| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 1 | Ignite Internships | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY18 | 4/10/2018 | $250,000 | $618,482 | The Ignite Internships project seeks to broaden the reach of the Ignite Program throughout the Region One area by strategically aligning school curriculums with the specific needs of local employers. UWSWVA will engage with key industry associations across a variety of targeted sectors, ensuring that the partnership reflects the current job market and anticipated skills gaps. As part of this initiative, a comprehensive web-based platform was developed and designed to evaluate student skills through a series of tailored assessments. This platform will serve as a vital resource in matching students with relevant work-based learning opportunities in their fields of interest. By connecting students with these experiences, the project aims to enhance their practical skills, improve their employability, and foster a smoother transition from education to the workforce. The United Way of Southwest Virginia is committed to placing 120 interns in meaningful roles with at least 40 different companies because of this project. |
| 1 | SWVTC Hub Link | Southwest Virginia Technology Council (SWVTC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $27,547 | $27,637 | The Southwest Virginia Technology Council (SWVTC) has successfully completed the initial development of the HubLink platform, a dedicated online resource designed to connect job seekers with a wide range of technology-related job and training opportunities. This innovative platform aims to bridge the gap between skilled workers and employers seeking talent in the technology sector. SWVTC actively engages with local stakeholders, including businesses, educational institutions, and community organizations, to gather insights and feedback. Additionally, the Region One Council has conducted a comprehensive inventory of all technology training programs available in the region, ensuring that job seekers have access to up-to-date information and resources to enhance their skills. By fostering collaboration among various entities, SWVTC aims to create a robust ecosystem that supports workforce development and addresses the growing demand for technology professionals in Southwest Virginia. |
| 1 | Coal-to-Graphene Study | Virginia Tech | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 12/11/2018 | $25,000 | $25,000 | The Coal-to-Graphene market study conducted by Region One provided a comprehensive initial analysis of both the environmental impacts and the financial projections associated with developing a sustainable graphene economy in the region of Southwest Virginia. This innovative research highlights the potential for transforming local coal resources into valuable graphene, a material renowned for its remarkable strength and conductivity. Virginia Tech's Institute of Critical Technology and Applied Science has pioneered a groundbreaking manufacturing process that allows for the production of graphene from coal at a significantly reduced cost, positioning Southwest Virginia as a leader in this emerging industry. |
| 1 | Smart Farming | Mountain Empire Community College (MECC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 3/12/2019 | $310,372 | $380,500 | The Smart Farming program at the Center for Workforce Innovation in Region 1 expands its unmanned systems coursework by introducing two new capstone courses focused on smart farming and technology use in agriculture. These courses aim to improve farming techniques, increase crop yields, and maximize profits in the agricultural sector. The Mountain Empire Community College (MECC) will allow students to earn national credentials in FAA drone operations, agrarian inspections, and pesticide spraying at the new Center for Workforce & Innovation of Appalachia (CWIA). Additionally, MECC will be the first institution in Virginia to offer an Associate Degree (AAS) in Unmanned Aerial Systems. |
| 1 | Lonesome Pine RIFA Coordinator | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 6/24/2019 | $50,000 | $50,000 | The LENOWISCO Planning District Commission has established a new coordinator position aimed at enhancing the mission of the Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA). This authority is responsible for supporting economic development initiatives across the counties of Lee, Scott, Wise, and Dickenson, as well as the City of Norton. The primary role of the coordinator will be to formalize RIFA's organizational structure, ensuring clear roles and responsibilities among its members. Additionally, the coordinator will continue and expand discussions surrounding tax revenue sharing, a critical aspect that can foster regional collaboration and enhance funding for local projects. Another key responsibility will be to identify and coordinate funding opportunities available to the region, which will support various economic development initiatives and help drive sustainable growth in the communities served by RIFA. |
| 1 | Solar Playbook for SWVA | Appalachian Voices | Workforce Development | FY18 | 6/24/2019 | $70,947 | $70,947 | The Solar Playbook for Southwest Virginia (SWVA) Project, spearheaded by Appalachian Voices, is a comprehensive collaborative planning initiative coupled with an extensive market study. This project meticulously identifies targeted pathways for substantial investments in large-scale solar energy development on previously mined lands. Additionally, it aims to uncover high-paying employment opportunities for the local workforce in Southwest Virginia, paving the way for a sustainable energy future while revitalizing the region's economy.. |
| 1 | Project Oasis | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 9/10/2019 | $50,000 | $50,000 | The LENOWISCO Planning District Commission engaged in a strategic partnership with InvestSWVA, Coalfield Strategies LLC, the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME), and the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) to identify and assess suitable locations within the region for the establishment of data centers. This comprehensive study generated several critical deliverables. 1) The development of analytical tools designed to assess and prioritize the availability of essential infrastructure, including power supply and fiber optic networks, and the feasibility of mine pool water reclamation as an innovative cooling solution. 2) A preliminary engineering feasibility study that evaluates the technical and logistical aspects of potential data center sites, ensuring they meet the necessary criteria for operation. 3) A thorough market analysis that examines regional demand, competitive landscapes, and key data center development trends provides insight into the economic viability of such projects. 4) In-depth research focused on identifying potential users of the data centers, ensuring that the facilities align with market needs and business opportunities. 5) A conceptual design for prospective data center sites, detailing architectural and infrastructural elements that cater to requirements while considering sustainability and community impact. |
| 1 | Region 1 REI Coordinating Entity | Opportunity SWVA | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 12/9/2019 | $80,000 | $40,000 | Opportunity SWVA and UVA-Wise are joining forces to develop the Launch SWVA Region 1 Strategy for Entrepreneurship and Innovation Investment. This initiative creates a comprehensive action plan that not only builds upon the insights and recommendations outlined in the TEConomy report but also tailors strategies specifically for the unique needs of Region 1. By leveraging local resources and expertise, the Innovation Investment plan will identify key areas for growth and investment in entrepreneurship, fostering a more robust ecosystem that encourages innovation and supports local businesses. Through targeted actions and stakeholder engagement, this initiative seeks to drive economic development and enhance the entrepreneurial landscape in the region. |
| 1 | Project Energizer | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $50,000 | $50,000 | Project Energizer aims to identify and develop prime locations for small-scale, modular pumped-storage hydropower projects in Region One, Southwest Virginia. This initiative involves a comprehensive assessment of geographical and environmental factors to ensure the efficient implementation of renewable energy solutions. By focusing on modular technology, the project seeks to enhance energy storage capabilities in the region. Through careful planning and community engagement, Project Energizer will facilitate the transition to cleaner energy sources while supporting local economies and providing reliable power for the future. |
| 1 | Project Innovation | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $100,000 | $150,000 | Project Innovation is proudly establishing the Southwest Virginia Energy Park, a vibrant hub where visionary companies can explore, refine, and bring to life groundbreaking ideas in energy technology. LENWISCO PDC will engage two dedicated consulting teams to embark on this transformative journey. The first team will meticulously assess over 100,000 acres of reclaimed surface-mined land along with its adjacent underground mines, unlocking new possibilities for sustainable development. Meanwhile, the second team will craft a dynamic governance model, design an inspiring layout for the Park, and develop a comprehensive plan that ensures both an impactful startup and enduring sustainability. |
| 1 | SWVA Regional Agribusiness Opportunities | Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $100,000 | $100,000 | The Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension established a new project manager position to drive and coordinate business development initiatives within the agricultural sector. This role will be instrumental in implementing the recently completed Agricultural Action Plan, which outlines key strategies for enhancing the sector's sustainability and economic viability. The project manager will specifically focus on supporting the growth and development of the beef cattle, small grain, and craft beverage industries, fostering collaboration among stakeholders, and identifying new opportunities for innovation and expansion within these fields. By advancing these initiatives, the project manager aims to strengthen local agriculture and contribute positively to the region's economy. |
| 1 | Farmer Pipeline: Maintaining the Supply Chain by Growing Farmers | Appalachian Sustainable Development | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/16/2020 | $99,996 | $51,076 | The Farmer Pipeline: Maintaining the Supply Chain by Empowering Farmers in Region One is designed to support small farmers impacted by COVID-19. This project introduces a platform aimed at enhancing wholesale logistics for the Appalachian Harvest Food Hub. Additionally, it emphasizes the launch of a training platform, the implementation of technology to improve production efficiency, the creation of an online marketplace to connect institutional buyers and consumers directly, and the deployment of project management software for better support. |

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| 1 | Perseverance | Virginia's Industrial Advancement Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/16/2020 | $100,000 | $52,500 | The Perseverance Project enhances the efforts of Virginia's Industrial Advancement Alliance (VIAA) in business retention and expansion by offering financial resources to help companies mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on the manufacturing sector in Region 1. VIAA will deliver essential business operations and evaluation services to support key sector companies in their recovery, transition, and process improvement. |
| 1 | Retooling Manufacturers for Strategic Industries | GENEDGE | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/23/2020 | $2,950,000 | $1,475,000 | The "Retooling Manufacturers for Strategic Industries" in Region One initiative is designed to significantly enhance the capabilities of existing suppliers, empowering them to develop sustainable and long-term revenue streams within the fields of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and essential medical supplies. In addition to mitigating supply gaps, the project emphasizes the importance of establishing a comprehensive supply network rooted in Virginia. This network aims not only to streamline local production but also to ensure rapid and efficient responses to potential future outbreaks of the COVID-19 virus or similar health emergencies. The initiative includes training programs for manufacturers, investment in advanced manufacturing technologies, and collaboration with public health officials to align production capabilities with community needs. |
| 1 | Lonesome Pine RIFA Project Intersection | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $485,000 | $1,417,400 | The Lonesome Pine Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) Project Intersection is embarking on an initiative to establish a dedicated coordinator position aimed at enhancing the mission and effectiveness of RIFA. This authority plays a pivotal role in facilitating economic development across key areas, including Lee, Scott, Wise, and Dickenson counties, in addition to the City of Norton. The newly appointed coordinator will be instrumental in formalizing the organizational structure of RIFA, ensuring clarity in roles and responsibilities within the entity. This role will also involve steering and expanding critical discussions regarding tax revenue sharing among member jurisdictions, which is essential for fostering collaborative economic growth. Additionally, the coordinator will serve as a liaison, working closely with other RIFAs throughout the region to identify best practices and potential areas for partnership. Another key responsibility will be the exploration and identification of funding opportunities, which could provide vital financial resources to support various economic initiatives and development projects within the region. |
| 1 | Ignite Tech Talent Pipeline | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $251,960 | $251,960 | The Ignite Tech Talent Pipeline aims to develop a strong talent pipeline that increases the number of graduates from high school, community colleges, and universities who are prepared to work in information technology (IT) jobs in the region. This initiative is designed to meet the projected 10-year demand for IT workers in Region 1, which estimates a need for 1,386 new workers. The first phase of the project will last one year and will focus on discovery. This will involve assessing the capacity of schools to create pathways to IT careers, evaluating student interest in these careers, and looking into current employer activities. Additionally, we will analyze the demand for specific skills, certifications, and degrees required for entry-level positions. |
| 1 | William King Museum of Art - Digital Workforce Development | William Kind Museum of Art | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $70,910 | $75,735 | The Digital Lab at the William King Museum of Art (WKMA) offers educational opportunities for high school students and adult learners in Southwest Virginia to gain proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, and After Effects. Additionally, the Digital Lab provides graphic design training and access to and instruction on using high-quality inkjet printers, 3D printing, and laser cutting. These learning opportunities prepare students for careers in creative digital fields such as photography, videography, graphic design, digital illustration, animation, web design, social media, and 3D product design. Skills in these areas are highly valued across various industries. |
| 1 | Wildwood Natural Gas Extension | Blue Ridge Crossroads EDA | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 12/7/2020 | $527,600 | $320,684 | Appalachian Natural Gas has successfully completed the installation of 19,591 feet of natural gas line extension to Wildwood Commerce Park. This significant project enhances the energy infrastructure of the industrial park by delivering natural gas at a pressure of 55 psi, with the option to increase to 100 psi to accommodate the diverse needs of industrial customers. The newly extended gas line not only improves the availability of natural gas but also positions Wildwood Commerce Park as an attractive destination for businesses that rely on this essential utility for their operations. With approximately 125 acres of land in the park now graded and prepared for development, there are ample opportunities for tenants to establish their operations in this prime location. |
| 1 | Energy Storage & Electrification Manufacturing Jobs | Appalachian Voices | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $486,366 | $245,000 | The Energy Storage and Electrification Manufacturing Jobs Project is designed to stimulate job creation in Region One while also drawing in new investments and broadening the local tax base. This comprehensive initiative will unfold in three distinct phases. In the first phase, we will conduct targeted technical analysis to identify specific needs and opportunities within the local economy. This analysis will help us understand the strengths and challenges faced by current regional companies in the energy storage and electrification sectors. The second phase will involve strategic outreach and planning. During this stage, we will engage with local stakeholders, businesses, and community leaders to gather insights and foster collaboration. This collective effort will guide the development of tailored strategies that not only support existing businesses but also attract new companies to the region. Finally, in the implementation phase, we will execute the plans developed in the previous stages. This may include providing resources, training programs, and incentives aimed at enhancing the capabilities of four key regional companies. |
| 1 | Project Fuse | Lonesome Pine RIFA | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 4/21/2021 | $70,000 | $35,000 | Project Fuse in Region One has developed an innovative business retention and recruitment tool designed specifically for economic developers. This tool aims to enhance the promotion of telework employment strategies within the Lonesome Pine RIFA (Regional Industrial Facilities Authority) territory. By leveraging this resource, economic developers can strategically attract remote work opportunities, thereby fostering local economic growth and adapting to the evolving job market. The tool provides valuable insights and resources that support businesses in transitioning to telework models, ultimately helping to sustain and expand the workforce in the region. |
| 1 | Project Thoroughbred | InvestSWVA | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 4/21/2021 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Project Thoroughbred aims to strengthen the capacity of local farmers by providing training and resources that enhance their skills and knowledge. By boosting farmers' capabilities, the initiative seeks to instill greater confidence in the local market's ability to consistently meet high-quality specifications for agricultural products. The project also focuses on creating a diverse range of products that cater to various market demands, thereby enriching the agricultural landscape of the region. Importantly, this initiative also represents a significant step toward generating employment opportunities for graduates from the grain management program that is currently in development at Mountain Empire Community College. |
| 1 | GROW(TH): The Business of Agriculture in SWVA | Emory & Henry College | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 4/21/2021 | $52,950 | $26,500 | GROWTH: The Business of Agriculture in Southwest Virginia has successfully completed a comprehensive feasibility study aimed at establishing an Innovation Hub dedicated to advancing agricultural initiatives. This hub is designed to bolster ongoing education in agricultural entrepreneurship through a diverse range of customized programs tailored specifically to the needs of the local community. The primary objective of the Innovation Hub is to drive workforce growth within the agricultural sector, fostering a skilled labor pool that can adapt to the evolving demands of the industry. By creating a supportive environment, the hub seeks to instill a culture of opportunity that encourages individuals to pursue careers in agriculture and related fields. Through this initiative, Southwest Virginia aspires to be a leader in agricultural entrepreneurship, cultivating a vibrant community that thrives on creativity, collaboration, and growth within the agricultural sector. |
| 1 | ACI Business Continuity and Resiliency | Appalachian Council for Innovation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/8/2021 | $68,500 | $34,500 | ACI Business Continuity and Resiliency offers Region One a comprehensive suite of information and resources designed to enhance understanding of Business Continuity and Resilience. This program emphasizes the critical role these concepts play in ensuring business survival and stability during times of crisis. By providing practical tools, expert insights, and best practices, ACI equips organizations with the necessary strategies to effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from disruptions, thereby safeguarding their operations and minimizing potential losses. |
| 1 | SWVA Startup Program | UVA-Wise | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 6/15/2021 | $290,850 | $145,425 | The SWVA Startup Program is dedicated to transforming 1% of the population in Southwest Virginia into successful entrepreneurs by the year 2027. This initiative will provide aspiring business owners with access to a comprehensive ecosystem that includes resources such as mentorship, funding opportunities, and training programs. Additionally, the program will focus on supporting businesses that have the potential for growth and scalability, ensuring that these entrepreneurs can thrive and contribute to the local economy. By fostering innovation and providing the necessary tools for success, the SWVA Startup Program aims to create a vibrant entrepreneurial community in the region.es |

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| 1 | Project Veer | InvestSWVA | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 10/15/2021 | $49,750 | $24,875 | Project Veer conducted a comprehensive market analysis to evaluate the potential opportunities available for manufacturers in Region One to actively participate in both the onshore and offshore wind supply chain. This analysis aimed to identify key trends, assess competitive advantages, and explore the specific needs of the renewable energy sector. By examining factors such as local manufacturing capabilities, supply chain logistics, and regulatory environments, the study provides valuable insights that can guide manufacturers in positioning themselves effectively within the burgeoning wind energy market. |
| 1 | Mobilizing the Supply Chain with Critical Infrastructure | Appalachian Sustainable Development | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 12/15/2021 | $212,200 | $106,624 | Mobilizing the Supply Chain with Critical Infrastructure in Region One is designed to strengthen the local food supply chain and address specific unmet needs within the community. This initiative focuses on enhancing the Appalachian Harvest Food Hub, which will be outfitted with state-of-the-art equipment and adequate space to efficiently process fresh produce. By investing in this facility, we aim to improve food accessibility, reduce waste, and support local farmers, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and resilient food system in the region. |
| 1 | Pathway Park Infrastructure | Smyth County EDA | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY22 | 12/15/2021 | $600,000 | $300,000 | The Pathway Park Infrastructure Improvements project in the Smyth County Region 1 boosts economic development by extending essential water and sewer lines directly to Pathway Park. In addition to the utility enhancements, the project includes comprehensive site preparation for a proposed speculative building, which will serve as a versatile space for potential businesses. Furthermore, the creation of a Redevelopment and Improvement Financing Authority (RIFA) between Smyth County and Bland County, as well as possibly involving other nearby localities, will facilitate the strategic marketing of the property. This initiative is designed to attract manufacturing and distribution centers, ultimately fostering regional growth and job creation. Building and forming RIFA between Smyth and Bland Counties (and possibly other localities) will allow the RIFA to market the property for manufacturing and distribution centers competitively. |
| 1 | Make It Here | Mount Rogers Regional Partnership | Workforce Development | FY22 | 4/19/2022 | $90,000 | $45,000 | Make It Here connects manufacturers with students who are participating in relevant education and training programs that will ultimately lead to employment in the manufacturing sector. The MRRP will provide staffing and resources to launch a pilot program aimed at retaining and attracting regional talent. GO Virginia funds will be utilized for staffing and planning capacity. The Talent Solution Team will be responsible for developing a long-term plan to address talent retention and targeted training needs. This project is designed to inform a future implementation initiative that will execute the initiatives identified in the plan. |
| 1 | GO TEC Region 1 | Carroll County Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY22 | 4/21/2022 | $308,924 | $154,462 | GO TEC Region One is excited to introduce the innovative GO TEC Career Connections labs at three key locations: Carroll County Middle School, Grayson County Middle School, and a middle school in Wythe County Public Schools. These labs are designed to provide students with hands-on learning experiences that connect classroom knowledge to real-world career opportunities. Serving as pilot sites, they will help refine the program and pave the way for broader implementation across Region One. This initiative will be carried out in close collaboration with GO TEC in Region Three, ensuring that students receive the most relevant and engaging career education. The partnership aims to prepare students for successful futures by enhancing their skills and knowledge in various career pathways. |
| 1 | Mountain Empire Community College Project WELD | Mountain Empire Community College (MECC) | Workforce Development | FY20 | 4/21/2022 | $101,025 | $50,730 | Mountain Empire Community College's Project WELD is developing a comprehensive welding certification program through a strategic collaboration involving MECC, the Virginia Department of Corrections at the Wise Correctional Unit, and regional manufacturing employers. This program aims to address the critical workforce shortage of entry-level welders in the area. By leveraging the educational expertise of MECC alongside the rehabilitative capabilities of the Department of Corrections, the initiative provides inmates with valuable skills and training needed for a successful career in welding. The program will include hands-on training, industry-recognized certifications, and job placement assistance, ensuring participants are well-prepared to meet the demands of local manufacturing employers upon their release. |
| 1 | United Way of Southwest Virginia - Employee Sponsored Healthcare Benefit, 2022 | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/14/2022 | $269,406 | $134,703 | The United Way of Southwest Virginia is actively working to support local manufacturers in addressing their workforce shortages. To increase the labor force participation rate in the region, they are initiating a comprehensive pilot program designed to bolster the childcare industry. This program aims to expand the availability and capacity of childcare services, making it easier for parents to return to work. Additionally, it will tackle the financial barriers associated with childcare costs by creating an employer-sponsored benefit, allowing businesses to provide essential support for their employees. This initiative not only helps manufacturers fill open positions but also contributes to the overall economic growth and stability of the community. |
| 1 | SMR Site Feasibility | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY22 | 10/13/2022 | $100,000 | $50,000 | SMR Site Feasibility issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to expedite the selection of independent subject matter experts (SMEs) to examine the feasibility of developing multiple Small Modular Reactor (SMR) site locations within the Lonesome Pine Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (LPRIFA) geographic footprint. The LENOWISCO PDC seeks to recruit the siting and development of SMRs within the LPRIFA geographic footprint. SMRs have capital-intensive investments from developer(s) with projected long-term life cycles of over 40 years. SMRs are new, cutting-edge licensed technologies that are small nuclear power plants of up to 300 MW. These SMR plants can generate electricity on a 24/7 basis and are reliable, zero-carbon generators. |
| 1 | SMR Supply Chain Analysis | LENOWISCO Planning District Commission | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 1/24/2023 | $50,000 | $25,000 | SMR Supply Chain Analysis prepares the SWVA economy for future investments in a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) energy-focused ecosystem. The LENOWISCO Planning District Commission, in partnership with Lonesome Pine RIFA, will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) designed to procure the services of a Subject Matter Expert (SME) who will play a crucial role in preparing a Regional SMR Manufacturing Supply Chain Report. This report will be utilized to identify existing businesses for retooling and recruit new companies, providing the baseline for manufacturing jobs needed to support the SMR supply chain. |
