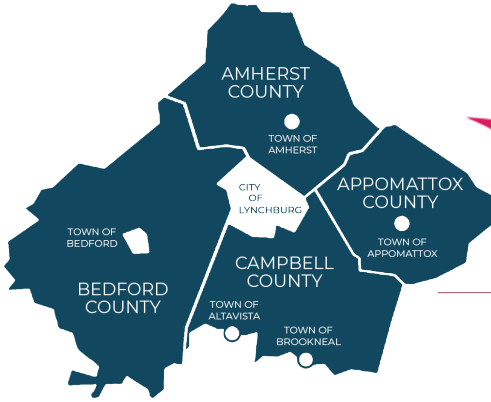
**STAFF:** Alec Brebner, CVPDC; Kelly Hitchcock, CVPDC; Sandy Dobyms, CVPDC; Jefrado Granger, CVPDC; Kirsten Trautman, CVPDC; Ada Hunsberger, CVPDC; Traci Blido, Virginia Career Works – Central Region; Tim Saunders, Virginia Career Works – Central Region; Clarke Gibson, Region 2000 Services Authority

*The CVPDC is fulfilling its mission to be a dynamic public forum for matters of regional significance; to create solutions by coordinating plans and building coalitions; and to provide service excellence to Central Virginia localities and the Commonwealth.*

(434) 845-3491 • 828 MAIN STREET, 12TH FLOOR LYNCHBURG, VA 24504







# VIRGINIA CAREER WORKS

## CENTRAL REGION

### WORKFORCE BOARD AWARDED TWO GRANTS TO ELEVATE SERVICES AND OUTREACH

The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board (CVWDB) was awarded two competitive state grants in 2023 that are aimed at expanding services to youth and adults with barriers to employment and elevating awareness of high demand career opportunities for youth, parents, and educators.

The Commonwealth of Virginia awarded the board **\$150,000** in federal funds through a **Supplemental Workforce Development Training Opportunity grant**, which allows board staff and the operator of the board's Title I program to expand services for 18 youth and 20 adults in 2024 who are facing barriers to employment.

The board was also awarded **\$25,000** in a **Youth Outreach and Marketing Development grant** that is funding a targeted outreach campaign. The CVWDB is working with employers and training providers to produce a series of videos that will highlight high-demand occupations for an audience of teenagers. "We are utilizing these funds to place youth and

adults in sustainable careers, and we captured the wide variety of high paying jobs that young people should consider as they choose their classes in high school and college," said Traci Blido, Executive Director, Virginia Career Works – Central Region.

Content will be featured in a five-episode series that will be produced to air on a local television station. The finished series will be provided to local schools for use as a classroom resource in support of the region-wide "Worlds Of Opportunity" career expo in October 2024, in partnership with the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance and Central Virginia Community College. The video series will be shown in schools and posted in shorter segments on social media, to re-enforce career exploration activities associated with Worlds of Opportunity.

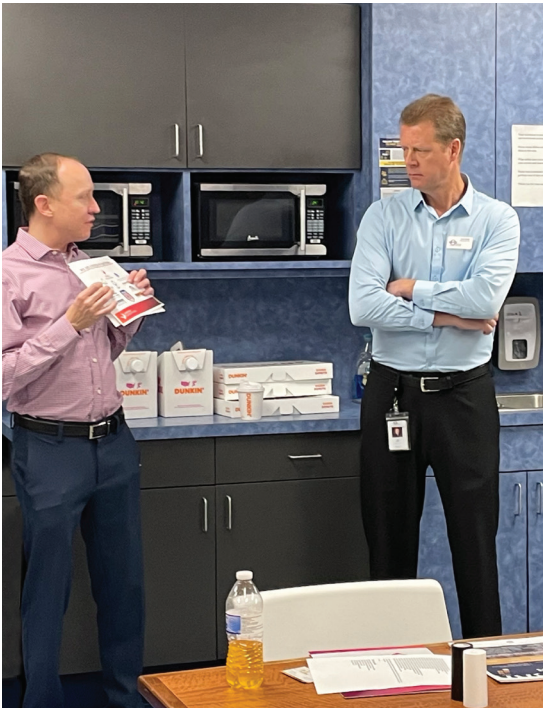


Photo by Traci Blido

Staff meet with CVCC leaders to discuss ways to better reach youth for in-demand careers



## OVERCOMING WORKFORCE CHALLENGES



## CVWDB'S BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM EXCEEDS 100 LOCAL COMPANIES SERVED IN 2023

**107**

private sector companies served by the collaborative team in partnership with economic developers from across the region, this past year.