| 1 | United Way of Southwest Virginia GO TEC Expansion | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $600,055 | $366,845 | GO Tec Expansion increases the pool of qualified candidates in the Advanced Manufacturing, Agriculture/Food and Beverage Manufacturing, and Information and Emerging Technologies clusters. The project will add six new career connection labs, one in each participating locality. These labs will be constructed in nine individual career pathway modules all utilizing the GO TEC career connection labs framework: 1) Agriculture – Biotechnology Agriculture and Food Production, 2) Automation & Robotics, 3) Electrical Engineering, 4) Information Technology, Coding, and Cybersecurity, 5) Metrology, 6) Precision Machining, and 8) Mechanical Engineering. |
| 1 | Virtual Reality for Training and Career Exploration | Mount Rogers Regional Partnership | Workforce Development | FY23 | 7/21/2023 | $50,000 | $25,000 | Virtual Reality for Training and Career Exploration addresses the education gap in high school CTE educational programs. This project is a planning process to conduct a needs assessment, complete a feasibility study, and provide an action plan for implementing virtual reality curriculum in high school career and technical education programs in partnership with GO TEC. The needs assessment will analyze the necessity of engaging students at the beginning of their high school careers, where CTE opportunities are limited. The feasibility study will evaluate if virtual reality is the appropriate learning tool for high school students and if the program is sustainable. The action plan will provide implementation steps to continue the career pathways for students from middle school to high school and beyond to credentialing, higher education institutions, and careers. |
| 1 | ACI Talent Pathways Initiative | Appalachian Council for Innovation | Workforce Development | FY23 | 12/12/2023 | $250,000 | $125,000 | The ACI Talent Pathways Initiative in Region One employs a comprehensive model to enhance workforce development. As part of this initiative, ACI will engage GENEDGE Alliance under a formal contract. GENEDGE will collaborate closely with key organizations, including the Southwest Virginia Alliance for Manufacturing and the Appalachian Council of Business Leaders, to form a dedicated core team responsible for directing the planning phase of the initiative. This core team will play a vital role in gathering insights and perspectives from local stakeholders by organizing a minimum of ten roundtable discussions throughout the Region One. |
| 1 | ASD Agriculture Campus | Appalachain Sustainable Development | Startup Ecosystem | FY24 | 1/16/2024 | $25,000 | $25,000 | ASD Agriculture Campus has taken a proactive step by hiring contract consultants to develop a comprehensive business and marketing plan, conduct a thorough economic impact analysis, and provide foundational architectural and engineering planning. These initiatives are designed to significantly enhance the organization's capacity to deliver effective workforce training programs, offer valuable agricultural expertise, and furnish essential resources to small farmers. By doing so, the campus aims to empower these farmers to expand their market access and improve their competitiveness. Moreover, the detailed plans will also support businesses that are seeking access to capital, ultimately facilitating their growth and expansion efforts. This strategic approach not only bolsters the local agricultural economy but also promotes sustainable practices and community development. |

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| 1 | MRRP Site Selection Identification and Evaluation, 2024 | Mount Rogers Regional Partnership | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY24 | 1/16/2024 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The MRRP Site Selection Identification and Evaluation project in 2024 collaborated with a consulting team to gather site data, perform GIS analysis, and conduct fieldwork. The goal was to identify 20 to 30 sites, each ranging from 50 to 100 acres, that may be suitable for future development. After these sites are identified, further studies will be conducted to determine the 10 most suitable locations for future growth. Once the top 10 sites are selected, they will be presented to local authorities for prioritization. MRRP will support these localities in applying for funding opportunities for future site development and strategic planning, which may include the establishment of Regional Industrial Facilities Authorities. |
| 1 | United Way of Southwest Virginia GO TEC Expansion 2 | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $491,197 | $496,871 | The GO TEC Second Expansion will introduce five new career connection labs, with one located in each participating locality. These labs will be designed around eight career pathway modules, following the GO TEC career connection labs framework. The modules include: 1) Agriculture – Biotechnology, Agriculture, and Food Production; 2) Automation & Robotics; 3) Electrical Engineering; 4) Information Technology, Coding, and Cybersecurity; 5) Metrology; 6) Precision Machining; 7) Precision Agriculture; and 8) Mechanical Engineering. |
| 1 | WiseLink | Wise County | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY24 | 3/27/2024 | $99,482 | $55,639 | WiseLink has hired contract consultants in Wise County to create a preliminary report on transmission planning strategies. This report will help determine the necessary resources to significantly strengthen the electric power grid in the region. The planning effort will support an upcoming application to the U.S. Department of Energy, aimed at connecting the region with large power providers capable of increasing gigawatt availability for local land developers. As a result, the project will significantly enhance capacity, making land in the area more attractive to companies with high electrical demands, such as data centers. The final deliverable will be an executive summary of the report, as it is necessary to protect proprietary information covered by Non-Disclosure Agreements. |
| 1 | Wildwood Commerce Park Site 1 Due Diligence | Blue Ridge Crossroads | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 8/28/2024 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Blue Ridge Crossroads Economic Development Authority seeks to complete initial due diligence reports and assessments for Wildwood Commerce Park Site 1, which is the lone available site on the Wildwood property that must be developed. Option agreements on the other sites on the Wildwood property make Site 1 the only developable tract of land available. The site, which is 105 total acres with 50 developable acres, is anticipated to be eligible for future VBRSP funding after initial due diligence assessments have |
| 1 | Progress Park Lot 10 | Wythe County IDA | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 9/10/2024 | $425,876 | $213,000 | The Joint Industrial Development Authority (IDA) of Wythe County is focused on enhancing the site readiness of Lot 10 located in Progress Park, an established industrial development area. This initiative aims to capitalize on previous investments made in creating functional industrial sites within the park. By developing Lot 10, the IDA will facilitate the efficient use of existing infrastructure, which includes essential services such as water, sewer, gas, electric, telecommunications, and transportation networks. This strategic approach is expected to significantly reduce the time required for businesses to establish operations, thereby promoting economic growth and attracting new industries to the area. |
| 1 | Middle School Energy Education Academy | Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center | Workforce Development | FY25 | 10/15/2024 | $52,500 | $26,250 | Middle School Energy Education increases the pool of qualified workers in the Energy and Minerals industry sector in GO Virginia Region 1. The Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, in partnership with Virginia Tech's Southwest Center, will conduct research activities such as exploring career pathways, identifying benchmark data, and determining best practices for curriculum to develop a middle school program focused on career exploration for the energy sector. These activities will lead to a pilot summer career exploration academy. |
| 1 | VA Small Business Disaster Response Portal | PBS Appalachia | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 10/29/2024 | $97,500 | $48,750 | The Virginia Small Business Disaster Response is launching an innovative web-based portal to consolidate disaster recovery resources for businesses in Southwest Virginia. This platform is specifically designed to assist businesses in navigating the recovery process following the impacts of Tropical Storm Helene. PBS Appalachia will take the lead in developing and marketing this comprehensive resource portal. By connecting local businesses with various essential resources and services—including financial assistance, technical support, and community programs—the portal aims to facilitate a quicker and more efficient recovery process for those affected by the natural disaster. |
| 1 | Electrical Technology Modernization Initiative | Virginia Highlands Community College | Workforce Development | FY25 | 3/11/2025 | $312,326 | $156,163 | Virginia Highlands Community College, in collaboration with local industry partners and community stakeholders, is proposing a strategic initiative to purchase state-of-the-art equipment to modernize the Associate of Electrical Technology program. Two primary objectives drive this initiative. The first objective is acquiring updated equipment; the program will provide students with hands-on experience using technology that mirrors local employers' current tools and practices. This alignment ensures that graduates are well-prepared to meet the demands of the job market, enhancing their employability and skill set. The second objective, the integration of modern equipment, is expected to improve the quality of education and increase the program's capacity to accept more students annually. By streamlining operations and creating a more engaging learning environment, the program aims to accommodate a larger cohort of aspiring electrical technicians, thereby addressing the growing demand for skilled professionals in the region. |
| 2 | Capital Ecosystem Development Plan | Roanoke-Blacksburg Innovation Network (RBIN) dba Valleys Innovation Council (VIC) | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $77,207 | $128,832 | Capital Ecosystem Development Plan conducted a two-year strategic planning process to assess weaknesses in the current capital landscape that inhibit entrepreneurship and the commercialization of regional research. VIC will use this information to establish a capital pathways plan to cultivate sources of startup capital for high-growth companies, complete with proposals for new and expanding programming and capital resources for the region. |
| 2 | Region 2 Talent Collaborative | Central Virginia Workforce Development Board (Previously Region 2000) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $300,000 | $630,072 | The Region 2 Talent Collaborative aims to bridge the skills and interest gaps in middle- to high-skill occupations within manufacturing, healthcare, and information technology. Region 2000 will launch a campaign to raise awareness and generate interest in these industries. Additionally, they will establish a training program for current workers to help them acquire the skills necessary for higher-skilled job openings. |
| 2 | Stopping the Brain Drain Study | Roanoke Regional Partnership | Workforce Development | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $65,300 | $65,800 | The Stopping the Brain Drain Study has developed a talent attraction and retention plan aimed at reducing the outmigration of recent graduates from the region's 25 colleges and universities. GO Virginia funds will be utilized to identify the challenges faced by the region through surveys, focus groups, and interviews. This information will help create an action plan for recruiting and retaining talent. |
| 2 | Wood Haven Water & Sewer | Western Virginia Regional Industrial Facility Authority (WVRIFA) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $200,000 | $760,000 | The Wood Haven Water & Sewer project aims to significantly enhance the site readiness and marketability of a prime industrial area situated at the intersection of Routes 81 and 581 in our region. This initiative will facilitate the development of two large pads: a 52-acre pad designed for substantial industrial operations and a 20-acre pad for smaller enterprises or ancillary services. To prepare this site for future development, GO Virginia funding will be allocated towards the necessary extension and connection of water and sewer utilities. This investment not only ensures that essential infrastructure is in place but also creates a more attractive environment for potential businesses and investors, ultimately fostering economic growth and job creation in the area.. |
| 2 | CERE Industry Labs: Phase I | Liberty University | Workforce Development | FY18 | 4/10/2018 | $300,000 | $1,586,100 | The Center for Energy Research and Education (CERE) Industry Labs is designing, constructing, and equipping facilities at the former Center for Advanced Engineering & Research (CAER) location in Bedford County. These labs will provide regional companies and institutions of higher education with the necessary resources to promote research and development. Additionally, they aim to attract and retain a skilled scientific and engineering workforce. |
| 2 | RAMP | Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 4/10/2018 | $245,000 | $245,000 | The RAMP (Regional Acceleration and Mentorship Program) Expansion significantly enhances the program's impact in downtown Roanoke. This initiative offers technology-focused startups invaluable resources, including hands-on classroom education, personalized mentorship, and expert guidance in identifying and securing funding opportunities. With the support of GO Virginia funds, the program aims to broaden its offerings to accommodate a second cohort, further fostering innovation and entrepreneurship within the community. |
| 2 | Enhancing the Region through New Technology for Unmanned Systems | Dabney S. Lancaster Community College | Workforce Development | FY18 | 4/10/2018 | $76,000 | $257,000 | The Enhancing the Region through New Technology for Unmanned Systems initiative introduces a new training program focused on drone technology. This program aims to take advantage of the Alleghany Highlands Drone Zone Initiative and the development of an unmanned systems facility in the area. In Region 2, this program will create a career pathway that starts with project-based learning opportunities for high school students and extends to the attainment of either two- or four-year degrees through partnerships with higher education institutions. |
| 2 | CERE Industry Labs: AMPL Phase II | Liberty University | Workforce Development | FY19 | 12/11/2018 | $274,980 | $630,000 | CERE Industry Labs is developing the Additive Manufacturing Partnership Lab (AMPL) at the newly established CERE facility in Bedford County. Liberty will utilize AMPL to train students and manufacturing employees in the region on the newest technology-based processes, such as 3D printing and robotics, which are driving the manufacturing industry's growth. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 2 | Ignite Internship Expansion | United Way of Southwest Virginia | Workforce Development | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $99,406 | $102,886 | Ignite Internship Expansion builds on a previously awarded project in Region 1 to include the creation of a web-based platform to deliver activities that will encourage post-secondary education and streamline workforce credentialing, provide work-based learning opportunities, and match new graduates with local employers. UWSWVA will expand these efforts into Giles and Pulaski Counties and the City of Radford. |
| 2 | Increasing the Birth Rate of New High Growth Companies (Phase 1) | The Advancement Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $150,000 | $315,000 | Innovation Mill (IM) is a pilot program in Region 2 that was supported by a GOVA grant awarded in 2019. The program focuses on six key strategies: recruiting new and early-stage companies, conducting comprehensive evaluations, assigning a team of industry experts to assist in refining proof of concept and business modeling through customer discovery, engaging with higher education institutions, and establishing connections to advanced support and funding opportunities. |
| 2 | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance Due Diligence Study | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $81,300 | $81,301 | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance Due Diligence advances a portfolio of six existing commercial/industrial sites along the site readiness scale and determine next steps for moving all sites to at least Tier 3 according to the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP), with seven localities participating. GO Virginia funds will be used for consultant services to complete the required due diligence phase necessary to advance these sites. |
| 2 | Regional Career and Technical Education Study | Western Virginia Workforce Development Board | Workforce Development | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $45,000 | $45,535 | The Regional Career and Technical Education Study aims to enhance and advance the existing Career and Technical Education (CTE) initiatives and programs within Region One. As the demand for skilled professionals continues to rise, this project is designed to undertake a comprehensive and systematic evaluation of the current educational landscape. Following this analysis, the study will provide targeted recommendations aimed at improving CTE offerings in the region. These recommendations will include strategies for curriculum updates that align with industry standards, suggestions for new partnerships with local businesses to facilitate hands-on training opportunities, and initiatives designed to reach and support underrepresented populations within the workforce. Ultimately, the goal is to ensure that CTE programs not only meet current demand but also anticipate future labor market trends, thereby empowering students and bolstering the regional economy. |
| 2 | Blockchain Ecosystem Catalyst | Virginia Tech | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/10/2019 | $246,800 | $250,000 | Virginia Tech plans to develop and implement the Blockchain Ecosystem Catalyst (BEC) program, focusing on four key areas: 1) academic programming, 2) professional development, 3) building industry relationships, and 4) launching an online resource portal for blockchain startups and professionals. The BEC program in Region 2 supports talent development by creating and enhancing new curricula for regional higher education institutions and mid-career professionals, thereby strengthening existing IT pipelines related to blockchain and distributed ledger systems. Additionally, the program promotes entrepreneurship and the commercialization of blockchain-related technologies. |
| 2 | Developing a Destination for Talent | Virginia Tech | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/10/2019 | $300,000 | $473,000 | Virginia Tech is establishing regional hubs to connect local employers, students, faculty, and economic development professionals. This program aims to achieve two key objectives: first, it will create a talent pipeline from Virginia Tech to employers in the region's identified priority sectors through an internship program; second, it will facilitate collaboration between Virginia Tech faculty and employers, as well as interns, on specific technology transfer projects. |
| 2 | CVTC Redevelopment Plan | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 12/9/2019 | $100,000 | $250,000 | The CVTC Redevelopment Plan establishes a comprehensive master plan for the former 350-acre Central Virginia Training Center (CVTC) site in Amherst County. This plan involves data collection and analysis, public engagement, workshops, infrastructure assessment, and market evaluation. The findings will be submitted to the Amherst Board of Supervisors for consideration in the County's comprehensive plan and for the approval of an overlay zoning district. |
| 2 | Region 2 Entrepreneurship Initiative | Valleys Innovation Council | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/9/2019 | $299,995 | $150,004 | The Region 2 Entrepreneurship Initiative has taken significant steps to enhance the entrepreneurial landscape by coordinating and collaborating closely with a diverse range of stakeholders throughout Region 2. This collective effort has culminated in the development of the Region 2 Innovation and Entrepreneurial Investment Plan, a strategic framework aimed at fostering innovation and supporting local entrepreneurs. As part of this initiative, the Virginia Innovation Council (VIC) plays a pivotal role by conducting a comprehensive mapping of the regional ecosystem's assets. This in-depth assessment will identify key resources, including existing businesses, educational institutions, and community organizations that can be leveraged to spur entrepreneurship. The VIC will also devise targeted strategies to attract additional entrepreneurial resources, such as funding opportunities, mentorship programs, and networking events, ensuring that burgeoning entrepreneurs have access to the support they need to succeed. |
| 2 | Classrooms to Careers | Montgomery County Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY20 | 4/17/2020 | $180,000 | $231,700 | The Classrooms to Careers program was proposed in 2019 to link expanded curriculum opportunities in Information Technology within MCPS to work-based learning experiences with local employers. The grant funding aimed to engage high school students in the New River Valley, where it has been challenging for these students to compete with college students for internships and part-time entry-level jobs. In 2019, IT careers and talent retention were priorities for GO Virginia. Unfortunately, the Classrooms to Careers grant did not achieve its intended goals, primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting shift to remote work in the IT industry nationwide. |
| 2 | Increasing the Birth Rate of New High Growth Companies (Phase 2) | The Advancement Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 4/17/2020 | $180,000 | $180,000 | The Techonomy report highlighted the need for the project, pointing out Virginia's weak culture of innovation and a lack of support for entrepreneurial ecosystems. One significant concern is the insufficient allocation of focused resources to foster, recognize, form, and scale high-growth startups and industry clusters, which are crucial for attracting and retaining talent. To address this, The Advancement Foundation (TAF) launched the "Increasing the Birth Rates of New High-Growth Companies initiative." This initiative focuses on identifying, evaluating, and supporting the comprehensive development of potential high-growth companies by establishing a backbone of services that bolster regional entrepreneurship efforts and connect the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem. |
| 2 | Rapid High-Throughput COVID-19 Testing | Virginia Tech Office of Vice President for Health Sciences and Technology | Workforce Development | FY20 | 4/21/2020 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Rapid High-Throughput COVID-19 Testing supports an initial 90-day start-up phase for 2 testing sites in Blacksburg and Roanoke to help many people receive timely COVID-19 test results. A task force from Virginia Tech has been assembled to work on various aspects of the project. To date, the team has developed and finalized validation for COVID-19 testing and stood up two Fralin laboratory facilities. GO Virginia funds will be used to support the salaries of the newly hired Medical Laboratory Specialists (MLS), Medical Laboratory Technicians (MLT), and student interns at both sites to help scale-up the operation and purchase testing supplies needed for sample analysis. |
| 2 | Pivot and RAMP Up | Blacksburg Roanoke Technology Council | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 5/6/2020 | $97,200 | $49,000 | Pivot and RAMP Up play a crucial role in helping Region Two sustain the momentum of rapidly growing businesses that generate high-wage jobs. Their goal is to extend the benefits of these programs to a wider array of companies across the region. To achieve this, they offer comprehensive educational resources, personalized mentoring, and tailored business assistance. These services are designed not only to support new and emerging enterprises but also to ensure ongoing development and success for graduates of the accelerator program. By focusing on continuous engagement and support, Pivot and RAMP Up aim to create a thriving ecosystem that fosters job creation and economic vitality throughout Region Two. |
| 2 | New River Valley Business Continuity Team (phase 1) | New River Valley Regional Commission | Workforce Development | FY20 | 5/22/2020 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The New River Valley Business Continuity Team provides comprehensive 24/7 technical support for local businesses seeking certification in best practices for safe reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic. This initiative aims to equip employers with the necessary resources and guidance to navigate health and safety protocols effectively. Through expert assistance, businesses can ensure they are well-prepared to protect their employees and customers while adhering to the latest public health guidelines. This certification not only demonstrates a commitment to safety but also helps rebuild community trust as businesses begin to reopen their doors. |
| 2 | Roanoke Regional Recovery | Roanoke Regional Partnership | Workforce Development | FY20 | 5/22/2020 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Roanoke Regional Recovery Project is a proactive initiative designed to swiftly engage local companies across key sectors that have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This project aims to provide both immediate support and long-term recovery strategies tailored to the unique challenges faced by these businesses. By fostering collaboration and innovation, the project not only addresses the current economic hardships but also works to enhance the resilience of the regional economy, equipping businesses with the tools and resources necessary to withstand future crises. Through targeted outreach and comprehensive support services, the Roanoke Regional Recovery Project seeks to create a stronger, more sustainable economic landscape for the community. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 2 | Workforce Training for Coronavirus Testing in Southwest Virginia | Virginia Tech Office of Vice President for Health Sciences and Technology | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/23/2020 | $500,000 | $250,000 | The Workforce Training program for COVID-19 testing in Southwest Virginia aims to enhance the testing capacity at the newly established Fralin laboratories located in Blacksburg and Roanoke. Over the course of the next year, this initiative will not only increase the volume of COVID-19 testing conducted but will also focus on developing a robust internship pipeline that prepares participants for full-time positions in the healthcare sector. By providing hands-on training and professional development opportunities, the program seeks to equip individuals with the necessary skills and experience to support the ongoing public health response and bolster the local workforce. |
| 2 | PHRE Mobile App | Virginia Tech, Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 7/30/2020 | $63,500 | $42,610 | The Public Health Readiness (PHRE) mobile application is designed to assist smaller organizations in quickly assessing and improving their readiness to operate with minimal risk to workers, customers, and surrounding communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, small businesses and civic organizations in Region 2 faced challenges due to a lack of personnel, resources, and expertise needed to track and implement evolving state and federal public health guidelines as they attempted to resume operations. The development of this mobile app provides these organizations with a valuable tool to evaluate and enhance their readiness to operate safely. |
| 2 | Amherst LYH Site Readiness | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $366,572 | $183,286 | The Amherst LYH Site Readiness Project is a strategic initiative designed to enhance two key locations: one site is situated in Amherst County, while the other is located in the Town of Amherst. The primary goal of this project is to elevate both sites along the Virginia Business Readiness Scale, which measures the preparedness of locations for business development and investment opportunities. As a result of these initiatives, 151 acres of land will be advanced to Tier IV status, indicating a high level of readiness for businesses to establish operations. Meanwhile, 76 acres will be upgraded to Tier V status, reflecting an exceptional level of preparedness and attractiveness for potential investors. This project is expected to drive economic growth and enhance the overall business climate in both the County and the Town. |
| 2 | Experiential Learning in Tech Employment (ELITE) Internship Program | Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $290,000 | $145,000 | The Experiment Learning in Tech Employment (ELITE) program provides valuable internship opportunities for students who are pursuing a degree in software development at a regional four-year university. This initiative aims to bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical experience by connecting students with small technology companies. These companies often lack the in-house expertise or resources necessary to effectively manage their own internship programs. By collaborating with ELITE, these businesses gain access to motivated students eager to contribute while receiving support in creating meaningful and structured internship experiences. This partnership not only helps students develop essential skills in a real-world setting but also enables small companies to harness fresh talent and innovative ideas. |
| 2 | New River Valley Business Continuity Team (Phase 2) | New River Valley Regional Commission | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $250,000 | $125,000 | This initiative aims to provide 24/7 technical assistance to employers impacted by COVID-19 through the Business Continuity Team (BCT). The support will cover public relations and messaging, facility cleaning, certification of best practices, and coordination of on-site testing. This request follows the recent award of $100,000 from the Go Virginia Economic Resilience and Recovery (ERR) Fast-Access funds to the New River Valley Regional Commission (NRVRC) for a six-month startup phase. The program manager will promote BCT services to existing employers, including the Chamber of Commerce, Onward NRV, and other regional partners. The BCT Public Health Director will coordinate efforts with affected businesses and the New River Health District. |
| 2 | Central Virginia Community College CTE Academy | Central Virginia Community College | Workforce Development | FY20 | 12/7/2020 | $266,000 | $134,000 | CVCC has identified 26 existing programs that will enhance and align under the Academy framework and will develop four additional credential and/or certificate programs. The CTE Academy programming includes a heavy concentration of the region's targeted industry sectors, such as manufacturing, healthcare, information technology, and the automated segment of the food and beverage sector. The skills-based training will enable students to pursue well-defined career pathways to obtain higher-paying jobs achievable with stackable credentials and certifications. Each path includes a dual enrollment option based on existing programs offered to each of the five regional public high school divisions, which includes 10 total high schools. |
| 2 | Region 2 Flexible Laboratory Space Assessment | Virginia Tech Foundation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 2/23/2021 | $99,360 | $55,000 | Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Inc (VTCRC) will assess the demand and projected growth of lab space, creating a working plan to serve the entire region, and create an initial conceptual design to drive investor and market interest. This effort will design, develop, and operate lab space under VTF's leadership through the VTCRC infrastructure to support commercial entities as well as young startups in both Roanoke and the New River Valley. VTCRC routinely receives requests for prospects seeking lab space but they currently have a backlog of 9 companies seeking lab space in various forms. This will also help address keeping the locally grown talent within the region. |
| 2 | Helping Local Employers Prepare the Existing and Future Workforce for Industry 4.0 | Virginia Tech Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) Learning Factory | Workforce Development | FY21 | 5/4/2021 | $45,360 | $30,000 | The Helping Local Employers Prepare the Existing and Future Workforce for Industry 4.0 initiative assists local employers in preparing, which is essential in meeting the growing demand for specialized skills in this new industrial era. By focusing on developing training programs tailored to industry competencies such as advanced robotics and data analytics, this effort aims not only to equip the existing workforce with the necessary tools to thrive in a rapidly evolving manufacturing landscape but also to ensure that future talent is well-prepared to contribute effectively. This strategic approach is crucial for enhancing the competitiveness of Region Two's manufacturing sector, positioning it as a leader in innovation and productivity. Additionally, fostering collaboration between educational institutions and industry leaders will create a robust pipeline of skilled workers, ultimately driving economic growth and sustainability in the region. |
| 2 | Lynchburg Beacon of Hope | Lynchburg Beacon of Hope | Workforce Development | FY22 | 5/4/2021 | $97,740 | $131,250 | Lynchburg Beacon of Hope scales the Future Centers model to Amherst County High School and at least another high school located in Region 2000 and the Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) capture area, and develops a playbook. The Future Centers model looks to increase the number of experiential opportunities offered to high school students and increase the number of students who participate in those opportunities by increasing the percentage of students pursuing on-the-job training, certificates and degrees in those in-demand fields. |
| 2 | Building a Regional Health Sciences Talent Pipeline | Freedom First Foundation | Workforce Development | FY21 | 5/4/2021 | $100,000 | $106,355 | Building a Regional Health Sciences Talent Pipeline builds the life and health sciences talent pipeline by establishing a new initiative to better: 1) meet the acute and growing need of regional employers for qualified workers, including technicians and others; 2) support the region's emerging Health and Life Sciences (H&LS) ecosystem and; 3) make the region stronger as a magnet for attracting established companies in the H&LS sector seeking to expand and relocate. |
| 2 | Project Eagle+ | Virginia Tech Foundation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 12/15/2021 | $599,437 | $503,687 | Project Eagle aims to deliver cutting-edge programming within a state-of-the-art lab facility, specifically designed to be flexible and responsive to the unique requirements of smaller emerging startups as well as established biotech companies in the region. This dedicated space not only fosters innovation but also provides essential resources and support tailored to enhance research and development efforts in the biotech sector. By creating an environment that nurtures collaboration and creativity, Project Eagle empowers these companies to thrive and drive advancements in biotechnology. |
| 2 | Regional Talent Strategy Implementation | Western Virginia Workforce Development Board | Workforce Development | FY22 | 4/21/2022 | $315,911 | $189,354 | Regional Talent Strategy Implementation develops a regional talent strategy in the Roanoke Valley and Alleghany Highlands in partnership with the Roanoke Regional Partnership, focused on career awareness and career pathways, talent development, talent attraction and retention, and collaboration and leadership. |
| 2 | Workforce and Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace | Vector Space | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 6/14/2022 | $324,000 | $162,100 | Workforce and Entrepreneurship Initiatives in a Regional Makerspace facilitate the implementation of expanded programming and equipment at the Vector Space centered around workforce development and entrepreneurship for underserved populations. The Workforce and Entrepreneurship Initiatives within a regional makerspace aim to enhance programming and equipment availability at Vector Space. These initiatives are specifically designed to support workforce development and foster entrepreneurship among underserved populations. By providing access to advanced tools, mentorship, and training programs, we seek to empower individuals with the skills they need to thrive in today's job market and launch their own businesses. This effort not only addresses the skills gap but also promotes economic growth and innovation within the community. |
| 2 | CS/root | Virginia Tech Department of Computer Science | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 9/13/2022 | $175,000 | $175,000 | CS/root creates a platform for computer science (CS) focused entrepreneurship in the New River and Roanoke Valleys focusing on stimulating startups in the pre-launch phase. The initiative will focus on the pre-launch phase when technical founders need the expertise of technical advisors to move their concept, IP, or ideas from the drawing board to working demonstrations for eventual use in a go-to-market strategy. |
| 2 | Airport Commerce Park | City of Lynchburg | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY22 | 12/13/2022 | $190,000 | $109,074 | Airport Commerce Park advances an industrial site in an existing airport park from Tier 2 to Tier 3 along the Virginia Business Ready Site Program (VBRSP) scale. The City of Lynchburg and Campbell County are collaborating to advance 82 acres for future development. This park, which is located on and adjacent to the Lynchburg Regional Airport Commission footprint, is 260 acres in size with 82 developable acres. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 2 | BTEC - Expanding Welding Training Capacity & Jobs in the Roanoke Valley | Botetourt County Economic Development Authority | Workforce Development | FY23 | 12/13/2022 | $166,667 | $83,333 | BTEC - Expanding Welding Training expands the pool of qualified welders to meet the unmet needs of manufacturers in the region through the expansion of the Botetourt Technical Education Center (BTEC) welding program. In partnership with BTEC, Craig County Public Schools, Botetourt County Public Schools, and Botetourt Education Foundation, Botetourt County EDA is requesting 10 new welding booths to expand the current welding program at BTEC and train an additional 45 new welders. The additional capacity will allow the program to increase high school and adult enrollment and double the hands-on training time capacity at the welding booths. |
| 2 | Industry 4.0 for the Automated-Connected-Eletrified (ACE) Workforce | Virginia Tech Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) Learning Factory | Cluster Scale-Up | FY23 | 12/13/2022 | $500,000 | $251,300 | Industry 4.0 provides Region Two participants and serves businesses to scale up the transportation and autonomous vehicles sector through a coalition of industry and educational partners. Through the formation of an Automated-Connected-Electrified (ACE) Coalition of over 150+ public, private, and non-profit organizations, the initiative seeks to advance the region's transportation and autonomous vehicles sector with the following: 1) providing direct technical assistance and advising to sector companies, 2) creating a Network Navigator position, and 3) enhancing and implementing the Industry 4.0 Curriculum through a prior Virginia Tech-led GO Virginia Enhanced Capacity Building (ECB) grant. |
| 2 | Metal Workforce Training Center | Town of Bedford | Workforce Development | FY22 | 1/27/2023 | $99,900 | $213,772 | Metal Workforce Training Center purchased a 60,000 square foot former foundry, and the Town of Bedford Economic Development Authority seeks to develop a master plan to determine programming and an operational model for the proposed "Regional Metal Workforce Retention Center". The facility would be ideally suited for metal fabrication, which includes welding, forging, machining, stamping, folding, extruding, etc. This proposal would help develop a public/private business model that encourages corporate industry participation and help address the expansion needs of the Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) CTE Program. |
| 2 | Center of Entrepreneurship | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 3/14/2023 | $240,192 | $187,035 | The Center of Entrepreneurship 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. The Center seeks to provide new and serial entrepreneurs with access to capital and resources to help take their products into the marketplace. This initiative will directly assist entrepreneurs by providing dedicated physical space at LRBA and Liberty University for the targeted startups, including shared workspaces, meeting room access, and space to work with mentors and support services. |
| 2 | Lynchburg Career Acceleration Program | Lynchburg Beacon of Hope | Workforce Development | FY23 | 3/14/2023 | $540,000 | $352,200 | Lynchburg Career Acceleration Program serves as a regional catalyst to create and fill a well-trained, well-supported pipeline of career-seekers who will fill the needs of high-demand traded sector industries in and around the Lynchburg region. The proposal will accelerate the training, mentorship, career development, and placement of talented opportunity youth and prime-age workers in the region. |
| 2 | Falling Branch Coporate Park Regional Site Development | Montgomery County | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY23 | 6/13/2023 | $324,000 | $4,585,000 | Falling Branch Corporate Park Regional Site Development advances an industrial site in an existing corporate park from Tier 4 to a Tier 5 along the Virginia Business Ready Site Program (VBRSP) scale. Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg are collaborating to advance this 35-acre site for future development. This effort will build on previous work to develop pad sites within the park. The applicant has indicated that a previous Tier 5 lot in an earlier phase of the park was chosen for a Life Science facility with a $100 million investment, and that advancing this site to a Tier 5 would allow for less uncertainty and a shorter construction timeline. The project will involve grading the site and installing utilities. |
| 2 | Strengthening Entrepreneurs' Impact | Verge Alliance | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $577,800 | $288,900 | Strengthening Entrepreneurs Impact project in Region Two provides jobs to expand businesses, serve businesses, engage entrepreneurs and mentors, and increase the number of fund investments by scaling the Regional Accelerator and Mentoring Program (RAMP) through pre- and post-accelerator activities and updating data in the Region 2 Innovation Ecosystem report. The project will support 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. |
| 2 | Talent Pathways Initiative | Virginia Tech Center for Economic and Community Engagement | Workforce Development | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $250,000 | $125,029 | The Talent Pathways Initiative for Region Two's Life Sciences & Biotechnology and Transportation, Manufacturing, & Autonomy targeted industries. This project will utilize a model by which Virginia Tech CECE will contract with a diverse group of implementation partners to convene industry coalitions, complete quantitative and qualitative situational analysis, complete gap analysis, develop an inventory of in need and existing skills and training opportunities, develop an asset map, and identify strategies and supporting highest-impact pathway projects for the future. |
| 2 | ACA Classical & CTE Academy Welding Program | Central Virginia Planning District Commission | Workforce Development | FY24 | 12/12/2023 | $565,000 | $303,182 | Appomattox County, in partnership with Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) and the Appomattox Christian Academy, developed additional capacity for career and technical education in the region through a new facility for welding training. The facility would focus on meeting demand for welding courses not currently met through the existing training centers of Central Virginia Community College. CVCC plans to offer students the opportunity to receive portable credentials in welding and pipefitting at the facility. |
| 2 | NRV Materials and Machinery Cluster Scale-Up | New River Valley Regional Commission | Workforce Development | FY24 | 10/23/2023 | $98,859 | $102,528 | The New River Valley Commission developed a roadmap that accomplished the following:1) Build and strengthen the capacity of the coalition to grow the cluster through regular discussions and planning; 2)Map out regional assets and resources that could support industry scale up, including resources in Roanoke, Lynchburg, and Danville regions; 3) Identify and prioritize unique projects that could support ecosystem growth and transformation of the cluster. |
| 2 | Manufacturing Workforce Development for the Lynchburg Region | Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance | Workforce Development | FY24 | 1/25/2024 | $40,500 | $37,500 | The Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance convened stakeholder workgroups and contract with a third party to develop a workforce pipeline development strategy to address the workforce needs of manufacturers in Region Two. |
| 2 | Developing IT & Cybersecurity Certification Pipeline to Advance Cluster Growth (ITCCP) | Radford University | Workforce Development | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $202,872 | $116,863 | The Developing IT and Cybersecurity Pipeline increases the number of certifications earned in the information technology field through a partnership between Radford University and the Commonwealth Cybersecurity Initiative – Southwest Virginia. The project team will convene meetings between representatives from IT and cybersecurity programs at Virginia Tech, Radford University, and New River Community College, and businesses in the Region to enhance communication within the cluster. This initiative will establish a Pearson VUE testing lab in the City of Radford and market the need for certifications to college students and regional employers. This initiative also seeks to connect certified students to regional businesses through internships and career fairs in the form of a "Talent Connector Program". |
| 2 | Educating Engineers for the Region 2 Workforce | Randolph College | Workforce Development | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $367,000 | $379,784 | The engineering program focusing on mechatronics and robotics will include dual enrollment opportunities in partnership with Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) as the central hub of dual enrollment offerings for area high schools and will require paid internships for students going through the program, once at Randolph. Partners will continue to serve on the advisory board to ensure the program curriculum remains relevant to the needs of Region 2 employers. Additionally, the program will launch as a FANUC robotics certified program and will provide community college students the ability to complete Phase two of the FANUC certification, which will be the only Region Two engineering program offering this certification. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 2 | Region 2 - Project VITAL | Verge Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $4,987,029 | $2,517,443 | The VERGE Alliance, in partnership with Virginia Tech, Carilion Clinic, Blue Ridge Partnership for Health Sciences, and Virginia Western Community College, will lead Region 2 - VITAL. This project is designed to be a comprehensive three-pillar approach to cultivating new business formation in the biotechnology industry: Pillar One - Asset/Business Development, Pillar Two - Capital Development, and Pillar 3 - Talent Development, Attraction, and Retention. Pillar One activities include startup-related marketing, boot camps, and networking events branded "Venture Bridge" (VERGE), FDA compliance assistance, and assistance for translational usability for innovative medical devices through the Carilion Translational Usability Division (Carilion Clinic), and mentorship ecosystem building and expedited lab-to-market working groups (Virginia Tech). Pillar Two activities include new programming and curriculum focused on teaching startups about capital market research and venture finance, as well as facilitated access to investors and a new Expert Entrepreneur in Residence for the biotechnology program (VERGE) and development of a Biomedical Proof-of-Concept Grant Program (Virginia Tech). Pillar Three activities include development of a summer conference dedicated to attracting teachers from across the Commonwealth to promote inclusion of biotechnology classes in K-12 (Virginia Western Community College), coordinating and launching college-focused programming at Virginia Tech, Radford College, Roanoke College, Hollins College, and Virginia Western Community College (Blue Ridge Partnership for Health Sciences), engaging with Virginia Talent and Opportunity Partnership and ROCS Staffing to facilitate the matching of college students with internships in the biotechnology cluster (VERGE) and expanding the Fralin Commercialization Fellow Program and the Graduate Student Tech Commercialization Fellows Program (Virginia Tech). |
| 2 | GMP Clean | Fralin Biomedical Reserearch Institute | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 9/5/2024 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Fralin Biomedical Research Institute, in partnership with VERGE, Virginia Tech, Montgomery County, and the City of Roanoke will work to address the need for cleanroom space through planning activities geared toward surveying region-wide and state-wide needs and implementing a pilot cleanroom space as the Institute. The pilot cleanroom space in this project will be utilized to test and promote a state-of-the-art modular cleanroom model and will see immediate use from three local startup companies to manufacture biomedicines. The three businesses being served are Tiny Cargo, Qentoros, and Acomhal. |
| 3 | GO-TEC (phase 1) | Danville Community College (DCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $648,000 | $674,437 | GO-Tec Phase One provides the region with the Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers (Go-TEC) program for careers in IT and advanced manufacturing. Go-TEC is a partnership between six higher-education centers and the K-12 school systems in their service areas, beginning with Danville and Pittsylvania schools as the pilot sites. Go-TEC will build  give students  hands-on exposure to in-demand career pathways starting in middle school. Areas of focus are precision machining, welding, information technology and cybersecurity, robotics, automation, and mechatronics, and advanced materials. |
| 3 | SOVA Innovation Hub Planning Grant | Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 10/9/2018 | $80,000 | $80,000 | The SOVA Innovation Hub Planning Grant outlined the concept of a modern multi-use facility with technology outreach programs in the region, to be known as the Southern Virginia Innovation Hub. MBC will establish site plans, as well as an implementation plan with projected outcomes and metrics for benchmarking success, while validating these plans with partners, stakeholders, businesses, educators and students. The region hopes to secure Microsoft's continued investment through the TechSpark program by demonstrating the potential for this facility to become a signature project for the program. |
| 3 | GO-TEC (phase 2) | Danville Community College | Workforce Development | FY18 | 3/12/2019 | $4,896,528 | $4,915,962 | The GO-TEC Phase Two expansion was a comprehensive initiative aimed at enhancing workforce development through an array of targeted programs and resources. This expansion involved the training of personnel and instructors to ensure high-quality education delivery. Additionally, it facilitated extensive outreach efforts to engage more participants in the program. A significant component of this initiative was the establishment of four middle-school career connection labs, which serve as hands-on learning environments where students can explore various career paths early on. These labs focus on critical fields such as precision machining, welding, information technology and cybersecurity, robotics, mechatronics, automation, and advanced materials. |
| 3 | Entrepreneurship Innovation & Investment Strategy | Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 9/10/2019 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities Corporation (MBC) and Longwood Small Business Development Center (SBDC) collaborated to develop a comprehensive strategy and framework for a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem for the region. These two partners will identify and map traded-sector businesses and entrepreneurship resources available within the region to support entrepreneurial ecosystem activities. |
| 3 | IALR Common Platform | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Workforce Development | FY19 | 4/15/2020 | $90,140 | $121,960 | IALR Common Platform with the Institute of Advanced Learning and Research in Region Three increases students' participation in work-based learning experiences and maximize participation from employers in listing work-based learning experiences such as job shadowing, internships, and apprenticeships and support development of career pathways in strategic sectors |
| 3 | Operation Last-Mile: Critical Drone Delivery Testing | Virginia Growth Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 4/15/2020 | $75,000 | $75,218 | The Virginia Growth Alliance helped with a short-term pilot project to test the efficacy of unmanned system delivery in a small urban environment in order to: 1) develop the ability for unmanned system delivery of items (medical equipment/supplies) related to COVID-19 pandemic to locations that could be cut off due to quarantine, and 2) to demonstrate that unmanned systems companies can utilize the particular site on a more routine basis to help attract companies to the site. |
| 3 | Bridge to Recovery | Southern Virginia Regional Alliance and Virginia Growth Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/23/2020 | $925,000 | $478,250 | Bridge to Recovery provided immediate and impactful support to businesses through the multiple recovery periods of the COVID-19 pandemic, bridge supply chain needs of companies with service providers and ultimately, jumpstart the region's economic rebound. |
| 3 | Broadband Middle Mile Expansion for Economic Growth | Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 7/15/2020 | $100,000 | $904,000 | The Broadband Middle Mile Project has significantly advanced collaborative and cross-regional economic development by establishing a robust network of 206 miles of broadband infrastructure. This phase of the project focuses on the critical engineering and design of the fiber optic network, which will enhance connectivity and access to high-speed internet for communities and businesses alike. By providing a reliable broadband backbone, the project aims to stimulate local economies, foster innovation, and ensure that underserved areas are not left behind in the digital age. |
| 3 | Entrepreneur & Innovation Implementation | SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 3/16/2021 | $449,000 | $280,000 | The SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation has successfully completed the Entrepreneur & Innovation Implementation, a two-year effort to establish programs that align with the Region Three Entrepreneurship and Innovation Investment Strategy. This initiative focuses on three key strategies: entrepreneurship training, youth entrepreneurship, and improving access to capital. |
| 3 | ExperienceWorks | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/23/2021 | $515,628 | $523,358 | The ExperienceWorks initiative employs a comprehensive systems approach designed to optimize GO Virginia Region Three's investments. This initiative aims to connect students and young adults with high-skill, high-wage employment opportunities. It does this by offering a diverse range of work-based learning experiences, such as internships, apprenticeships, and job shadowing programs. These experiences are tailored to equip participants with the necessary skills and practical knowledge needed to thrive in today's competitive job market. By fostering partnerships with local businesses and educational institutions, ExperienceWorks enhances the career readiness of young individuals, helping them to successfully transition from education to employment. |
| 3 | SVRA Site Development Project | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY21 | 9/23/2021 | $1,534,900 | $767,450 | The Southern Virginia Regional Alliance (SVRA) (and the IALR as fiscal agent) are developing a site development program that will parallel VEDP's site characterization program. The region had 33 of 66 available sites evaluated as part of the VEDP site characterization program. This proposal seeks funding to elevate eleven of these 33 publicly owned sites on the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program Tier System to be more shovel-ready. The project will raise eleven sites totaling 2,417 acres to Tier 4, on the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) scale. |
| 3 | Strategy and Roadmap for Growing the Controlled Environmental Agriculture (CEA) Sector | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 11/19/2021 | $77,803 | $38,543 | The Strategy and Roadmap for Growing Agriculture Project developed a strategy and roadmap for supporting industry growth and workforce development for Controlled Environmental Agriculture (CEA) in Region Three. The plan and roadmap will include an analysis of this emerging and dynamic agribusiness sector, including industry and economic growth potential, identifying and validating needed facilities and infrastructure, workforce development issues and opportunities, and applied research assets. |