The CVWDB convenes a monthly Business Services Team made up of partners from across the Virginia Career Works “one-stop system,” serving local companies to help them overcome workforce challenges such as filling specific in-demand jobs, hiring multiple workers in an expansion, and upskilling their own employees as equipment is updated to meet competitive demands. Just this past year (from January 1, 2023–December 31, 2023), the

collaborative team served 107 private sector companies, in partnership with economic developers from across the region.

For more information or to recommend a business that may need workforce assistance, please contact Traci Blido, Executive Director, 434-258-8626, [traci.blido@vcwcentral.com](mailto:traci.blido@vcwcentral.com) or Tim Saunders at 434-856-2713, [tim.saunders@vcwcentral.com](mailto:tim.saunders@vcwcentral.com).



# CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH SUMMER WORK



## WORKFORCE INITIATIVE CONNECTS STUDENTS WITH SUMMER WORK

As record job availability continues across Central Virginia, employers are relying on younger workers to fill certain positions. This is creating a unique opportunity for eager high schools students to enter the workforce at a younger age, in positions that might otherwise be unavailable to them. In 2023, Virginia Career Works partnered with Lynchburg City Schools, the City of Lynchburg’s Office of Economic Development and Tourism, and Lynchburg Beacon of Hope to connect E.C. Glass and Heritage High School students with employers offering part-time and seasonal work opportunities.

**By working part-time through summer, students added experience to their resume and formed connections that will broaden their future career prospects.**

Through this effort, individuals ages 14–18 had an opportunity to apply for summer jobs that could offer a path to full-time employment after graduation. By working part-time through summer, students

added experience to their resume and formed connections that will broaden their future career prospects. The team is doing a repeat of this job fair at the two schools in 2024.

### CENTRAL VIRGINIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD\*

#### Chief Local Elected Officials

- Drew Wade, Amherst County
- John Hinkle, Appomattox County
- John Sharp, Bedford County
- Jon Hardie, Campbell County
- Mayor Stephanie Reed, City of Lynchburg

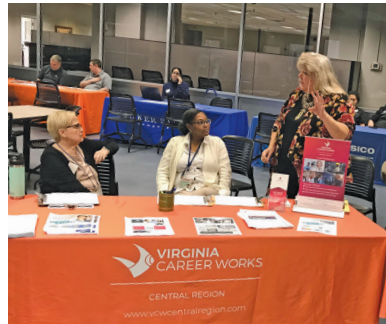
#### Members

- Lauren Anderson, Lynchburg Regional Society of Human Resource Management (LRSHRM)
- Dr. Annette A. Bennett, Appomattox County Public Schools
- Gary Campbell, Johnson Health Center
- Dr. John Capps, Central Virginia Community College
- Anthony Cardoza, Framatome
- Christopher J. Caudill, Aerofin
- Andrew Crawford, Bedford County Department of Social Services
- Michael “Scott” Francis, Integrated Technology Group, Inc.
- Cheryl Giggetts, CTA Consultants LLC
- Laura Hamilton, Lynchburg Beacon of Hope
- Mike Hertzler, Finance Professional
- Dana Hogan, C.B. Fleet
- Christine Kennedy, Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance
- Ron Lovelace, Norvelle, Mathews, & Crews, PC
- Bryan Lyttle, Old Dominion Job Corps
- Kimberly McIvor, Virginia Employment Commission
- Charles Mann, IAM & AW Local Lodge 10
- Nat Marshall, BWXT
- Alisha Meador, Lynchburg Office of Economic Development and Tourism
- Sam Penn, United Steel Workers
- Sierra Phillips, Southern Air, Inc.
- Samuel Pinn, United Cherokee Indian Tribe of Virginia
- John Redding, Appomattox Chamber of Commerce
- Tamara Rosser, Lynchburg Community Action Group
- Luke Saechao, ACE of Central Virginia
- David Sage, Virginia Technical Institute
- Jason Shockley, Industrial Plating Corporation
- Sonya Todd, L3 Harris
- Karen Walker, Foster Fuels, Inc.
- Carrie White, Centra Health
- Sterling Wilder, Jubilee Family Development Center
- Christian Wiscovitch, Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