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| 3 | Project SEED - Innovation Hub at Midtown Square | Longwood University Real Estate Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 12/15/2021 | $674,304 | $3,087,154 | Project SEED aims to enhance the local economy by forging strong connections between the community and a wide array of resources focused on business and social entrepreneurship development. Central to this initiative is the establishment of an Innovation Hub in Downtown Farmville, designed to serve as a vibrant workspace and a collaborative environment. This hub will offer workshops, mentorship programs, and access to funding opportunities, fostering creativity and innovation among local entrepreneurs. By bringing together aspiring business owners, seasoned professionals, and community members, Project SEED seeks to cultivate a thriving ecosystem that empowers individuals to turn their ideas into successful ventures, ultimately benefiting the economic landscape of Farmville and its surrounding regions. |
| 3 | Gupton Initiative | Virginia College Fund | Workforce Development | FY22 | 2/18/2022 | $99,200 | $59,000 | Gupton Initiative created a pipeline of internship and employment opportunities for students of the VCF member institutions in the advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing cluster in central Virginia, and further demonstrates the potential for employment in advanced manufacturing sectors across the Commonwealth. |
| 3 | VGA Refresh/Restart: A Strategy for Regional Economic Development In Southern Virginia | Virginia's Growth Alliance (VGA) | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/4/2022 | $100,000 | $51,000 | The Virginia Growth Alliance Restart Strategy played a crucial role in enhancing the operational capacity and strategic framework of the regional economic development organization located in the eastern subregion of GO Virginia Region Three. This initiative focused on identifying and leveraging key resources, fostering partnerships, and implementing targeted programs aimed at stimulating economic growth and resilience. By promoting collaboration among local stakeholders, businesses, and government agencies, the strategy sought to address existing challenges, capitalize on emerging opportunities, and ultimately drive sustainable development throughout the region. |
| 3 | MBC Middle Mile Fiber Expansion Project | Mid-Atlantic Broadband Communities | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY21 | 3/10/2022 | $5,000,000 | $6,000,000 | The MBC Middle Mile Fiber Expansion extended middle-mile open-access fiber optic infrastructure to critical business and industrial parks in Regions Three and Four, which will increase marketability, reduce future infrastructure extension costs, and provide a robust and diverse fiber connection that will enable private sector telecom carriers to reach these economic development sites. |
| 3 | CRC REDO Strategy and Business Plan | Commonwealth Regional Council | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY22 | 8/18/2022 | $65,000 | $44,500 | Through a series of regional discussions, the communities of the CRC footprint desire a strategic set of goals, priorities, focus and support to better reflect changes in the economic development landscape and to launch a Regional Economic Development Organization (REDO) in an effective and sustainable manner through the development of a business plan. |
| 3 | GO TEC Virginia 2025 | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Workforce Development | FY22 | 12/13/2022 | $3,474,821 | $2,426,079 | GO TEC Virginia is a partnership between IALR, GO Virginia Regions One, Three, Four, and Five. In-Region Coordinating Entities (IRCE), employers, economic developers, K12 Divisions, and higher education institutions. GO TEC Virginia will be executed by IALR and the three IRCEs, with efforts informed and endorsed by a 16-member multi-region Board of Directors. Through the IRCEs, each region will establish a GO TEC Advisory Board, composed of 21 members. GO TEC Virginia 2025 includes the development of three GO TEC Training Labs – one each in Region One, Four, Five – to serve as a focal point for regional economic developers, working with existing and prospective businesses, to showcase the GO TEC talent pathways and hands-on technology integration that create a pipeline of skilled workers. |
| 3 | P&HCC - Expanding GO TEC Pathways | Patrick and Henry Community College | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/14/2023 | $118,545 | $129,261 | P&HCC Expanding GO Tec increases dual enrollment opportunities in welding and expands the pool of qualified workers. As part of the GO TEC pathway and aligned with the GO TEC 2025 Statewide Competitive project recently approved, P&HCC proposes offering dual enrollment welding classes for students in Henry County Public Schools and Martinsville City Public Schools. P&HCC seeks to expand training in welding to include high school dual enrollment opportunities to grow the pipeline of trained welders. |
| 3 | SVCC Expanding GO TEC Pathways | Southside Virginia Community College | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/14/2023 | $139,732 | $223,208 | SVCC Expanding GO Tec increases dual enrollment opportunities for high school students and expands the pool of qualified workers in the mechatronics industry. SVCC plans to increase dual enrollment options in the Mechatronics field for students in Buckingham, Cumberland, and Prince Edward schools. The instructor that will be supported by this grant will teach mechatronics classes to students in each high school. |
| 3 | Virginia's Growth Alliance Site Development Project | Mecklenburg County (Virginia's Growth Alliance) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY23 | 6/14/2023 | $335,050 | $167,525 | The Virginia Growth Alliance advances the number of shovel-ready sites in the GO Virginia Region Three. Virginia's Growth Alliance Site Development Project will work to elevate seven sites on the VEDP Virginia Business Ready Sites scale. Among those sites are two sites that will be elevated to Tier 5 via due diligence (I-85 Industrial Park and Brunswick County Industrial Park), two sites that will be elevated to Tier 4 via due diligence (Heartland Industrial Park and Lunenburg Commerce Center), two sites that will be elevated to Tier 3 via due diligence (K-V Industrial Site and Lunenburg-Victoria Industrial Site) and one site that will maintain its soon to expire Tier 4 status via updated due diligence (FASTA Site). |
| 3 | TPI Planning 2023: SoVa Partnership for Health Science Careers | Southern Virginia Partnership for Health Science Careers | Workforce Development | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $133,000 | $67,500 | The Southern Virginia Partnership for Health Science Careers increases skill-ready and health-ready workforce that advances Southern Virginia's economy. The Region 3 Council selected the Southern Virginia Partnership for Health Science Careers (SOVAPHSC) to serve as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative industry cluster talent coordinating entity. This proposal recognizes the competitive disadvantage faced by Southern Virginia when recruiting and retaining traded sector business investment because of their low healthcare outcomes, diminishing access to healthcare providers, and the availability of healthcare workers. |
| 3 | RISE Build-To-Scale Initiative | SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $600,000 | $350,000 | The SOVA Innovation Hub Corporation increases the availability of capital for innovators and entrepreneurs through targeted resource navigation, technical assistance, and outreach and storytelling. The RISE Build-to-Scale Initiative is the next phase of the SOVA RISE Collaboration, which began with the Region 3's Entrepreneurship & Innovation Strategy in 2019. This proposal will scaleup and expand the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Region 3 and will include the following activities over the next two years: 1) Launch the RISE Community Navigator Program, 2) Expand the RISE Entrepreneurship Training Pipeline, and 3) Extend Outreach and Storytelling. |
| 3 | Amelia County Site Suitability Study | Amelia County EDA | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY24 | 4/17/2024 | $21,000 | $10,500 | Amelia County Economic Development Authority recently acquired a 134-acre site on the north side of Rt. 360 and has rezoned the property to Industrial M-1 in June 2023. The site is not currently served by water, sewer, or gas. Before the due diligence activities are undertaken, the County will complete a site sector suitability study to determine which of Region Three's traded industry clusters could be supported. |
| 3 | GO TEC Region 3 Expansion | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Workforce Development | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $302,690 | $517,237 | This GO Tec Expansion will add two new Career Connections labs, one in Henry County and one in Brunswick County. These new Career Connections labs will focus on advanced manufacturing and IT modules. The project will also add a 9th and 10th grade bridge pilot program in Henry County. This would attempt to bridge the gap between the current middle school GO TEC® programming and CTE education which occurs in 11th and 12th grade. |
| 3 | Talent Pipeline Management to Support Advanced Manufacturing and Controlled Environment Agriculture | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Workforce Development | FY23 | 12/10/2024 | $116,745 | $59,842 | The Institute of Advanced Learning and Research actively enhances the talent pathways for the advanced manufacturing and controlled environment agriculture industries in GO Virginia Region Three. By offering specialized training programs, workshops, and partnerships with local businesses, the institute aims to equip individuals with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in these growing fields. This initiative not only supports workforce development but also fosters innovation and economic growth within the region, ultimately benefiting the community and its future workforce. |
| 3 | Amelia County Regional Commerce Center Planning Grant | Amelia County EDA | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 10/8/2024 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Amelia County increases the inventory of business-ready sites within Virginia's Heartland Region. Amelia County Economic Development Authority recently acquired a 134- acre site on the north side of Rt. 360 and has rezoned the property to Industrial M-1 in June 2023. The due diligence work would elevate the site from a Tier 2 to a Tier 3 in the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) scale. A site suitability study was recently completed indicating the site may be able to support the Agricultural & Food Processing sector in the absence of water and sewer being served. |
| 3 | Co-locating Date Centers and CEA Greenhouses Feasibility Project | Institute of Advanced Learning and Research | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 12/10/2024 | $52,000 | $26,020 | The Institute of Advanced Learning and Research supports the accelerated growth of the controlled environmental agriculture (CEA) industry cluster in Region Three. This proposal seeks to align and strengthen data centers and the CEA clusters by exploring co-location strategies – co-locating high-tech greenhouses and data centers to leverage waste heat from the data centers. Greenhouses currently rely on fossil-fuel boilers to generate hot water for heating, and by utilizing waste heat from data centers, operational costs can be reduced while improving unit economics and reducing the carbon footprint. Waste heat could also be used for power generation through Waste-Heat-to-Power (WHP) technologies, such as thermoelectric generators, or for cooling via absorption chillers. |

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| 3 | Artificial Intelligence Statewide Landscape Assessment | Virginia Chamber of Commerce | Workforce Development | FY25 | 2/28/2025 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Virginia Chamber of Commerce will position Virginia's business sector to lead an AI-driven workforce assessment to identify skill gaps in high priority, statewide sectors that will support a skilled workforce capable of adapting to AI advancements and help develop a pipeline of eligible GO Virginia implementation projects. An advisory workgroup led by VACC will include representatives from each of the other 7 GO Virginia regions (one staff member and one Council member representative), local economic developers from Region 2, local economic developers and K12 school division representative from Region 3. The workgroup will also include representatives from other state agencies including the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, Virginia Office of Education Economics, the State Council of Higher Education, community colleges, and the Department of Education, among others. |
| 4 | CCAM Pilot Program | Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $430,000 | $626,023 | The CCAM Pilot Program helps with the need for middle- and high-skilled advanced manufacturing workers through the implementation of two pilot training programs, which will be housed at the to-be-constructed CCAM Apprenticeship Academy. The pilot programs include a Mechatronics Workforce Training Program and a Transitioning Military Program for Industrial Maintenance Mechanics. |
| 4 | Lighthouse U | Virginia Biotechnology Research Park dba Lighthouse Labs | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $1,000,000 | $1,298,563 | Lighthouse Labs will pilot the Lighthouse U program, which will feature a series of events and training opportunities to prepare students to launch their own businesses after graduation. As part of the collaboration, Lighthouse Labs will introduce a new summer cohort program for recent graduates of Virginia universities that participated in Lighthouse U. This project expands the recently piloted Virginia Start-Up Spring Break and Pre-Accelerator programs through VCU. |
| 4 | MaMaC Mega-Site Competitive | MAMaC Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $2,217,500 | $3,262,175 | The MAMaC Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) advances the 1,600-acre certified mega-site to a Tier 4, by completing the engineering plans to upgrade the Greensville County Water and Sewer Authority's Water Treatment Plant, constructing the gravity fed sewer system to the site and constructing the wetlands mitigation bank that will be necessary to accommodate future development on the site. |
| 4 | CampusRVA | Southeastern Institute of Research (SIR) and ChamberRVA | Workforce Development | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $100,000 | $105,000 | The CampusRVA initiative will serve as a marketplace, both online and offline, for internships and job openings to facilitate the matching of employers with potential employees. Based on the successful CampusPhilly model, CampusRVA will promote the capital region as an attractive place to live, work, and play, supporting the region's goal of retaining Virginia's recent college graduates. |
| 4 | Virginia's Gateway Region Site Readiness | Virginia's Growth Region (VGR) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $100,000 | $119,757 | The Virginia Gateway Region evaluates a portfolio of 89 sites and works with an engineering firm to characterize each site according to the Virginia Business Ready Site Program (VBSP) and develop a plan for advancing sites to Tier 4 characterization with cost estimates. |
| 4 | Activation Capital | Activation Capital | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Activation Capital implements two efforts designed to advance the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Region Four. One effort will create, administer, and maintain a learning platform for a resource guide to help serve the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The other effort will create a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) assistance program to assist with grant writing and administration for potential applicants. |
| 4 | CCAM Business Plan | Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) | Workforce Development | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $50,000 | $50,500 | The CCAM Business Plan creates a ready-to-implement plan for the Advanced Manufacturing Academy (AMA) with John Tyler Community College (Tyler). The plan will 1) increase high school to community college dual enrollment programs, 2) replicate Region 3's GO-TEC initiatives, 3) work to deliver more opportunities with CCAM's university members, and 4) outline the financial and human resources assets required to support delivery of advanced manufacturing educational services. |
| 4 | CampusRVA Phase 2 | ChamberRVA | Workforce Development | FY19 | 12/9/2019 | $500,000 | $500,000 | A follow-on implementation for CampusRVA. This project is designed to help area employers fill high-paying jobs with talent developed locally by 1) promoting the Richmond region as a good place for young professionals, 2) providing resources to move and assimilate to the region, and 3) developing a job-matching platform. The program will be operated by Chamber RVA who runs many related programs including Richmond, an internship onboarding program and HYPE (Helping Young Professionals Engage). |
| 4 | Richard Bland College Aeronautics Program | Richard Bland College of William & Mary | Workforce Development | FY19 | 12/9/2019 | $50,000 | $50,000 | Richard Bland College has created a business plan to develop key partnerships and establish an Applied Associates Degree in Aeronautics with a stackable credential in small Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS). The certificate program will give students the necessary training and experience to sit for their Remote Pilot License and equip them to fill high-demand jobs in the region in logistics and IT clusters. |
| 4 | Developing Region 4's Tech Talent Pipeline | Virginia Commmonwealth University | Workforce Development | FY20 | 4/17/2020 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Virginia Commonwealth University has increased the capacity and output of the tech talent pipeline throughout the region. Alongside numerous partners throughout the Greater Richmond area and the Virginia Gateway Region, VCU's College of Engineering will create a comprehensive plan to better align the region's existing tech talent educational programs and help expand Region 4's tech talent pipeline to address needs now and in the future. Activities will include: 1) cataloging and mapping the Region's existing digital economy workforce activities, 2) identifying specific opportunities to improve alignment and close gaps, 3) developing proposals for expanded partnerships between industries, the region's school systems, community colleges and universities and 4) creating strategies to facilitate innovation across the Tech Talent Pipeline. |
| 4 | VCU Pharmaceutical and Chemical Engineering Commercialization | Virginia Commmonwealth University College of Engineering | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 4/17/2020 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Virginia Commonwealth University has developed a pharmaceutical engineering cluster that will drive commercialization, new business, and job growth. This plan supports the commercialization of a new pharmaceutical manufacturing technology and develop a pharmaceutical engineering cluster in Region 4. The strategic plan will include a market analysis, workforce needs assessment, communications strategy, and recommendations for commercialization applications. |
| 4 | Demand+Supply=Success: Virtual Connections for Businesses and Jobseekers | Reynolds Community College Educational Foundation | Workforce Development | FY20 | 5/28/2020 | $80,600 | $150,000 | The Reynolds Community College Educational Foundation created roadmaps for those unemployed due to COVID-19 to get back to work and improve the connection between job seekers and businesses with open jobs. |
| 4 | ForwardRVA | ChamberRVA | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 5/28/2020 | $100,000 | $240,000 | ChamberRVA is dedicated to supporting small businesses as they navigate the reopening and recovery phases following the COVID-19 pandemic. Our efforts emphasize ensuring employee safety through the implementation of health guidelines and best practices. In addition, we aim to bolster consumer confidence by providing resources and strategies that help businesses adapt to new market conditions. Through workshops, financial assistance, and community engagement, ChamberRVA is committed to fostering a resilient business environment that prioritizes the health and well-being of both employees and customers. |
| 4 | Idea Factory | StartupVA | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 6/4/2020 | $50,000 | $25,000 | The Idea Factory played a crucial role in fostering economic recovery by actively supporting aspiring entrepreneurs, particularly those who have been affected by job losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By providing resources such as mentorship, funding opportunities, and training programs, the organization not only nurtured innovative business concepts but also helped individuals transition into new careers. This initiative aimed to empower unemployed individuals by equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to successfully launch their own ventures, ultimately contributing to job creation and revitalizing the local economy. |
| 4 | Virginia Virtual Workforce | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY21 | 9/22/2020 | $1,500,000 | $1,500,000 | Virginia Virtual Workforce has outlined "common pain points" for Virginia manufacturers so they can implement solution-based training programs into college and dual enrollment degrees using Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality and simulation to target 5,000 students, and engage manufacturers in using their content instruction and Virginia Virtual Workforce to design and develop state-of the art training. This project builds on the previously funded COVA MAP project ($1,532,500 awarded Oct 2019), which focused on maritime and shipbuilding and used the interactive training framework developed by ODU (FAST). |
| 4 | Capital Region SBDC Launch | Virginia Community Capital | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 9/28/2020 | $30,500 | $102,551 | Virginia Community Capital serves Greater Richmond region's entrepreneurial ecosystem by filling a financial gap and providing key resources to small businesses to help grow and sustain their operations during the COVID-19 crisis. to establish the Greater Richmond Small Business Development Center (GRVA SBDC) to serve the Greater Richmond area. |
| 4 | Engineering Interns + Manufacturers= Success Squared (S2) | Virginia State University (VSU) | Workforce Development | FY20 | 10/29/2020 | $39,200 | $19,600 | Virginia State University is committed to supporting manufacturers facing challenges due to the economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. To address the pressing need for skilled professionals in the engineering and manufacturing sectors, the university has established a series of internships. These internships are designed not only to provide valuable hands-on experience for students but also to help build a robust talent pipeline that meets the evolving demands of the industry. Through this initiative, Virginia State University aims to foster a new generation of skilled engineers and manufacturing experts, ensuring a brighter economic future for the region. |

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| 4 | Virginia Bio-Connect | Virginia Biotech Association | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 12/7/2020 | $1,599,653 | $1,599,653 | VA Bio-Connect is set to create four new BioHubs that will serve as vital centers for innovation and collaboration within the biotechnology sector. In addition to establishing these new hubs, the initiative will facilitate connections among all regional BioHubs across the state. This collaborative network will enable participants to share best practices, enhance workforce development, and exchange valuable resources. Furthermore, it will provide mentorship opportunities to foster growth and support for emerging biotech professionals and startups. By promoting these synergies, VA Bio-Connect aims to create a robust biotechnology ecosystem that drives innovation and economic growth across the region. |
| 4 | FAME | CCAM | Workforce Development | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $613,000 | $309,046 | CCAM establishes a Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME) Virginia chapter and launch a FAME Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) program, which includes earning an associate degree, hand-on work experience with an employer, and a reinforcement of skills needed for a manufacturing career. |
| 4 | Virginia Restaurant and Hotel Workforce COVID Recovery and Upskilling Program | VRLTA | Workforce Development | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $132,500 | $80,000 | The Virginia Restaurant and Hotel Workforce COVID Recovery and Upskilling Program supports the upskill of underemployed workers with free COVID-related and skills training to help businesses succeed by ensuring employees are well trained and able to address COVID-related issues, while allowing the sectors to rebound more quickly and to further develop an industry-specific job board to match out-of-work employees to employers. |
| 4 | Sussex County Water Study | Virginia's Gateway Region | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY21 | 4/15/2021 | $96,000 | $49,000 | The Virginia Gateway Region conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the Sussex County mega site's marketability, focusing on its potential as a key location for industrial development. One major challenge identified was the inadequate water capacity to adequately support the site's needs. To overcome this barrier, the region collaborated with local authorities and utility providers to develop a strategic plan aimed at enhancing water infrastructure. This initiative not only aims to enhance the site's appeal to potential businesses but also fosters long-term economic growth in the area. |
| 4 | VGR Sites | Virginia's Gateway Region | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 6/15/2021 | $1,634,407 | $988,417 | The Virginia Gateway Region has successfully progressed 15 properties, encompassing a total of 1,652 acres in Region 4, to Tier 4 on the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP) Site Characterization scale. This achievement was made possible through the thorough completion of all necessary due diligence tasks associated with each site, including environmental assessments, infrastructure evaluations, and compliance with local regulations. These efforts not only enhance the attractiveness of these sites for potential development but also contribute to the overall economic growth and sustainability of the region. |
| 4 | VSU Minority Small Business Launch Center | Virginia State University (VSU) | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 6/15/2021 | $453,000 | $228,500 | Virginia State University significantly strengthened the number of scalable minority enterprises that contribute to the economy of Region 4 by establishing the Minority Small Business Launch Center. This center not only provides a comprehensive suite of supportive services—including business planning, financial management, marketing strategies, and access to funding resources—but also fosters an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem. By offering mentorship programs, workshops, and networking opportunities, the center aims to empower aspiring minority entrepreneurs and equip them with the necessary tools and knowledge to successfully launch and grow their businesses, ultimately driving economic growth in the region. |
| 4 | Lighthouse Labs Alumni Program | Lighthouse Labs | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 9/23/2021 | $429,000 | $234,510 | The Lighthouse Labs Alumni Program extends an additional nine months of comprehensive support to alumni who have successfully completed the pre-seed accelerator program. This program is specifically designed for early-stage companies that demonstrate significant growth potential. During this nine-month period, alumni have access to a variety of resources, including mentorship from industry experts, networking opportunities, and specialized workshops aimed at refining their business strategies. This initiative is intended to empower graduates as they navigate the challenges of scaling their businesses and securing further investment, ultimately helping them to achieve their long-term goals. |
| 4 | Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Cluster Scaleup | Activation Capital | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 9/23/2021 | $1,400,000 | $702,480 | Activation Capital is dedicated to accelerating the growth of the emerging Pharmaceutical Manufacturing cluster in Region 4. By fostering innovation and collaboration, it aims to establish the region as an international leader in advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing and research and development (R&D). This strategic focus is expected to not only create high-paying jobs but also enhance recruitment initiatives, support the expansion of existing companies, and attract new investments. As a result, there will be a significant boost in high-tech, tradeable sector activities, ensuring sustainable economic development and positioning Region 4 as a hub for cutting-edge pharmaceutical solutions. |
| 4 | New Kent County/RCC Welding Program | New Kent County | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/23/2021 | $300,000 | $150,000 | New Kent County has successfully established a robust training program that develops skilled welders, effectively addressing the increasing demand for welding professionals in Region Four. This initiative not only aims to fill a critical skills gap but also positions the county as a key contributor to the local economy by ensuring that industries have access to a qualified workforce. The comprehensive training curriculum includes hands-on experience and industry-relevant instruction, preparing these welders for a variety of roles in manufacturing and construction, ultimately fostering job growth and economic stability in the region. |
| 4 | Growing the Pipeline: Expanding Early State Entrepreneurial Support | StartupVA | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/15/2021 | $250,000 | $125,000 | StartupVA is dedicated to nurturing the entrepreneurial growth that has emerged in response to the pandemic. By providing vital resources, mentorship, and support, we aim to cultivate and expand the ecosystem of early-stage startups in Region Four. Our mission is to empower aspiring entrepreneurs with the tools and guidance they need to innovate, thrive, and contribute to the local economy, ultimately fostering a vibrant community of diverse and sustainable businesses.. |
| 4 | Building a Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Talent Pipeline | John Tyler Community College | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/10/2022 | $482,330 | $246,160 | John Tyler Community College has taken significant steps to address the workforce demands of the rapidly growing advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing sector. By developing targeted training programs and partnerships with local industries, the college has created a robust pipeline of skilled technicians. This initiative not only equips students with the necessary knowledge and hands-on experience but also fosters diversity within the workforce, ensuring a wide range of perspectives and skills are represented in this vital field. As a result, the community college plays a crucial role in supporting the region's economic growth and meeting the evolving needs of the pharmaceutical industry. |
| 4 | Activation Capital REI for Region 4 | Activation Capital | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 4/21/2022 | $300,000 | $150,000 | Activation Capital has devised a comprehensive strategy aimed at defining and implementing targeted recommendations to enhance the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Region Four. This initiative focuses on identifying specific areas for growth, fostering collaboration among local stakeholders, and leveraging resources to support startups and small businesses. By addressing key challenges and opportunities within the region, Activation Capital seeks to cultivate an environment that nurtures innovation, encourages investment, and empowers entrepreneurs to thrive. |
| 4 | Advancing a Regional Skilled Ecosystem (ARISE) for Life Sciences | Reynolds Community College | Workforce Development | FY22 | 6/13/2023 | $253,500 | $167,000 | Reynolds Community College creates jobs and awards credentials for skilled laboratory technicians by creating a fully-equipped learning laboratory at the Reynolds Downtown Campus and developing and launching a laboratory technician major in the Associate of Science degree pathways, and works with industry partners to bring in entry-level employees. |
| 4 | GO TEC Region4 Career Connections Labs | Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) | Workforce Development | FY22 | 6/13/2023 | $1,150,571 | $619,561 | CCAM created work-based learning opportunities and jobs in targeted industries across Region 4 by creating Career Connection labs as a part of the GO TEC hub-and-spoke model to allow middle schoolers to explore career pathways. Complementing the GO TEC 2025 statewide competitive grant award in which CCAM was selected to serve as the In Region Coordinating Entity (IRCE), Region 4 is applying for funding to establish five Career Connections labs in participating middle schools to engage middle school students in STEM career pathways experiences using the GO TEC model. |
| 4 | Region 4 Talent Pathways Initiative Planning | Brightpoint Community College | Workforce Development | FY23 | 12/12/2023 | $250,000 | $125,000 | Brightpoint Community College built proven models from past GO Virginia work in the region in the Information Technology and Advanced Pharmaceutical Manufacturing sectors to create and leverage regional alliances to guide and validate findings for the required components of the Talent Pathways Initiative Program. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 4 | Greater Richmond Cluster Analysis | Greater Richmond Partnership | Cluster Scale-Up | FY24 | 4/25/2024 | $87,500 | $87,500 | The Greater Richmond Partnership has developed a comprehensive plan that outlines actionable strategies aimed at fostering growth in specific industry sectors within the Greater Richmond subregion. This plan identifies key industries with high potential for development, including technology, healthcare, and manufacturing, and provides targeted initiatives designed to attract investment, enhance workforce skills, and promote collaboration among local businesses and educational institutions. By focusing on these sectors, the Partnership aims to stimulate economic growth and create a more vibrant business environment in the region. |
| 4 | Region 4 - Project VITAL | Activation Capital | Cluster Scale-Up | FY24 | 6/4/2024 | $5,000,000 | $4,557,000 | Activation Capital has expanded the Bioscience industry in GO Virginia Region 4. This project takes a multi-faceted approach to growing this industry by providing programming and interventions. First, the project will assess the research portfolio in the region to prioritize the concepts with the highest potential for commercialization. Services for feasibility assessments, IP registration, and other early-stage steps will be provided to assist with maturing research into commercially viable enterprises. In addition, the project will expand programming for startups further along in the business formation process by assisting with identifying funding opportunities. Finally, the project will identify and implement opportunities to integrate advanced computing methods into the bioscience industry and expand programming to connect the bioscience industry within the region. To date, the subgrantee has been successful in using previous, modest GO Virginia investment to leverage tens of millions of dollars in federal funding; this project would be an opportunity to build on this past work.. |
| 4 | Future AI Learning and Cloud Network Project | Virginia Commonwealth University | Workforce Development | FY25 | 9/4/2024 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Virginia Commonwealth University has played a key role in diversifying the regional economy by assessing the needs of employers in specialized areas of Information Technology. The university is preparing to train students to meet these specific needs. This project aims to integrate advanced computing methods into the bioscience industry and to enhance programming that connects the bioscience industry with the region. To date, the subgrantee has successfully utilized previous modest investments from GO Virginia to secure tens of millions of dollars in federal funding. This project presents an opportunity to build upon that past success. |
| 5 | Virginia Cyber Alliance (Prev. known as HR Cyber CoLab) Year 1 | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/12/2017 | $642,713 | $750,100 | The Simulation Cetner has developed an advanced collaboration hub at Old Dominion University's Tri-Cities Campus. The Virginia Cyber Alliance will feature online platforms, industry partnerships, a virtual demonstration environment for cybersecurity analysis modules, and a work-based learning initiative aimed at helping transitioning military personnel and recent graduates secure internships with firms specializing in cybersecurity, data analytics, unmanned systems, and aerospace. |
| 5 | Virginia Digital Shipbuilding Year 1 | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/12/2017 | $647,540 | $1,877,000 | Virginia Digital Shipbuilding is establishing a comprehensive regional and statewide curriculum, along with an advanced co-laboratory facility, designed to train approximately 8,500 current and future workers in the emerging field of digital manufacturing. This innovative program will not only enhance the skills of the workforce but also align with the latest technological advancements in manufacturing processes. By focusing on the unique needs of the Hampton Roads region, the initiative aims to bolster the existing advanced manufacturing and shipbuilding clusters. Furthermore, it will strengthen the entire supply chain throughout the Commonwealth, fostering economic growth and ensuring that Virginia remains a leader in the maritime and manufacturing industries. Through collaboration with local businesses, educational institutions, and industry leaders, this project promises to create a highly skilled labor force ready to meet the demands of the digital economy. |
| 5 | 757 Seed Fund | 757 Seed Fund | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $140,000 | $256,000 | The 757 Seed Fund has been established to create a robust administrative framework aimed at providing seed-stage investments to Virginia's most promising innovation-driven and high-growth companies. This initiative is designed to foster entrepreneurship and stimulate economic development in the region. By launching this new seed fund in tandem with the efforts of the 757 Angels, we intend to cultivate a diverse portfolio of quality, investable companies. These companies are essential for establishing a thriving innovation economy in the Hampton Roads region. The goal is to build a supportive ecosystem that not only accelerates the growth of these enterprises but also attracts further investment and talented individuals to the area, ultimately enhancing the overall economic landscape of Hampton Roads. |
| 5 | Kings Creek Commerce Center | Virginia Peninsula Chamber Foundation | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $150,000 | $150,000 | The Kings Creek Commerce Center facilitated the initial steps needed to establish a regional unmanned systems facility on state-owned surplus land in York County. The new facility will provide an open area and infrastructure for use by public institutions, private companies and individuals to develop, test and demonstrate unmanned systems. The goal of this first phase would be to establish a new RIFA governance structure for cost and revenue sharing and to prepare architecture and engineering plans for development of site infrastructure. |
| 5 | Virginia Digital Shipbuilding: Year 2 | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/11/2018 | $647,540 | $1,877,000 | Virginia Digital Shipbuilding: Year 2 helped create a regional and statewide program curriculum and co-lab facility to train approximately 8,500 current and future workers to work in the new digital manufacturing environment. The project will support Hampton Roads' existing advanced manufacturing and shipbuilding clusters, with impacts to the supply-chain throughout the Commonwealth. |
| 5 | Virginia Cyber Alliance Year 2 | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY19 | 12/11/2018 | $642,713 | $750,100 | The Simulation Center at ODU developed a highly advanced collaboration hub at Old Dominion University's Tri-Cities Campus. The Virginia Cyber Alliance will consist of online platforms, industry partnerships, a virtual demonstration environment for cybersecurity analysis modules and a work-based learning initiative for transitioning military and recent graduates to intern with firms that specialize in cybersecurity, data analytics and unmanned systems and aerospace. |
| 5 | 757 Angel Network | 757 Angels | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $240,000 | $479,000 | 757 Angels has significantly enhanced its mission to bridge the gap between promising startup and early-stage companies and accessible smart growth capital. To further this initiative, they have taken a proactive step by hiring a dedicated program director, aimed at strengthening their organizational capacity and effectiveness. As the first centralized hub for angel seed stage capital in the Hampton Roads region, 757 Angels boasts a robust membership of 120 investors and has successfully deployed an impressive $40 million in funding to Virginia-based companies. This strategic investment not only supports local entrepreneurs but also fosters innovation and economic growth within the community, solidifying 757 Angels' role as a pivotal player in the startup ecosystem of Virginia. |
| 5 | Accomack-Northampton Sewer and Sites Study | Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (ANPDC) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $65,000 | $65,000 | The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (ANPDC) conducted a two-phased approach to 1) complete the Eastern Shore Main Force Sewer Transmission Line study and 2) evaluate 25+ acre sites with the AAPDC footprint. The sewer line study will help the Eastern Shore increase it sewer capacity and enable it to meet the minimum infrastructure requirements to become eligible for the Virginia Business Ready Site Program (VBRSP). AAPDC will inventory and identify sites to be characterized through an engineering firm. |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Coalition for Talent Development | Hampton Roads Workforce Council | Workforce Development | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $99,705 | $100,000 | The Hampton Roads Workforce Council, along with the Hampton Roads Workforce Foundation and the Greater Peninsula Workforce Board, will facilitate systematic collaboration, engagement, and investment among major partners in talent development. This initiative will create a new senior-level position responsible for developing implementation and communication plans. This individual will convene senior business leaders and regional workforce providers to identify and address regional needs in real-time. |
| 5 | The GIG | Eastern Shore Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 9/10/2019 | $85,117 | $115,728 | The Eastern Shore Foundation will develop a pilot program to help create a model for a rural entrepreneurial ecosystem along the Eastern Shore. The project will provide a "Hot Desk" coworker startup business space and a Maker Space that will provide training/certifications in woodworking, metalworking, welding, 3D CAD modeling, and 3D printing at a facility in the Town of Exmore. |
| 5 | Coastal Virginia Maritime Advancement Programs (COVA MAP) | Old Dominion University - Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (ODU-VMASC) | Workforce Development | FY19 | 12/9/2019 | $1,532,500 | $1,636,500 | The Simulation Center at ODU helps facilitate and create industry partners and prospective students, identifies workforce gaps, and develops an innovative and new framework (smart mobile devices) for delivering cutting-edge curriculum to support the maritime industry. They will work with the existing network of maritime program providers and focus on gaps identified through prior research, with a focus on emergent technologies. The initiative's overall goal is to position Hampton Roads as a global leader in the maritime industry and increase the number of skilled workers. |
| 5 | REI: 757 | 757 Accelerate | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/9/2019 | $266,667 | $133,333 | 757 Accelerate, in partnership with 757 Angels and E&M Consulting, will convene key stakeholders to conduct a gap analysis, develop best practices, and incorporate existing Situational Analysis and TEConomy recommendations to develop a comprehensive plan for the Region 5 entrepreneurial ecosystem. In addition, they will create a long-term financial plan for the prioritized implementation activities for Region 5. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 5 | Campus757 | Hampton Roads Workforce Council | Workforce Development | FY20 | 3/17/2020 | $95,838 | $96,500 | The Campus757 business plan offered an online and offline platform to connect local job seekers with regional employers, using the previously funded CampusRVA project as a model for Region 5. This will help identify region-wide gaps in the workforce and develop plans with partners to close those gaps. The Hampton Roads Workforce Council will develop a Campus757 business plan and an online and offline platform to connect local job seekers with regional employers, using the previously funded CampusRVA project as a model for Region 5. This will help identify region-wide gaps in the workforce and develop plans with partners to close those gaps. |
| 5 | Eastern Shore of Virginia Hydro Drone Near Shore Shallow Water Bayrhymetric Survey Program | Eastern Shore Foundation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 5/12/2020 | $99,300 | $92,680 | The Eastern Shore Foundation has developed a comprehensive approach to help coastal Virginia generate an accurate and robust database. This database aims to identify and evaluate marine-based economic development opportunities within the region, while also addressing the educational and training needs essential for workforce development. By gathering and analyzing data related to local marine resources, industry trends, and community needs, the foundation seeks to create a strategic framework that supports sustainable growth and enhances the region's economic resilience. |
| 5 | 757 Recovery and Resilience Action Framework | Hampton Roads Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/3/2020 | $100,000 | $100,000 | The Hampton Roads Alliance formed ten Action Framework Committees to 1) formulate and share information that helps restore fully business operations; 2) identify the future challenges and opportunities for their respective industries; and 3) create a concise plan that will help accelerate the region's long-term rebound. All committee work will be shared and metrics will be tracked through the 757recovery.com online platform. |
| 5 | Offshore Wind Supply Chain Hub Development Program | Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/23/2020 | $529,788 | $290,840 | The Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance has successfully developed an Offshore Wind (OSW) supply chain by strategically targeting and attracting suppliers to relocate to the region. This initiative not only enhances the local economy but also positions Hampton Roads as a key player in the growing renewable energy sector. By fostering partnerships and providing resources, the Alliance aims to create a robust network of businesses that contribute to the production and maintenance of offshore wind energy infrastructure. This commitment to building a sustainable future is vital for meeting energy demands and reducing environmental impact. |
| 5 | Greater Williamsburg Target Industry Sector Analysis | Greater Williamsburg Partnership | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 7/31/2020 | $36,375 | $18,244 | The Greater Williamsburg Target Industry Sector Analysis identifies its updated industry cluster analysis as the last one was completed in 2016. As a region that heavily relies on the hospitality and tourism industry, the region has been hit hard by the COVID-19 epidemic with double-digit unemployment levels. Updating the industry cluster analysis will allow the region to develop an implementable business development strategy and marketing plan |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Economic Development Sites Readiness Program | Hampton Roads Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $1,122,240 | $8,056,960 | The Hampton Roads Planning District Commission has successfully elevated a portfolio of three existing sites along the Virginia Business Readiness Scale to Tier IV status. This significant advancement involves comprehensive due diligence work on a combined total of 495 acres located in Isle of Wight County, Newport News, and Virginia Beach. Achieving Tier IV designation indicates that these sites are now recognized for their readiness to support business development and investment, providing essential infrastructure and favorable conditions for prospective businesses. This initiative not only enhances the economic landscape of the region but also underscores the commitment of local authorities to foster growth and promote job creation. |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Workforce Council Talent Pipeline Implmentation Project | Hampton Roads Workforce Council | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $663,696 | $332,000 | The Hampton Roads Workforce Council developed a targeted talent pipeline for the maritime industry in Hampton Roads. HRWC's approach includes the following elements: extensive employer engagement, aligning higher education curriculum and mandatory job requirements, on the job and incumbent worker training, regional apprenticeships, military/veteran outreach, college student engagement and graduate retention, talent portal development, soft skills development, a workforce development alliance among local community colleges and out of market talent recruitment. |
| 5 | Virginia Virtual Maritime Trades Training (VVMTT) | Virginia Ship Repair Foundation | Workforce Development | FY20 | 10/19/2020 | $100,000 | $200,000 | Virginia Ship Repair addresses the strong training demand by investing in virtual at four locations – Tidewater Community College, Thomas Nelson Community College, Paul D Camp Community College, and the Apprentice School to assist those currently unemployed and backfill the workers removed in the high-risk categories forced to take a leave of absence in the shipbuilding and ship repair industry. The addition to these virtual and simulated components to existing trades training program will address the current need by allowing greater social distancing among trainees and minimize touch points on manufacturing equipment or training mockup structures. The simulations will put students in realistic jobs settings where they can have work scenarios replicated in a safe environment without the risk of injury, damage to equipment, loss of materials, or exposure to the pandemic. |
| 5 | Regional Robotics Innovation Hub Study | Hampton Roads Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 10/19/2020 | $73,000 | $38,000 | Hampton Roads Alliance developed a feasibility analysis and action plan for a Regional Robotics Innovation Hub based in Hampton Roads to accelerate and interconnect technology innovation in robotics, machine learning, advanced manufacturing, virtual reality, and artificial intelligence in Hampton Roads to advance autonomous systems research and development, manufacturing, digital shipbuilding and repair, distribution and logistics, water technologies, modeling and simulation, and other target industries. |
| 5 | RVA-757 Connects | RVA-757 Connects | Workforce Development | FY21 | 11/19/2020 | $90,000 | $45,000 | RVA-757 Connects plays a pivotal role in enhancing the megaregion's collective talent pool by systematically identifying existing gaps in skills and resources. Through comprehensive analysis and research, it uncovers major trends that are likely to influence the future of the workforce. By addressing these gaps and fostering an environment of continuous improvement, they not only prepares individuals for emerging opportunities but also ensures that the megaregion remains competitive and resilient in an ever-evolving landscape. |
| 5 | Marines Trades Program Expansion (MTPE) | Tidewater Community College | Workforce Development | FY20 | 11/20/2020 | $99,137 | $49,569 | Tidewater Community College has successfully increased its capacity to meet the growing demand for its Marine Trades Training program, which focuses on welding and marine coating training. This enhancement allows the college to accommodate more students while adhering to strict COVID-19 safety guidelines, ensuring safe social distancing practices throughout the training process. By doing so, TCC is committed to providing high-quality education and practical skills that are essential for careers in the marine trades industry, all while prioritizing the health and safety of its students and staff. |
| 5 | 757 Collab Bridge | 757 Acclerate | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 12/18/2020 | $32,000 | $120,024 | 757 Accelerate offers comprehensive staffing support for a duration of up to six months, designed to ensure the sustained success of both the 757 Accelerate and Startup Studios programming. This initiative is crucial not only for the continuation of these programs but also for maintaining and enhancing the capacity that has been established in Region Five. By providing dedicated staffing resources, we aim to facilitate operational efficiency, foster innovation, and nurture the entrepreneurial ecosystem within the region. This support will empower local startups and organizations to thrive, while reinforcing the skills and resources necessary for long-term growth and development. |
| 5 | Startup Stability Program | Portsmouth Development Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $197,000 | $235,295 | The Startup Stability Program (SSP) will provide co-working spaces rental assistance and mentor services at the Bloom in Portsmouth and Percolator Space in Norfolk within Region Five's identified targeted clusters. All applicants will be vetted by a selection committee comprised of individuals from Black BRAND, Percolator, Bloom, and select members from the PDF's Board of Directors. SSP will provide companies with the ability to obtain immediate and free office space and supportive services to increase revenue, begin gradually paying into their rent, and eventually scale into successful businesses. Key activities will include marketing and recruitment of 15 startups at Bloom and 15 startups at the Percolator, education and training provided by mentors, and rental assistance. |
| 5 | Cybersecurity Job Creation System | Old Dominion University Research Foundation | Workforce Development | FY21 | 6/15/2021 | $1,450,000 | $1,450,000 | The Old Dominion University Research Foundation has created and implemented a cost-effective, cloud-based compliance system designed to assist Virginia's Department of Defense contractors in obtaining Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) accreditation. Additionally, the Foundation is developing an education program focused on NIST 800-171 and CMMC, which will be delivered by Old Dominion University and Eastern Shore Community College, along with other 4-VA affiliated universities and participating community colleges. |
| 5 | Campus757 Implementation | Hampton Roads Workforce Council | Workforce Development | FY21 | 6/15/2021 | $500,000 | $250,000 | The Hampton Roads Workforce Council has conducted a thorough analysis of the percentage of college students in the Hampton Roads region who choose to stay after graduation to pursue full-time employment and internships. This initiative is crucial, as it not only highlights the importance of retaining local talent but also addresses the pressing workforce shortages faced by businesses in the area. By forging connections between regional employers and the graduates from local colleges and universities, the Council seeks to create a direct pipeline of skilled individuals ready to meet the needs of the labor market. This collaboration will not only enhance job opportunities for students but also contribute to the overall economic growth and sustainability of the Hampton Roads community. |

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| 5 | 757 Collab | 757 Accelerate dba 757 Collab | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 6/15/2021 | $2,415,573 | $1,390,286 | 757 Collab continues building momentum and developing new, innovation and entrepreneurship programming, capacity, and services to early-stage companies by bringing together an accelerator, private capital, collaborative space, and community outreach programs – four tools critical to fostering entrepreneurial activity. 757 Collab is a collaborative funding vehicle that will provide coordination services for three critical entrepreneurial support resources: 757 Angels, 757 Accelerate, and 757 Startup Studios. 757 Collab furthers the mission of 757 Angels and 757 Accelerate by streamlining processes, personnel, and services. Housing each of these functions under one roof will create efficiencies and opportunities for greater density of entrepreneurial activity, increase collaboration and education, and deeper corporate engagement. |
| 5 | Setting Pathways that Activate Real-World Knowledge (SPARK) | Portsmouth Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY21 | 8/5/2021 | $100,000 | $55,000 | Portsmouth Public Schools has developed a robust connection between the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) programs available in the region's high schools and the specific workforce needs of the advanced manufacturing industry. This initiative focuses on aligning the curriculum and hands-on learning experiences with the skills and knowledge that local employers are seeking. By strengthening this relationship, the schools aim to better equip high school juniors and seniors for successful careers, enabling them to seamlessly transition into the workforce upon graduation. This proactive approach not only supports students in gaining relevant skills but also addresses the demands of the local economy, ultimately fostering a more skilled workforce in advanced manufacturing. |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Regional Energy Master Plan | Hampton Roads Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY22 | 8/5/2021 | $84,000 | $42,000 | Hampton Roads Alliance evaluated the projected growth of the region and analyzed the energy infrastructure to support this level of growth. Hampton Roads has been and will likely remain a net energy importer. From a land use perspective, the region is better suited to focus on industrial development. The development of an energy strategy will also help Southwest Virginia in its mission to diversify its economy and create new investment opportunities. The Hampton Roads Alliance plans to explore collaborating with InvestSWVA and the Energy DELTA Lab in the development of a mutually beneficial, bi-regional partnership. |