*\*as of December 2023*







## WHO DO WE SERVE?

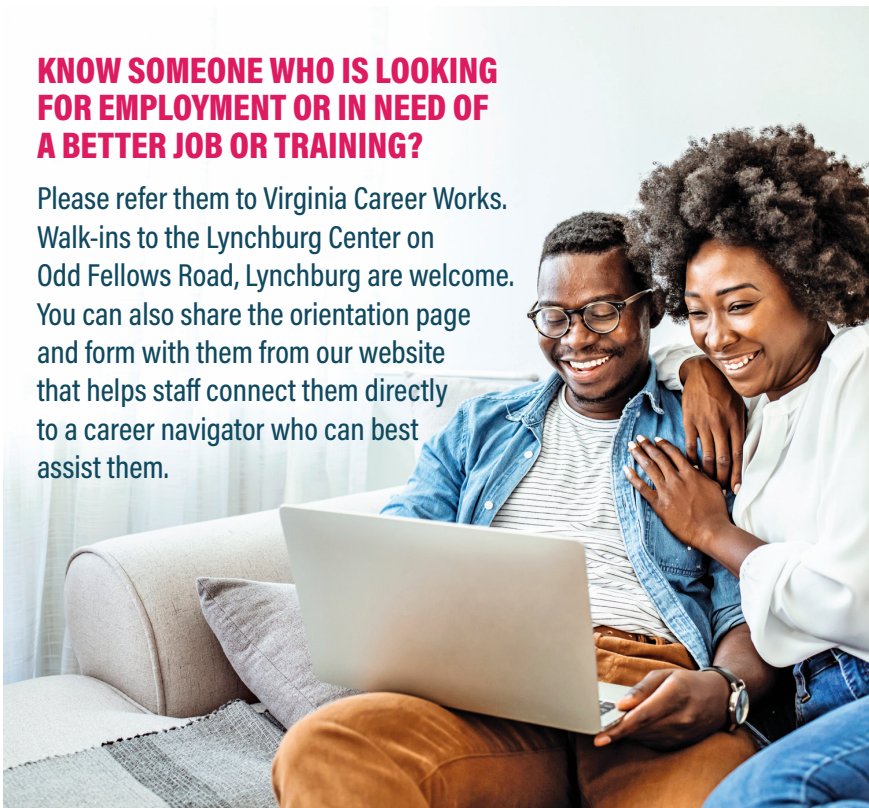
We serve **ALL** people with general career services, but we \*enroll those who have barriers to employment or who have been laid off from their job. By enrolling them in WIOA Title 1, they are assigned a career navigator and provided with added support to help with things like transportation and childcare, or uniforms and tools for specific careers. There are also limited funds to help with training and education from eligible training providers in the region.

# 3,089

In 2023, Virginia Career Works Lynchburg Center saw 3,089 walk-ins and staff responded to 211 job seekers who completed online orientation and requested help.

## KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT OR IN NEED OF A BETTER JOB OR TRAINING?

Please refer them to Virginia Career Works. Walk-ins to the Lynchburg Center on Odd Fellows Road, Lynchburg are welcome. You can also share the orientation page and form with them from our website that helps staff connect them directly to a career navigator who can best assist them.



## CALLING ON BUSINESSES TO HOST INTERNS

The Virginia Career Works Youth Program covers paid internships and other work experiences for in-school and out-of-school youth, up to age 24.

If you are willing to mentor/host a young person for an internship type of position (up to 340 hours), please reach out to us. It's a win-win for you and the individual you host.

The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board is designated as the regional workforce convener by the Chief Elected Officials and is responsible for coordinating workforce development at all levels. By engaging employers, education/training and human services organizations the Workforce Development Board addresses workforce issues and develops solutions for current and prospective business needs to provide a skilled labor force at the regional level.

3125 Odd Fellows Road , Lynchburg VA 24501 • (434) 455-5940 • 800-828-1140 • info@vcwcentral.com