| 5 | Career and Community Development Expansion Program | Neighborhood | Workforce Development | FY20 | 8/15/2021 | $85,222 | $42,611 | Neighborhood prepared unemployed and under-employed residents of South Norfolk, disproportionally impacted by the pandemic, with the skills to be gainfully employed in a career that provides a sustainable living wage. As a result of the COVID pandemic, residents of South Norfolk have been impacted disproportionately compared to residents of other neighborhoods in the City of Chesapeake when it comes to unemployment and underemployment, housing and food insecurity, and poverty. Neighborhood's Career & Development Program proposes to expand by relocating from a 620 sf building to a larger 2,400 sf facility to meet the workforce demand, while remaining safely socially distanced. Neighborhood provides 6-month program that runs twice a year to provide "leaders" in the community with soft skills, personal development, community engagement, and jobs skills training in high demand jobs of shipbuilding and ship repair, and cybersecurity and information technology. |
| 5 | Unmanned Autonomous Systems (UxS) Route/Corridor Network Study | Old Dominion University Research Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 10/28/2021 | $100,000 | $74,500 | The ODU Research Foundation study examined how network nodes and routes/corridors utilizing air, ground, and water through unmanned systems could expedite the transport of goods, services, and travelers between currently underutilized entry points and leverage Upper Chesapeake Bay routes. It would also assess operational and technical requirements and evaluate communications infrastructure capabilities. |
| 5 | I-64 Innovation Corridor Internet Hub Growth Plan Initiative | Southern Institute for Research (SIR) | Cluster Scale-Up | FY22 | 5/5/2022 | $100,000 | $50,000 | SIR will develop a strategic growth plan that coordinates, directs and accelerates the digital infrastructure community and stakeholders in making the I-64 Innovation Corridor a Global Internet Hub. The initiative's approach will be to first recruit the I-64 Innovation Corridor a Global Internet Hub Growth Plan steering committee to meet monthly to develop the plan and which will encompass Region 4 and 5 participating localities, RVA-757 connects, private sector energy and digital infrastructure companies (including owners of offshore cables and data integration centers), economic development organizations and chambers of commerce. |
| 5 | Maritime Entry-to-Employment Training (MEET) | Old Dominion University Research Foundation | Workforce Development | FY22 | 6/14/2022 | $1,090,527 | $563,565 | MEET will extend and expand the workforce development begun through the previously GO Virginia-funded project, COVA MAP, which created online courses for Outside Machinists and Deck Electricians. Like COVA MAP, courses created through MEET by ODU will be designed for both online delivery and in-class participation. Through partnerships between ODU, Tidewater Community College (TCC), New College Institute, and Q.E.D Systems (QED), MEET will provide a deliberate, coordinated training pipeline from an individual's entry into the maritime training world, all the way to the achievement of trade qualifications and/or certificates and readiness for employment. Students will complete the basic course either online or in-person, then begin to develop necessary skills and understanding with interactive games and simulations. Since first submission, the project has expanded to support workforce needs in the telecommunications industry, specifically broadband. |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Economic Development Sites Readiness: Phase II | Hampton Roads Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY23 | 6/14/2022 | $3,751,545 | $10,476,310 | Hampton Roads Planning District Commission leveraged funds to complete due diligence work recommended by earlier studies, including the Enhanced Site Characterization project recently performed by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership (VEDP, 2019), for two sites in Region 5, helping to accelerate their development to Tier 4 and complete a new site characterization study for a third site. This effort will assist in promoting the availability of shovel-ready sites to prospective businesses, which would in turn help to create higher paying jobs in Hampton Roads. |
| 5 | Demonstration Site for Clean Energy Transition to Green Hydrogen (HRH2) | Virginia Tech Foundation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY23 | 3/14/2023 | $1,497,452 | $1,200,423 | The Virginia Tech Foundation scaled up the clean energy industry in Hampton Roads through green hydrogen production while addressing critical energy challenges in the region and reducing cost. The proposal has identified three main objectives in helping advance a green hydrogen industry lab in the City of Newport News to help drive energy across Hampton Roads: 1) Initiate 3-5 hydrogen transition projects to drive local industry investments, 2) Establish a hydrogen competency/demo center to educate and attract new business to Virginia, and 3) Create advanced workforce and talent programs to support the clean energy sector. |
| 5 | Region 5 Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) | Hampton Roads Workforce Council | Workforce Development | FY23 | 3/14/2023 | $250,000 | $125,000 | The Hampton Roads Workforce Council defined talent pathways for Region 5's targeted industries. The Region 5 Council selected the Hampton Roads Workforce Council (HRWC) to serve as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative industry cluster talent coordinating entity as the regional workforce convening organization that has a proven track record of providing seamless services among various workforce programs and providing community leadership around workforce issues in GOVA Region 5. Utilizing a methodology that begins with demand planning and an employer collaborative, HRWC will utilize labor market information and projections verified by the collaborative to form a tailored approach to each of the two identified industry clusters detailed in the plan. |
| 5 | Life Science Virginia | LifeNet Health | Workforce Development | FY23 | 8/22/2023 | $40,000 | $22,885 | LifeNet Health has created a talent pipeline aimed at students interested in pursuing careers in the life sciences. The project will initiate a pilot program that introduces students to the life science field. This program will encompass both classroom and laboratory studies, as well as networking opportunities and an emphasis on developing soft skills. Henrico County Public Schools and Virginia Beach Public Schools have agreed to collaborate on this project by hosting the pilot for one semester. |
| 5 | Hampton Roads Regional Aviation, Aerospace, and Unmanned Systems | Hampton Roads Alliance | Workforce Development | FY23 | 7/11/2023 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Hampton Roads Alliance is dedicated to ensuring that the aviation industry can meet the demands of the region. In collaboration with the Norfolk Airport Authority, the Peninsula Airport Commission, and the Virginia Institute for Spaceflight and Autonomy, the Alliance will conduct an assessment aimed at enhancing the aviation, aerospace, and unmanned systems sectors in Region 5. This study will evaluate the current conditions of the region's aviation industry, project future demands, and provide recommendations on how to effectively meet those demands. |
| 5 | Workforce Development Plan for Western Tidewater | Paul D. Camp Community College | Workforce Development | FY24 | 4/16/2024 | $100,000 | $100,000 | The Paul D. Camp Community College project was designed to enhance workforce development by addressing the growing demand for skilled professionals in the logistics industry. Recognizing the importance of mechatronics—an interdisciplinary field that combines mechanics, electronics, computer science, and telecommunications—the initiative aimed to identify specific training needs and opportunities within this sector. By providing targeted mechatronics training, the project seeks to prepare individuals for higher-paying job positions, ultimately contributing to the economic growth of the region and improving career prospects for local residents. |
| 5 | UAS BVLOS Key Site Initiative | Hampton Roads Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 8/15/2024 | $35,392 | $17,696 | This Hampton Roads Alliance study would focus on finding an optimal location for unmanned systems testing and training, which utilizes greater range and capabilities than current operations allow for. This report will build on past work done by regional partners to grow the unmanned systems industry cluster. The final deliverable would be a site selection report, enabling locality and industry partners to develop a more well-informed implementation grant application around equipping the site and developing a workforce training curriculum. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 5 | Advancing Commercialization and Innovation Opportunities for Jefferson Lab | Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 1/8/2025 | $99,900 | $55,000 | The Hampton Roads Executive Roundtable is dedicated to enhancing the diversification of the regional economy. This initiative involves a thorough evaluation of the potential to leverage the advanced capabilities of the High-Performance Data Facility at Jefferson Labs. By doing so, the Roundtable aims to identify and cultivate opportunities that will stimulate growth and expansion within the target industries of Region Five. This collaborative effort seeks to foster innovation, attract investment, and ultimately strengthen the economic landscape of the region. |
| 5 | Economic Access Initiative | Neighborhood | Workforce Development | FY25 | 3/11/2025 | $305,000 | $152,500 | The Economic Access Initiative project aims to significantly enhance the workforce in the shipbuilding, repair, logistics, port operations, and warehousing industries. By providing targeted career pathway placements, the project focuses on empowering individuals from low-income communities. It offers comprehensive training programs, mentorship opportunities, and connections to employers, ensuring that participants acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in these high-demand fields. Through these efforts, the initiative not only seeks to expand the talent pool but also to promote economic mobility and create sustainable career opportunities for those who are often overlooked. |
| 6 | Flex Space Due Diligence | Westmoreland County | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $50,000 | $50,000 | Westmoreland County has embarked on an exciting initiative to develop a state-of-the-art, 20,000-square-foot flexible office space in the heart of Montross. This new facility is designed to meet the diverse needs of businesses in the region, offering modern amenities and adaptable work environments. It will be one of the few office spaces of this size and quality available in the Northern Neck, providing an invaluable resource for both small businesses and larger enterprises looking to establish or expand their presence in the area. The project aims to enhance the local economy by attracting new businesses and fostering innovation in the community. |
| 6 | Pamunkey Net Business Plan | Middle Peninsula Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $50,000 | $83,000 | The Middle Peninsula Alliance designed and implemented a sustainable business model for the Pamunkey Tribe to deliver high-speed broadband to underserved Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck areas. MPA will work closely with the Pamunkey Tribe to develop a business plan and create a new legal enterprise to be owned by the tribe. MPA will also review existing studies on the region's broadband infrastructure to ensure that existing assets and service areas are considered for future infrastructure development plans. |
| 6 | Virginia Sea Grant Resiliency Ecosystem Development | Virginia Institute of Maritime Science (VIMS) | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $49,996 | $49,996 | The Virginia Institute of Maritime Science (VIMS) convened a group of regional stakeholders and national resiliency experts to identify best practices for future resilience activities for a multi-regional water management economy. VASG will also convene workgroups to identify key gaps in the Virginia economic development ecosystem surrounding water technologies and coastal resiliency and develop an operational framework for operating a comprehensive, multi-sector network of resilience stakeholders. |
| 6 | Welding Training Program | Westmoreland County | Workforce Development | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $130,000 | $130,500 | Westmoreland County established a new 4,000-square-foot welding training facility to offer welding training courses through Rappahannock Community College (RCC) and other training programs as needed. RCC will begin offering daytime welding courses and expanding evening courses, which are currently at capacity, as offered at the Northern Neck Technical Center. RCC will train at least 40 welders in four basic and specialty welding areas. |
| 6 | Cybersecurity Certification Program | University of Mary Washington (UMW) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 3/12/2019 | $110,000 | $110,000 | The University of Mary Washington established a cybersecurity preparatory program to train Certified Information Systems Security Professionals (CISSP). UMW will help businesses in the region fill current openings that are difficult to fill due to the inadequate supply of certified professionals. In partnerships with GCC and RCC, UMW will implement a 40-hour certification program, as well as a structured pre-study curriculum. |
| 6 | Fredericksburg Region Cyber & Smart Tech Entrepreneurial Development Program | Stafford County Economic Development Authority | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 4/17/2020 | $75,000 | $97,500 | The Stafford County Economic Development Authority addressed the market demand for a technology-based entrepreneurial development program and accelerator around the cyber/IT environment in the Fredericksburg region. Stafford County EDA, in partnership with King George and Fredericksburg, will implement a test program that will allow access to the market and build a business model for a sustained program using the successful RIOT framework, to help explore the potential market for hosting a technology-based accelerator focusing on tech and cyber opportunities. |
| 6 | Northern Neck Workforce Training Feasibility & Site Selection | Northern Neck Planning District Commission | Workforce Development | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $62,500 | $62,500 | The Northern Neck Planning District Commission identified training gaps and delivered to employers what they need to grow and expand their businesses within the Rappahannock Community College (RCC) service area. The Northern Neck Planning District Commission, with partnerships from RCC and the Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board, will develop a blueprint of what is needed by local companies and other workforce needs, designate levels of prioritization of implementation, cost estimates, and actionable steps to improve the quality and quantity of workforce training in the region. |
| 6 | Commercial Kitchen at Longwood Hull Springs Study | Northern Neck Planning District Commission | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 5/11/2020 | $50,000 | $50,000 | The Northern Neck Planning District Commission conducted an in-depth study to assess the feasibility of establishing a commercial kitchen at the Longwood Hull Springs site. This kitchen is intended to support local food producers and culinary students in the Northern Neck region of Virginia. The project aims to enhance culinary education, promote local agriculture, and provide a collaborative space where budding chefs can gain practical experience while also benefiting local farmers by utilizing their fresh produce. The commission's analysis considered various factors, including potential costs, community needs, and the impact on the local economy, ensuring that the initiative aligns with the region's goals for sustainability and growth. |
| 6 | Fredericksburg Regional Industrial Sites Authority | Fredericksburg Regional Alliance | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 5/11/2020 | $14,665 | $7,335 | The Fredericksburg Regional Industry Cluster Authority has significantly enhanced the ability of localities within the Fredericksburg region to work together on site development initiatives. By identifying key industry clusters and their specific needs, the analysis facilitates targeted collaboration among municipalities, businesses, and other stakeholders. This collective effort aims to optimize resources, share best practices, and strategically plan for sustainable economic growth within the region. As a result, the localities are better positioned to attract investment, support workforce development, and foster a thriving business environment. |
| 6 | Fredericksburg Regional Industry Cluster Analysis | Fredericksburg Regional Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 5/11/2020 | $30,000 | $15,000 | The Fredericksburg Regional Industry Cluster Analysis is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the different industries operating within the Fredericksburg region, which is part of the larger Region 6. This analysis seeks to identify key industry sectors, their specific characteristics, and trends that can shape the area's economic landscape. By understanding the composition and dynamics of these industries, local stakeholders can better tailor their workforce development initiatives and economic strategies. The goal is to foster sustainable economic growth and enhance employment opportunities in the region, ensuring that both current and future workforce needs are met efficiently. |
| 6 | Middle Peninsula Seafood & Agriculture E-Marketplace Development | Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 5/11/2020 | $77,000 | $38,500 | The study positioned MPPDC/MPCBPAA as a potential temporary "market maker," a pivotal role designed to enhance electronic commerce. This role aims to bridge the gap between consumers who are eager to purchase locally sourced products and the vendors capable of supplying them. By facilitating connections and transactions between these two groups, MPPDC/MPCBPAA can not only support local economies but also promote the benefits of purchasing from local businesses. This initiative fosters a more sustainable and community-focused marketplace, ensuring that both consumers' needs and suppliers' abilities are effectively aligned for mutual success. |
| 6 | Telehealth Needs Assessment | King and Queen County | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/19/2020 | $50,000 | $25,000 | The Telehealth Needs Assessment has been completed to thoroughly evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of integrating a dedicated telehealth wing into the proposed King and Queen Telework Business Incubator Center. This assessment aims to identify the specific telehealth services that could be offered, the target population's needs, and the overall impact on community health. Additionally, it will explore how telehealth can enhance the business incubator's mission by providing accessible healthcare solutions and fostering collaboration between healthcare providers and entrepreneurs. The findings will serve as a crucial foundation for the development of this innovative project. |
| 6 | Westmoreland Workforce Training Center Extension | Westmoreland County | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/25/2020 | $36,000 | $18,000 | The Westmoreland Workforce Training Center has secured additional funding to facilitate its operations as it prepares to resume training activities this fall. This financial support is crucial, as the center plays a vital role in equipping the local workforce with the necessary skills and training needed in the region. Without this funding, the center would face the risk of permanent closure, which would significantly hinder the development of a skilled labor force essential for the economic growth and sustainability of the community. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 6 | Germanna Community College Tech Talent Pipeline | Germanna Community College | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $634,938 | $398,000 | The Germanna Community College addressed how to provide a continuous supply of qualified individuals entering engineering, information technology, computer science, and cyber-related professions in the Fredericksburg region. The two-pronged initiative creates a new Engineering Technology-Mechatronics 2-year certificate program and a Computer Science and Cyber Pathway. Activities will include outfitting classrooms and labs with equipment, training and certifying high school teachers, developing a web portal with real-time labor market data, financial aid information, and an internship/jobs board, executing an outreach/promotions campaign and creating a Tech Talent Advisory Group consisting of local tech companies and educational professionals. |
| 6 | Launching a Coastal Resilience and Adaptation Economy | Virginia Institute of Maritime Science (VIMS) | Cluster Scale-Up | FY21 | 12/7/2020 | $2,937,163 | $3,696,411 | Launching a Coastal Resilience and Adaptation Economy involves several strategies to support Region Six: 1) It fosters resilience entrepreneurship through RISE's established business plan competition and accelerator services. This includes product performance validation within Region Six's network of real-world research and development (R&D) test sites, such as the Resilience Innovation Center, which expands on the Hampton Roads resilience living laboratory. 2) It creates a multi-stakeholder, business-focused consortium between Regions Five and Six. This consortium aims to engage the broader business community in understanding the risks and economic impacts of sea level rise while building the capacity to adopt resilient practices. |
| 6 | RIoT Accelerator Program | Stafford County Economic Development Authority | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 6/15/2021 | $215,000 | $204,500 | The Stafford County Economic Development Authority has significantly enhanced its entrepreneurial support initiatives in the Rappahannock Region, aiming to foster innovation and business growth. Central to these efforts is the well-established RIoT Accelerator Program (RAP), which provides resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities for startups and emerging businesses in the tech sector. In addition to RAP, the Authority has rolled out several community-focused initiatives designed to engage local entrepreneurs and empower them with the tools and support they need to succeed. These comprehensive efforts are anchored in the cutting-edge Virginia Smart Community Testbed, located in Stafford. This technology-driven hub serves as a living laboratory for testing and implementing advanced solutions that address real-world challenges faced by communities. By leveraging the resources available at the Testbed, local businesses can pilot innovative technologies and ideas, promoting economic growth and technological advancement in the region. |
| 6 | Riot Pre-Accelerator Program | Wireless Research Center dba RIoT | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/15/2021 | $96,804 | $80,000 | The Wireless Research Center, operating under the name RIoT, has introduced three comprehensive six-week pre-accelerator programs designed specifically to support early-stage entrepreneurs in transforming their innovative ideas into viable businesses. These programs aim to equip participants with essential resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities, enabling them to refine their business concepts, develop effective strategies, and navigate the challenges of launching a startup. By fostering a collaborative environment, RIoT seeks to empower aspiring entrepreneurs to bring their visions to life and contribute to the growth of the local business ecosystem. |
| 6 | Internship Expo & Hiring Workshop | Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce | Workforce Development | FY22 | 2/14/2022 | $36,000 | $37,254 | The Fredericksburg Chamber in partnership with five school divisions, Rappahannock Goodwill Career Works, Germanna Community College, and the University of Mary Washington will host an Internship Expo in April 2022 and five hiring workshops throughout the year. Part of the expo will include business seminars on how to successfully host interns. Students in attendance will be selected by their school's CTE or internship coordinator where students will be encouraged to visit booths of interest to dop off their resumes, make connections with business leaders, and schedule interviews. Between 40 and 60 local businesses are expected to be in attendance. |
| 6 | Promoting Careers in Aquaculture | Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/14/2022 | $100,000 | $52,000 | Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation made advances in the aquaculture industry cluster by expanding high school students' understanding of what jobs are available in the aquaculture industry cluster, expanding educational opportunities that meet employers' needs, and supporting internship opportunities that help young people gain experience and awareness. |
| 6 | Rappahannok And Germanna Community Colleges Patient Care Technician | Rappahannock Community College | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/14/2022 | $306,252 | $177,057 | Rappahannock Community College (RCC) is actively responding to the significant healthcare shortages that have been intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to address this pressing issue, RCC is partnering with Germanna Community College to create and implement a non-credit Patient Care Technician program. This program aims to equip participants with essential skills and knowledge needed to support healthcare providers and deliver quality patient care in various medical settings. By collaborating on this initiative, both colleges are committed to enhancing workforce development in the healthcare sector and ensuring that communities have access to trained professionals during these challenging times. |
| 6 | Pathways to Success | Stafford County Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY22 | 11/21/2022 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Stafford County Public Schools developed a career investigation and readiness curriculum for grades 6, 7, and 8 called "Pathways to Success" – all middle-schoolers are required to complete a career investigations course in Virginia selected from either a state-approved list or from a developed course content approved and provided by the school division. The program will provide teacher training modules and deliver the training for up to 50 educators from SCPS and other regional school district partners. |
| 6 | Workforce Now | Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce | Workforce Development | FY22 | 3/14/2023 | $250,000 | $150,000 | Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce addressed and filled work-based learning opportunities and connect talent with jobs across Region 6. Following the previously awarded GO Virginia Enhanced Capacity Building grant that awarded funds to Fredericksburg Chamber in partnership with five school divisions, Germanna Community College, Rappahannock Goodwill Career Works, and the University of Mary Washington to host an internship expo, this project will help address workforce shortages and increase work-based learning opportunities. |
| 6 | Region 6 Talent Pathways Initiative (TPI) Planning | Bay Area Workforce Development Board | Workforce Development | FY23 | 12/13/2022 | $250,000 | $125,000 | The Bay Area Workforce Development Board defined talent pathways for Region 6's targeted industries. The Region 6 Council selected the Bay Area Workforce Development Board (BCWDB) to serve as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative industry cluster talent coordinating entity as the regional workforce convening organization that has a proven track record of providing seamless services among various workforce programs and providing community leadership around workforce issues in GOVA Region 6. Using a sub-regional approach, the BCWDB and Region 6 council will develop a plan to create robust talent pipelines specific to the region's industry clusters. |
| 6 | Young Entrepreneurs Program | King George County Economic Development and Tourism Department | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 11/16/2022 | $98,000 | $90,272 | King George County Economic Development and Tourism Department helped create new businesses, internships, and mentorships across Region 6 through a pitch competition for students to present business design ideas and document the pilot-building experiences in a Resource Guide that can be offered to other schools or youth-oriented programs. The project aims to create collaboration between government, schools, business, civic/youth organizations, and existing entrepreneurs. The Resource Guide will be tailored to opportunities and challenges for entrepreneurs in Region 6. |
| 6 | Innovation Pathways | Stafford County Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY23 | 3/14/2023 | $978,449 | $563,962 | Stafford County Public Schools addressed the supply of qualified individuals entering the information technology, computer science, and cyber-related professions. Stafford County Public Schools, in partnership with G3 Community Services, the University of Mary Washington, and a regional coalition of school divisions, is applying for funding to offer IT certifications (CompTIA certifications including IT Fundamentals, A+, Network+, and Security+ series) to students across the region through outside of school programming and summer camps to build student awareness of STEM and cybersecurity opportunities. The project will also train teachers with the same CompTIA certifications to build training capacity. |
| 6 | West Point Airport Industrial Site Evaluation | Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY23 | 1/23/2023 | $100,000 | $65,000 | The Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission (MPPDC) is applying of r $100,000 in GO Virginia funds to conduct due diligence professional services necessary to raise the VEDP Business Ready Sites tier level of t he Middle Peninsula Airport property from a Tier 2 to a Tier 3. The site has potential to support businesses in the following sectors: aquaculture/seafood/commercial fishing/marine industries, forest products, manufacturing (those not requiring municipal water and sewer), professional services and resiliency related businesses. |
| 6 | Expanding Smart Community Tech Entrepreneurship Across Region 6 | Stafford County Economic Development Authority | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 4/24/2023 | $96,250 | $71,340 | Stafford County Economic Development Authority conducted a feasibility study to determine if opportunities exist in rural localities in Region 6 beyond "Rappahannock region" to expand the existing Testbed and connect entrepreneurs and companies to solve local issues that may be improved using smart technology. The project will host a series of local community "discovery" and "project shaping meetings" with local leaders to identify environmental management, water, stormwater, public safety, traffic, and other community issues. Testbed staff and RIoT staff will then identify possible technology solutions and identify technical solution entrepreneurs or providers that could address these issues using the Testbed and smart technology. |
| 6 | Region 6 Regional Entrepreneurship Initiative (REI) | Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecoystem Council | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $300,000 | $150,000 | Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Council developed an entrepreneurial ecosystem strategy to define and implement recommendations to grow the Region 6 ecosystem further. The project aims to build capacity for the Rivers Region Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Council by hiring an executive director to carry out the duties of the organization, engage with stakeholders, create recommendations and priorities, and create an REI Strategy and Report and Actional Strategies Plan documents. |

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| 6 | Promoting Careers in Aquaculture 2.0 | Virginia Tech | Workforce Development | FY22 | 12/12/2023 | $302,536 | $164,733 | Virginia Tech addressed the aquaculture industry's talent needs by training students, providing a one-week hands-on education immersion summer course (Summer Program Aquaculture Training or SPAT), and 75-hour internship placements with local aquaculture businesses. The project increases the region's capacity to prepare workers for this industry by providing training to local teachers in the aquaculture curriculum. |
| 6 | Rappahannock Community College New Career Training Center | Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation | Workforce Development | FY24 | 12/12/2023 | $290,000 | $313,500 | Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation trains students and provides credentials in Diesel Mechanics, Welding, and HVAC programs. Rappahannock Community College will renovate a building into a Career Training Center offering evening classes for adult students and day classes for dual enrollment students. |
| 6 | Empower Black Entrepreurs Accelerator Pilot Program | Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce | Startup Ecosystem | FY24 | 10/23/2023 | $98,438 | $99,738 | The Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce provides resources for Black-owned businesses to scale their operations through an accelerator program, including resources and mentorship, to address the challenges businesses face due to limited access to capital, insufficient networking opportunities, and a lack of business education. |
| 6 | Career Advancement and Resource Education (CARE) | Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board | Workforce Development | FY25 | 12/10/2024 | $307,857 | $160,891 | The Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board aims to build new capacity to enhance career awareness and define career pathways within the identified targeted industries. The project will focus on four strategic goals: 1) develop the capacity to serve as the Sector Partnership regional convenor to develop the foundation for employer-led talent development strategies through employer engagement; 2) define career pathways of the targeted industries influenced by data from employers; 3) address workforce development issues as more significant industry initiatives to foster collaboration through the Sector Partnership Toolkit and outreach materials; and 4) collect and utilize data to inform collective talent development priorities and ensure actional strategies are implemented through business toolkits. |
| 6 | Expanding Business Ecosystems (EBE) Business Accelerator | Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce | Startup Ecosystem | FY25 | 12/10/2024 | $300,000 | $155,500 | The Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce addresses the growth and competitiveness of small businesses in the region by providing targeted resources, skills, access to mentors, and capital. The program will launch a ten-week program for six cohorts over two years, serving 120 businesses across Region 6. Each cohort will focus on specific industries or demographic groups that require tailored support, such as minority-owned businesses, tech startups, or companies in the manufacturing sector. |
| 6 | Cyber Titans Virginia Internship Program (Cyber Titans VIP) | Cyber Titans Foundation | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 1/22/2025 | $99,826 | $49,913 | Cyber Titans Foundation will prepare high school and colleges students, transitioning service members, and individuals seeking careers in cybersecurity. Cyber Titans VIP will design a training curriculum and certification pathway through a planning and pilot effort focused on cybersecurity. The planning and pilot phase will be used to establish necessary partnerships, design the program framework, and create a curriculum tailored to the region's industry needs. Once the framework is complete, the program will be piloted with 10 participants in an 8-week internship program, providing hands-on experience in the cybersecurity field. |
| 6 | Economic Impact Analysis for RIVERE Ecological Center and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem | RIVERE | Startup Ecosystem | FY25 | 2/7/2025 | $72,100 | $36,050 | RIVERE will evaluates the economic impact of a 25,000-square-foot facility that supports entrepreneurship and small business growth. Designed as a co-working space, the center will feature specialized areas, advanced technological infrastructure, and equipment to facilitate research and development focusing on river systems. |
| 7 | Alexandria-Arlington Workforce | Arlington County | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/12/2017 | $201,897 | $255,049 | Arlington County provided immediate support to ready-to-be-trained individuals and to newly located or newly established firms in Northern Virginia that are not supported by federal WIOA/SNAPNET funding. This initiative is a combination of career pathway assistance incumbent working training, upskilling, on-the-job training and credentialing activities aimed to support the computer services industry. |
| 7 | NOVA Fab Lab | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/12/2017 | $250,000 | $1,829,000 | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) created a state-of-the-art, 9,000-square-foot Fabrication Laboratory (FabLab) at the NOVA Manassas Campus to leverage NOVA Systemic, inspire interest, and encourage future generations to pursue careers in engineering technologies. NOVA will align its engineering technology program to meet the needs of private-industry partners, such as Micron Technology and BAE Systems. |
| 7 | Tech Talent Pipeline | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/12/2017 | $487,500 | $603,425 | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) built upon the Region's existing computer services and cybersecurity clusters to create a workforce system that effectively attracts, prepares and retains qualified candidates to fill high-demand technology jobs in high-paying occupations, such as programming and software development, networking and cybersecurity, and data and data warehousing. Target populations include tech workers who lack the high-demand credentials, transitioning military veterans, college students, recent graduates, and high school seniors with desired aptitudes. |
| 7 | Tech Talent Pipeline Apprenticeships | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $1,000,000 | $1,000,000 | Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) expanded the previously awarded Tech Talent Pipeline Initiative, which aims to create a workforce system to effectively attract, prepare and retain qualified candidates to fill high-demand cybersecurity and IT jobs. NOVA will develop and implement a new apprenticeship program, matching 400 apprentices to employers as an alternative career pathway to traditional two- or four-year degrees. GO Virginia funds will be used to expand staffing for NOVA Workforce, conduct Tech Talent Pipeline outreach and develop and implement the apprenticeship curriculum and models. |
| 7 | Virginia K-12 Computer Science Pipeline | Loudoun Education Foundation | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/9/2019 | $2,424,537 | $3,948,432 | The Loudoun Education Foundation (LEF) created and implemented an immersive and integrated computer science curriculum in grades 6-12 in Loudoun County and partnered with Chesapeake City Public Schools in Region 5. The two participating school systems will allow students to learn computer science and computational thinking as part of the 6-12 core curriculum, culminating in capstone courses and experiential learning opportunities, including internships at the high school level. |
| 7 | Back to Work Website and Info Program | Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 4/28/2020 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Northern Virginia EDA to create a "one stop shop" Back to Work Covid-19 resources website that aggregates data from all organizations engaged in business continuity, business recovery, worker training and retraining, and to promote, disseminate and communicate content that specifically addresses business solutions, including access to government programs, via a webinar series. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Fairfax County EDA, will create a three-video series for entrepreneurs under the Back to Work Covid 19: Back to Innovation brand. The videos will be available online at the Back to Work Covid-19 Resource Website and will be free to the public. |
| 7 | Steps to Safely Reopen the Economy: Launch of New Rapid COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing, Contact Tracing, and Stress Assessment of Northern Virginia Nurses During the COVID-19 Pandemic | George Mason University | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/2/2020 | $100,000 | $50,000 | George Mason University developed and scaled-up methods to facilitate a safe return to work. The program's goals include directly expanding diagnostic testing, evaluating the long-term impacts of COVID-19 on frontline healthcare providers, a population at risk of PTSD, and employing rapid contact tracing capabilities to encourage safe return-to-work strategies, a critical step to reopen the economy. |
| 7 | Hospitality to Tech Workers Roadmap | George Mason University | Workforce Development | FY19 | 7/27/2020 | $90,000 | $68,100 | George Mason University will lead (1) undertake a comprehensive review of the skills of targeted displaced workers, (2) undertake a comprehensive review of the required upskilling required for employment in technology and healthcare companies, breaking down the analysis into three categories of companies, (i) government contractors and commercial businesses providing technology solutions and consulting services, (ii) technology product-based businesses and (iii) non technology businesses that need some employees to have technology skills, (3) review gathered data to identify overlapping areas of opportunity and (4) develop a roadmap for one or more training programs to address the identified skills gaps. |
| 7 | Pivoting Technology Businesses for the Post COVID-19 Economy | George Mason University | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 7/27/2020 | $100,000 | $55,250 | George Mason University played a vital role in helping established businesses adapt their operational models to effectively respond to changing customer demands and explore new market opportunities. Through tailored programs and resources, the university facilitated innovative strategies that enabled these companies to pivot successfully in a dynamic environment. Additionally, GMU provided essential support to emerging tech companies, fostering growth through mentorship, access to research, and networking opportunities. This comprehensive approach not only enhanced the resilience of existing businesses but also contributed to the thriving ecosystem of technological innovation in the region. |

| Region | Project Name | Subgrantee | Strategy | Program Year | Date of Award | $ Award | Committed Match | Project Purpose |
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| 7 | Governor's Health Sciences Community Medi-Corps Program | George Washington University | Workforce Development | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $700,000 | $1,143,000 | George Washington engaged and prepared students for careers in the Biomedical, Lab Sciences, and Pharmaceutical industries. GWU's Virginia Science and Technology Campus in partnership with Alexandria and Arlington Public School Systems will create a mobile Immersive Learning Center that will provide state of the art technology, simulation and virtual hands-on activities combined with work-based learning to make three entry points to join the region's workforce (high school industry certification; stackable credentials with associates degree; and stackable credentials with Bachelor degrees). |
| 7 | Northern Virginia Biosciences Center | Prince William Economic Development Authority | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 9/22/2020 | $500,000 | $755,000 | Prince William Economic Development Authority developed a 30,000-square-foot Level 2 wet laboratory. Prince William entered into a performance agreement with DHCD to ensure the property is constructed, marketed, and remains in use as a Level 2 wet lab. At the end of the performance period, the equipment will be conveyed to the property owner. |
| 7 | Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Recovery Effort | George Mason University - Virginia Small Business Development Center | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 9/22/2020 | $1,000,000 | $600,000 | The Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will expand its services for small businesses by providing matching funds required to access the full funding available from the Small Business Administration (SBA), which has a 1:1 match requirement with 50 percent cash. |
| 7 | NOVA Smart Region Initiative | Smart City Works, Inc. | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 3/16/2021 | $1,287,580 | $1,572,750 | The Smart City Works, Inc. expanded its capital investment opportunity, accelerated the growth of high-tech startups through expansion of their business acceleration program, and created pathways to commercialization through efforts to help smart-tech companies validate the product-fit of their innovation. |
| 7 | Virginia Cyber Skills Academy | Women's Society of Cyberjutsu | Workforce Development | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $699,995 | $678,785 | The Virginia Cyber Skills Academy assisted COVID-impacted workers to obtain skill certifications (reskill or upskill) to enable them to move into high-demand cyber security roles. |
| 7 | Accelerate 2022 | Refraction, Inc. | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 3/17/2021 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Refraction, Inc., in collaboration with George Mason University, launched Accelerate 2022, an ambitious multi-day pitch competition designed to connect innovative startups and high-growth companies in Northern Virginia with investors from across the United States. This event not only provided a platform for entrepreneurs to showcase their pioneering ideas and business models but also aimed to foster a dynamic ecosystem for investment in the region. By bringing together key stakeholders, including seasoned investors, industry experts, and budding entrepreneurs, Accelerate 2022 sought to stimulate economic growth and encourage the exchange of knowledge and resources essential for the success of emerging companies. |
| 7 | Innovation Forward | Loudoun County EDA | Workforce Development | FY19 | 3/17/2021 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance went through a strategic planning process to determine the best approaches to organization and management, budgeting and funding, staffing, policy development, business development activities, and brand development. |
| 7 | Expansion of ICAP Mentor Network | George Mason University Virginia SBDC | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 6/15/2021 | $882,794 | $441,415 | This project at George Mason University expanded the network of ICAP mentors by creating 4 new full-time positions to provide services to support start-ups and early stage companies to access funding, develop strategic plans, acquire talent, access SBIR grants or angel/venture investments and launch new products. |
| 7 | NOVA Dual Enrollment Expansion Program for Information and Engineering Technology (DEEP IET) | Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) | Workforce Development | FY19 | 6/15/2021 | $1,106,777 | $558,632 | The DEEP-IET approach seeks to target successful student outcomes with touch points at multiple points along the STEM talent pipeline including enhanced programming for precollege and community college students including block scheduling, summer bridge programs, and internships and a credentialing program to prepare regional high school teachers to teach credit-bearing dual enrollment (DE) courses in IET, developing a faster and more cost-effective path to employment. The DEEP-IET is also proposing to develop a veteran's outreach program to transition veterans and military-connected NOVA Community College students to IET programs. |
| 7 | Innovation Center Roadmap | NOVA Labs, Inc. | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 9/15/2021 | $100,000 | $52,000 | NOVA Labs, Inc. developed a plan to expand the Innovation Center, add new tools and equipment, and support programs for member companies that will contribute to their success and growth. NOVA Labs will hire consultants to conduct a facilities, equipment and programming needs assessment, develop an implementation plan and outreach strategy to publicize capabilities and build relationships with regional partners in the business startup ecosystem. |
| 7 | Tech Set | Marymount College | Workforce Development | FY20 | 9/23/2021 | $425,000 | $230,000 | Marymount College increased the number of economically disadvantaged college students in technology jobs in Region 7 while addressing the Region 7 technology companies' identified need for entry-level workers. |
| 7 | The Future Kings STEM Pipeline Project Focused on Black and Latino Boys | Future Kings | Workforce Development | FY20 | 11/22/2021 | $97,000 | $76,000 | Future Kings undertook a comprehensive study to assess the feasibility of extending the Future Kings program beyond its current location at Northern Virginia Community College's Woodbridge campus. The goal is to explore the potential for expansion into Region 7, thereby reaching a broader audience and providing valuable resources and support to more students. This evaluation included an analysis of the needs of the communities in Region 7, the availability of resources, and the potential impact of the program in fostering leadership and personal development among young individuals in that area. |
| 7 | Convene and Collaborate - Region 7 REI | George Mason University | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/15/2021 | $193,751 | $132,690 | George Mason University brought together various stakeholders to establish and enhance an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region. This initiative aimed to create a comprehensive strategy that not only identifies the key components necessary for fostering entrepreneurship but also designates a dedicated coordinator to oversee and facilitate collaboration among local businesses, startups, and support organizations. By leveraging the collective expertise and resources of the community, the university seeks to cultivate a vibrant environment that promotes innovation, economic growth, and sustainable development for aspiring entrepreneurs. |
| 7 | Nano-IMAGINE | George Mason University | Workforce Development | FY22 | 6/14/2022 | $2,500,000 | $1,250,000 | George Mason University has significantly contributed to the development of Virginia's nanotechnology sector by providing comprehensive hands-on workforce training programs. These initiatives are designed to equip students and professionals with the essential skills needed in this rapidly evolving field. Additionally, the university has been instrumental in supporting both the launch and growth of high-tech nanotechnology startups. Through strategic partnerships, research collaborations, and access to state-of-the-art facilities, George Mason University fosters innovation and entrepreneurship, ensuring that Virginia remains a leader in nanotechnology advancements. |
| 7 | Quantitative Metrics to Determine Effects on Foreign Investment | Northern Virginia Regional Commission | Cluster Scale-Up | FY22 | 8/18/2022 | $30,000 | $15,000 | The Northern Virginia Regional Commission analyzed data to understand the impact of FDI in Region 7. The project will help the region understand the role international business plays in its economy. By identifying the impact of FDI, the region will be able to identify strategies to diversity economic development and move the region to less dependency on the federal government. |
| 7 | Accelerate Investor Conferences | George Mason University | Startup Ecosystem | FY22 | 9/13/2022 | $532,269 | $311,500 | ACCELERATE is a year-long process of engaging tech entrepreneurs, investors, and ecosystem partners. It culminates in an investor conference and student/high growth startup competition that showcases Virginia as a powerhouse for innovation and business opportunity. The conference convenes angel and venture investors from Region 7 and across the US to learn, network, and connect with a rich pipeline of local, tech-focused, high-growth companies. The competition targets entrepreneurs with early through mid-seed stage businesses with the potential to have an immediate, positive, and significant impact on our local economy, as well as student concepts with longer-term business viability. |
| 7 | Cyber Guild | Cyber Guild | Cluster Scale-Up | FY22 | 10/20/2022 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Cyber Guild gained recognition as a cybersecurity hub, attracting talent to meaningful careers in cybersecurity, and attracting investors to build and retain cybersecurity businesses locally. The project will create a 2023-2027 strategic plan focusing organization leadership and resources on programs that will advance the mission, determine robust metrics to show value and inform future work, and establish the core resources and staff to deliver successful implementation. |
| 7 | Project Collective Impact: Life Science Workforce Preparedness | George Mason University (GMU) | Workforce Development | FY22 | 11/16/2022 | $100,000 | $50,013 | The project team led by GMU's Center for Health Workforce and Institute for Biohealth Innovation in partnership with Phoenix Advantage, providing contract services, will conduct a workforce gap analysis in the life sciences industry by assessing employer needs, employment trends, workforce supply, and demand projections. Findings will support the design of a program that enables the region to augment and strengthen life science workforce development using an "employer-led" workforce preparedness model. |

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| 7 | (VAST) - Virginia Alliance for Semiconductor Technology | Virginia Tech Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) | Cluster Scale-Up | FY22 | 3/14/2023 | $3,300,000 | $1,675,000 | The Virginia Tech Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) provided connections, marketed, and created a talent pipeline for the emerging nanotechnology industry in Virginia. VNNI will first seek to connect higher education institutions across the Commonwealth with existing nanotechnology facilities. These "nodes" will be connected to the central hub located at Virginia Tech by an advanced cloud-based system. This project seeks to ensure coordination among these facilities at several institutions of higher education through a cloud-based infrastructure management system, centralized policies and MOUs, and multimedia training modules. The VNNI system will also help to create a coordinated pipeline of talent for the semiconductor industry through three certificate programs, which will all fall under the new Fast Track to Semiconductor Careers (FTSC) program. |
| 7 | Region 7 Talent Pathways Initiative | Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) | Workforce Development | FY23 | 9/12/2023 | $250,000 | $125,000 | The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) defined talent pathways for Region 7's Computer Software, Cybersecurity, and Emerging Technologies targeted industries. The Region 7 Council selected the Arlington-based nonprofit Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC), collaborating with the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis, as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative Industry cluster talent coordinating entity. CREC will work with Region 7 council leadership to identify a Research Advisory Group consisting of businesses, local stakeholder groups, and subject matter experts from educational institutions to guide the project. |
| 7 | Career Investigations: Pathways to Your Future | Alexandria City Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY24 | 12/20/2023 | $100,000 | $100,035 | The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) defined talent pathways for Region 7's targeted industries: Computer Software, Cybersecurity, and Emerging Technologies. The Region 7 Council selected the Arlington-based nonprofit Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC), collaborating with the George Mason University Center for Regional Analysis, as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative Industry cluster talent coordinating entity. CREC will work with Region 7 council leadership to identify a Research Advisory Group of businesses. |
| 7 | Future Kings Life Sciences Workforce Development Pilot Program | Future Kings | Workforce Development | FY24 | 1/17/2024 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Future Kings accelerated entry level job readiness for emerging biomedical job opportunities in life sciences for underserved black and Latino populations by increasing the pool of interested students in the K-12 system and providing two internship opportunities for graduate students and college credit opportunities for secondary students. This program will accomplish its project goal through a two-part process: 1) increasing the number of graduate school candidates who meet the qualifications of the most in-demand jobs of area life science employers, and 2) creating a pipeline of area secondary school students who are prepared and motivated to pursue a career in the life science industry and have the opportunity to earn college credits through American Council on Education (ACE). |
| 7 | SciTech Innovation District Planning Grant | George Mason University | Startup Ecosystem | FY24 | 3/21/2024 | $75,000 | $75,000 | Through partnerships with the economic development offices of Prince William County and the City of Manassas, GMU will work with a third-party contractor to bring together public and private stakeholders to the table to ensure a strategic plan and next steps laid out to create an Innovation District (also known as a Research Park). Success will be dependent on a business plan that 1) is informed by SWOT analysis; 2) is inclusive of all assets including areas of strength for research, educational programming, workforce and business counts, and ecosystem support organizations; 3) has a sustainable and scalable financial and operations plans; and 4) is guided by a collaborative governance model. |
| 8 | RAAMP Welding Training | Byers Technical Institute | Workforce Development | FY18 | 2/13/2018 | $100,000 | $100,000 | Byers Technical Institute has taken significant steps to address the increasing demand for skilled welders in the Shenandoah Valley. To meet this need, the institute has expanded its training capacity by investing in state-of-the-art equipment, hiring additional qualified instructors, and broadening its course offerings. As a result, the RAAMP program will now be able to train 20 more welders in each 40-week cohort, providing students with the specialized skills and knowledge required to excel in the welding industry. This initiative not only helps to fill local workforce gaps but also equips graduates with valuable career opportunities in a vital trade. |
| 8 | BRCC Cyber Security Workforce Development | Blue Ridge Community College (BRCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $200,000 | $200,000 | Blue Ridge Community College initiated a new cybersecurity workforce development program focused on producing new industry credentials (CompTIA Security+) to attract cybersecurity jobs to the Shenandoah Valley. BRCC will arrange internship opportunities with regional employers and establish an advisory council of Managed Security Service Providers (MSSP) who will review and approve the development of the program, curriculum and on-the-job training opportunities. |
| 8 | Shenandoah Valley Talent Solutions Strategy Development | Frederick County Economic Development Authority | Workforce Development | FY18 | 12/11/2018 | $64,800 | $68,400 | The Frederick County Economic Development Authority developed a Talent Solutions Strategy to address: 1) high school and college graduate retention 2) development of a workforce to meet the needs of regional businesses, and 3) attraction of new workforce participation from outside of the Region and State. |
| 8 | Staunton Tech-Lab Feasibility Study | Staunton Innovation League | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 12/11/2018 | $23,000 | $23,000 | The Staunton Innovation League assessed the feasibility of creating the Hub-Lab, a student-entrepreneur makerspace, to teach creative and collaborative ways to use innovative equipment and technology such as 3D printers, laser cutters, robotics, and electronics. This study will 1) assess the need for this initiative, 2) determine the equipment and relevant curriculum, 3) assess the practicality of bricks-and-mortar and mobile lab spaces, and 4) identify funding sources to support the build-out of the Hub-Lab. |
| 8 | Shihadeh Innovation Center | Winchester Public Schools | Workforce Development | FY18 | 3/12/2019 | $540,000 | $540,000 | Winchester Public Schools renovated the former Kohn Kerr Elementary School into an advanced facility for career and technical education (CTE) programs offered through a Professional Skills Academy, a Health Sciences Academy, and an Information Technology Academy to support an expanded Work-Based Learning program to connect students to regional businesses in the targeted clusters. |
| 8 | Industrial Hemp Initiative Phase 1 | James Madison University | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $53,630 | $53,630 | James Madison University studied the impacts and opportunities of the industrial hemp industry for all of the Shenandoah Valley, including the assets and industry resources within the region in order to identify and verify business and cluster scale-up opportunities across Region 8 in agriculture, manufacturing, and biomedical/biotechnical sectors |
| 8 | Scale-Up the Valley | Shenandoah Valley Partnership | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $50,000 | $50,000 | The Shenandoah Valley Partnership utilized the expertise and resources of the National Center for Economic Gardening (National Center). Founded by Chris Gibbons in Littleton, Colorado, the National Center has a long history of providing economic gardening services to traded-sector companies on behalf of states, regions and localities. In fact, Virginia has been a client and user of the National Center's resources through a limited program offered by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership. |
| 8 | Agriculture Enterprise Center Feasibility Study | Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission | Cluster Scale-Up | FY19 | 4/17/2020 | $85,000 | $85,000 | The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission provided long-term scale up food manufacturing opportunities to new and existing businesses. The Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission is proposing to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of developing a certified, commercial, shared-use Agricultural Enterprise Center in order to identify what components will be the most successful and beneficial to the region. Initial uses being considered include a kitchen space for testing and manufacturing food products, a resource space for training and special events, and space for packaging and distribution. |
| 8 | Startup Shenandoah Valley | Staunton Creative Community Fund | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 6/23/2020 | $628,953 | $315,210 | Staunton Creative Community Fund delivered a three-prong approach to kick start a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem that will deliver dedicated staff, partnerships with regional assets, workspaces, connections to mentorship, and access to capital to companies with a high potential for growth and success. |
| 8 | Reopening SAW | Augusta County | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 7/25/2020 | $50,000 | $25,000 | Augusta County helped the region's small businesses recover revenue lost due the economic effects of COVID-19 and provide assurance to locals and visitors that SAW is a safe and welcoming location. |
| 8 | SBDC Small Business Resiliency Teams | Frederick County Economic Development Authority | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 7/31/2020 | $81,813 | $44,413 | Frederick County Economic Development Authority helped the region's small businesses mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19 in the near term, as well as prepare them for successful longer-term outcomes. This will be done by assembling Small Business Resiliency Teams (SBRT), a consortium of service providers to work directly with participating businesses to identify the most appropriate type of assistance to address their needs in implementing the recommendations for SBRT clients. |
| 8 | LOCAL-I | Common Grain Alliance | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 12/17/2020 | $60,600 | $30,300 | Common Grain Alliance developed a scalable and repeatable process of supporting and building cooperative relationships between farmers, other local producers, and distributors impacted by the Coronavirus by introducing a platform to facilitate supply chain logistics which enables a network of farmer-cooperatives and distributorships, (ii) introduce farmer efficiency technology to streamline food sales, cold or dry storage access, and distribution, and (iii) leverage the established web applications of Local Food Network (LFN) and Virginia Cooperative Extension's (VCE) Market Maker and Buy Fresh Buy Local in order to provide an online marketplace to increase sales from wholesale buyers and direct consumers. |
| 8 | Shenandoah Valley Sites Enhancement | Shenandoah Valley Partnership | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $821,000 | $1,223,664 | The Shenandoah Valley Partnership elevated six sites totaling 1,112 acres in Region 8 to the next Tier on the VEDP Site Characterization scale by completing all due diligence work associated with the sites. |

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| 8 | Shenandoah Valley Aviation Technology Park Site | Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY20 | 6/29/2021 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission has successfully finalized the design and engineering plans for the water and sewer systems that will support the upcoming phases of the Aviation Technology Park. This development is essential for accommodating future growth and ensuring that the infrastructure meets the needs of businesses and tenants within the park. The Commission is committed to creating a sustainable and efficient environment that fosters innovation in the aviation sector while promoting economic development in the region.. |
| 8 | Agricultural Innovation Center | The Advancement Foundation | Startup Ecosystem | FY21 | 12/15/2021 | $550,000 | $275,000 | The Advancement Foundation created a multi-use facility featuring a business incubator and classrooms, ag and food tech labs, a small-scale manufacturing space, a processing and product development space, and a commercial kitchen to expand agricultural and tech industries across the Shenandoah Valley. |
| 8 | Shenandoah Valley Small Business Resiliency Teams (SBRT) Round 2 | Laurel Ridge Community College | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 4/20/2022 | $100,000 | $50,500 | Laurel Ridge Community College enabled Business Resiliency Navigators to work with the small business community and assist in the specific areas of e-commerce, finance, and operational systems. This program will help participating businesses stay on-track and fully focused on successful growth strategies and actions by providing existing resources and skills, as well as defined focus and technical expertise. |
| 8 | Accelerating Advanced Manufacturing Workforce | Laurel Ridge Community College | Workforce Development | FY22 | 6/14/2022 | $530,000 | $266,687 | Laurel Ridge Community College will partner with the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) to offer their advanced manufacturing sector focused career pathway training program. NC3 has partnered with major national advanced manufacturing employers such as 3M, Trane, Dremel, Snap-On Tools, and Lincoln Electric to create an industry driven portable and stackable certification system that spans three levels of manufacturing competency-based training which can be utilized for new job applicants and emerging employees, incumbent workers who need to advance their skills, and apprenticeships for manufacturing production positions and industrial maintenance technicians. |
| 8 | NextGen Nurses | Shenandoah University | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/14/2022 | $496,000 | $343,455 | Shenandoah University addressed critical healthcare shortages exacerbated by the pandemic, Shenandoah University and Valley Health System will partner to develop and deliver a model that will: Systematically Increase the number of nurse preceptors, increase the number of clinical hours achieved in the university simulation lab, increase the number of newly trained nurse graduates who are retained in the region, increase the number of new nursing enrollments, and increase the number of new nurses hired by Valley Health |
| 8 | SHD Technology Park | Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission (SHD) | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY23 | 12/13/2022 | $993,300 | $1,368,637 | The Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission (SHD) advanced an industrial site within an existing airport park from Tier 2 to Tier 4 along the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) scale. The Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport Commission, which comprises five surrounding localities, is working towards making fundamental site improvements to the Aviation Technology Park. These improvements will construct a water line and gravity sewer line that will strategically redirect existing utilities at the site to the perimeter, allowing SHD to build out the Park, and construct several new hangars. |
| 8 | Capacitor Incubator | Shenandoah Community Capital Fund | Startup Ecosystem | FY23 | 6/13/2023 | $395,067 | $201,402 | The Shenandoah Community Capital Fund addressed a gap in the Region 8 entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing a regional incubator program serving early stage startups. The Capacitor Incubator Program aims to fill a substantial gap of the greater Shenandoah Valley entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing early-stage startups with an array of services including customized validation stage development, commercialization programming, physical working locations hubs, and deep connections to the broader entrepreneurial ecosystem facilitated through dedicated ecosystem builders and mentors. |
| 8 | GO2 Work in Manufacturing and Transportation in the Valley | Shenanadoah Valley Center for Advanced Learning | Workforce Development | FY24 | 9/12/2023 | $884,500 | $442,250 | The Shenandoah Valley Center for Advanced Learning increased the pool of qualified candidates in the Transportation and Logistics and Light Manufacturing industry clusters. The project will add new career education and technical programs for Industrial Maintenance and Aviation Technology and will address critical needs to upgrade equipment to modern standards and technologies for training high school and adult apprenticeship students in Precision Machining, Welding, Auto, and Diesel Technology. |
| 8 | Winchester Airport Northside Pacel Planning Study | Winchester Regional Airport Authority | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY24 | 9/15/2023 | $100,000 | $50,000 | The Winchester Regional Airport Authority performed due diligence planning for a parcel of land at the Winchester Airport that will support the attraction of aircraft manufacturers serving the GO Virginia Region 8 targeted industry sectors, including Light Manufacturing, Transportation and Logistics, and Information Technology/Communications. This project is a planning study to analyze the site development requirements and perform selected surveys for a 27-acre tract of land owned fee simple by the Winchester Regional Airport Authority and zoned for aeronautical use. |
| 8 | Blue Mountain RIFA Feasibility Study | Shenandoah Valley Partnership | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY24 | 1/19/2024 | $78,630 | $45,000 | The Shenandoah Valley Partnership undertook a comprehensive feasibility analysis of the Blue Mountain site to evaluate its suitability for a proposed Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (RIFA). This in-depth analysis encompassed a thorough economic assessment of the property's potential, examining factors such as market demand, infrastructure capacity, and job creation opportunities. The study aimed to inform the establishment of the RIFA, which is intended to promote industrial development and enhance economic growth in the region. By combining these insights, the Partnership seeks to facilitate informed decision-making and attract potential investors to the site. |
| 8 | Winchester Advanced Air Mobility Workforce Study | Winchester Regional Airport Authority | Workforce Development | FY24 | 4/23/2024 | $71,000 | $35,000 | The Winchester Regional Airport Authority will engage a specialized consultant to conduct a comprehensive study on the necessity of workforce development initiatives in the rapidly evolving field of advanced air mobility. This initiative aims to assess the current skill gaps and training requirements in the sector, ensuring that the local workforce is well-prepared to meet the demands of emerging technologies and opportunities within the industry. The findings of this study will help inform strategies and programs designed to enhance workforce readiness and bolster economic growth in the region. |
| 8 | Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board TPI | Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board | Workforce Development | FY23 | 6/4/2024 | $250,000 | $125,000 | The Region 8 Council has chosen the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board (SVWDB) to act as the Talent Pathways Planning Initiative industry cluster talent coordinating entity. As the regional workforce convening organization, SVWDB has a proven track record of delivering seamless services across various workforce programs and demonstrating community leadership on workforce issues in GOVA Region 8. In collaboration with Worked, SVWDB will create a comprehensive talent pathways plan, serving as a roadmap for future workforce development projects for the Region 8 Council's consideration. |
| 8 | Blue Mountain Extended Due Diligence | Shenandoah Valley Partnership | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 12/10/2024 | $348,810 | $174,405 | The Shenandoah Valley Partnership desires to increases the inventory of regionally significant shovel-ready sites in GO Virginia Region 8 and addressed developing a regional industrial park. Through previous GO Virginia grant funding, the applicant has worked with localities to elevate 199 acres of the Blue Mountain site to a tier 4 on the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program (VBRSP) scale. The applicant is seeking GO Virginia funding to elevate the remaining balance of the site (297 acres) to tier 4 on the VBRSP scale. Another key project component is a GO Virginia-funded Regional Industrial Facilities Authority (RIFA) feasibility study. The study, which was completed in November 2024, indicates a recommended next step of forming a RIFA |
| 8 | Clark County Camp 7 Site Development Planning | Clark County | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY25 | 12/10/2024 | $170,625 | $85,313 | Clark County is working to increase the inventory of shovel-ready sites in GO Virginia Region 8. The applicant is in the process of closing on the purchase of a 40-acre site from the Commonwealth of Virginia that was previously home to a prison, which ceased operations in 2014. The proposed GO Virginia funded first phase will include work with a site consultant to complete a series of planning and assessment activities, including review and analysis of site access, existing water and sewer infrastructure, industrial hygiene of all buildings, phase 1 environmental stream/wetland delineation, cultural resources, geotechnical surveys, and structural analysis. |
| 8 | ShenValley Meat Processing Cooperative | Page County | Cluster Scale-Up | FY25 | 4/11/2025 | $100,000 | $50,000 | Page County, will work to develop a business plan for the creation of a meat processing facility and cooperative that will serve GO Virginia Region 8, as well as other meat processors statewide. This business plan will include the following components: 1. Research and development of the most effective structure and governance for the cooperative. 2. Identification of key partner relationships for services that would not be handled by the facility, including harvesting and live receiving. 3. Development of and execution of legal agreements between the public and private partnering entities, including outlining roles and responsibilities, commitments, and the governance structure. 4. Research and development of generic facility designs, including defining necessary components of the facility, such as cooler areas, cold storage, and cattle receiving. 5. Development of a sustainability strategy, including identification of additional funding partners and fundraising strategies for private investment. |
| 9 | GWC P-Tech Welding and Machining Center | Culpeper County | Workforce Development | FY18 | 4/10/2018 | $244,300 | $431,625 | Culpeper County addressed the former George Washington Carver High School into the state-of-the art GWC Piedmont Technical Education Center to train machinists and welders. New Pathways Tech Inc. will operate the facility in partnership with Germanna Community College and the American Institute of Welding to train machinists and welders for the region's advanced manufacturing industry. |

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| 9 | Adult Beverage Jobs & Exports | Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $249,472 | $251,800 | Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) created a professional training program in wine and cider making, craft brewing and distilling to support the scale-up of the growing food and beverage manufacturing industry for the region and the commonwealth. PVCC will equip two training facilities for the training programs, and establish the necessary agribusiness curriculum and career pathway from post-secondary instruction to employment. The new curriculum will be shared with Germanna Community College (GCC) and deployed to students and businesses in GCC's service region. |
| 9 | Central Virginia Cybersecurity Partnership | Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) | Workforce Development | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $100,000 | $136,400 | Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) built capacity for the Central Virginia Cybersecurity Partnership, a collaborative talent development solution for the cybersecurity industry in Region Nine. PVCC will coordinate with GCC and Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC) to establish a shared cybersecurity program by aligning each community college with area of instructional expertise and accreditation from the National Centers for Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense. The project will result in common cybersecurity curricula and a credentialing pathway between the partners for areas of specialization. |
| 9 | Central Virginia Site Readiness | Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY18 | 6/12/2018 | $58,675 | $58,675 | Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development advances a portfolio of eight sites targeted for light manufacturing to at least a Tier 3, according to the VBRSP classification system. CVPED engaged a consultant to conduct site characterization and initial due diligence activities for the site nominated by each of the participating localities. |
| 9 | CvilleBioHub Planning Grant | CvilleBioHub | Startup Ecosystem | FY18 | 8/14/2018 | $83,540 | $92,540 | CvilleBioHub assesses the current and projected regional capacity for the biotech industry and creates a strategic plan for driving innovation and growth for this cluster. In addition, CvilleBioHub will also plan for organizational sustainability and growth by investigating new revenue models and forming additional institutional partnerships. |
| 9 | Catalyst Accelerator Program | University of Virginia School of Business Batten Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 3/12/2019 | $475,200 | $476,000 | The University of Virginia School of Business Batten Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation is addressing an existing gap in the local ecosystem by providing the dedicated staff, workspace, programming, mentorship, and grant funding to support up to 20 high-potential companies. The Catalyst will offer a portfolio of programming and network events, as well as internships and project-based learning opportunities for UVA students. |
| 9 | Regional Business Park - Phase 2 Site Readiness (Tier 3) | Louisa County | Site Development and Infrastructure | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $600,850 | $2,802,150 | Louisa County completed the Phase II due diligence work for an approximately 700-acre new regional business park and advanced the development status to a Tier 3 site on the Virginia Business Ready Site Program (VBSRP). This phase of due diligence includes topographic and boundary surveys, traffic impact assessment, preliminary engineering reports (PER), geotechnical survey, cultural resource summary, and completion of the master plan. |
| 9 | Youth Entrepreneurship Program Resource | Fauquier County | Startup Ecosystem | FY19 | 6/24/2019 | $83,500 | $83,500 | Fauquier County contracted with a consultant to develop a pilot Youth Entrepreneurship Program in three schools and a best practices resource deliverable. The program is designed to introduce, expose and pique interest in the concept of entrepreneurship to high-school-aged youth and help youth explore careers as entrepreneurs. The goals of the program are to develop a pipeline of future business owners in high-growth, targeted sectors and to encourage these new businesses to locate and focus their job growth in the rural part of Region 9. |
| 9 | Biotech Innovation Cluster Growth | CvilleBioHub | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 12/9/2019 | $548,000 | $604,740 | CvilleBioHub led the growth and expansion of the biotechnology innovation cluster within the region. This initiative will serve the needs of existing companies through programming, the planning and design of a wet lab space, workforce training and candidate matching opportunities. |
| 9 | Business-Driven Workforce Recovery Initiative | Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development | Workforce Development | FY20 | 5/8/2020 | $99,500 | $50,000 | The Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development strengthens communication within the talent development system, proactively reach out to businesses to determine their workforce needs and corresponding opportunities. This work will also support the development of regional sector-based strategies to implement talent solutions for each of the target industries as identified in the Region 9 Growth Plan Update, released in 2019. |
| 9 | Project Reconnect | Virginia Career Works - Piedmont | Workforce Development | FY20 | 5/29/2020 | $99,500 | $50,000 | Virginia Career Works: Piedmont focused on providing support to dislocated workers who are not covered under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) federal program. The initiative aimed to connect these individuals with meaningful employment opportunities by collaborating with regional employers. Through targeted outreach and tailored resources, Virginia Career Works: Piedmont sought to bridge the gap between local talent and the job market, ensuring that those affected by economic shifts could access the necessary training and job placement services to successfully transition into new careers. |
| 9 | Crafting a New Normal | Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/5/2020 | $44,000 | $22,000 | The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission project focuses on feasible web-based industry support solutions to improve e-commerce with a focus on improving dining reservation systems that allow for limited outside service and a platform adaptable to COVID-19 restrictions. |
| 9 | Project Rebound | Charlottesville Regional Chamber | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 6/5/2020 | $80,000 | $100,000 | The Charlottesville Regional Chamber is committed to gaining a comprehensive understanding of the unique challenges faced by local businesses as they navigate the process of reopening and rebuilding their operations in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. By actively engaging with business owners and stakeholders, the Chamber identifies immediate needs and offers tailored resources and support to help foster a resilient and thriving regional economy. Their initiatives focus on providing guidance, facilitating access to funding, and promoting best practices to ensure that businesses can effectively adapt to the new economic landscape and emerge stronger than ever. |
| 9 | Regional Business and Professional "Connector Platform" | Charlottesville Business Innovation Council | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 11/20/2020 | $76,500 | $38,450 | The Charlottesville Business Innovation Council in Region Nine has developed a comprehensive cloud-based platform utilizing Start-Up Space technology. This innovative solution features a native mobile application, a responsive website, and a utility/interaction platform offered as a service. The aim of this platform is to empower businesses by providing them with the tools they need to accelerate their recovery and adaptation in the post-pandemic landscape. By facilitating improved communication, streamlined processes, and enhanced access to resources, the platform is designed to support businesses in navigating the challenges they face and seizing new opportunities in the wake of the pandemic. |
| 9 | Venture Central | Charlottesville Regional Chamber | Startup Ecosystem | FY20 | 12/7/2020 | $300,000 | $210,000 | The Charlottesville Regional Chamber has significantly strengthened the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region by enhancing access to critical resources and support services for entrepreneurs. This initiative aims to create a more vibrant network of shared knowledge, mentorship, and funding opportunities, which will ultimately lead to a higher five-year survival rate for startups. As a result, we anticipate not only increased job growth but also a broader economic vitality that benefits a diverse range of individuals and communities. By fostering an inclusive environment, the Chamber is committed to ensuring that all aspiring entrepreneurs, regardless of their background, have the tools and support they need to succeed in a competitive marketplace. |
| 9 | SBDC Digital Business Resiliency | Community Investment Collaborative | Cluster Scale-Up | FY20 | 3/16/2021 | $131,220 | $65,800 | Community Investment Collaborative helped existing businesses and new ventures address growth challenges and improve economic resiliency by addressing digital presence and e-commerce gaps, as well as expand the SBDC's capacity to serve the region's business development needs. The proposal emphasizes services to rural localities and under-resourced communities. |
| 9 | The Future of Workforce Development Outreach | Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development | Workforce Development | FY20 | 6/15/2021 | $148,689 | $74,250 | The Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development addressed newly identified service equity gaps in specific localities to ensure regional recovery from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will capitalize on the lessons learned while serving the workforce needs throughout GO Virginia Region 9 over the last ten months through Project Reconnect. |