



VACAP NEWS

March 16, 2023

Inside this Issue

- Register Now for VACAP 2023 Regional Meetings Set for May 17 (Hampton), May 24 (Wytheville) & May 31 (Fredericksburg)
 - Save the Date: VACAP Summit Confirmed for October 10-11, 2023 (Richmond, Virginia at the Virginia Housing Center)
 - Reminder of SNAP and Medicaid Changes – Resources to Assist
 - Good Reads and Newsworthy Updates
 - Community Action Plan Update
 - Funding Opportunities Available to VACAP Members
-

Register Now for VACAP 2023 Regional Meetings Set for May 17 (Hampton), May 24 (Wytheville) & May 31 (Fredericksburg)

VACAP is pleased to launch registration for the newly created VACAP Regional Meetings! Join fellow community action peers and partners in your region for a day of networking, information exchange and hear updates on topics from VACAP's partners and funders. VACAP's Training and Innovations Committee is excited to implement a one-day regional meeting designed to allow large teams from each agency to experience the support and ideas of peers from the network that is a short drive from your agency. Thank you to AppCAA, Mountain CAP, Thrive and HRCAP for their hospitality in helping to plan and host in each region. **Bring a van full of community action team members!** Costs per person is only \$30 with discounted registration costs when you register four or more staff at one time.

Who should attend?

VACAP encourages each agency with multiple staff to bring 4-10 colleagues together. There will be breakout peer groups in many of the major areas of community action. These groups will be formed on site based on those attending. Additional Peer Exchange groups may be determined as people sign up to attend.

Below are some of the peer groups we will offer participants to break into during the peer learning breakout sessions:

- Broadband Equity/Opportunity Grantees
- CEO/Director
- Finance/Fiscal staff
- Head Start staff



- Housing Counseling/homeless assistance staff
- HR staff
- IT/Data staff
- Planner/ROMA staff
- Senior Leaders
- Weatherization/housing rehabilitation/housing construction staff
- Whole Family staff

How to Register?

See below for registration links for the three meetings and the list of agencies in each region. **Every agency is welcome to send staff to any of the meetings.** The registration page has the full agenda, a list of local hotels, a sponsor list of those making these events possible, and the registration page.

Region 3 – Hampton - May 17 – 9:30am-2pm - <https://cvent.me/aL4rRv>

CAPUP, ESCAA, Goochland, HRCAP, Imp Assoc, Project Discovery, Powhatan, SERCAP, STEPS, STOP, Tri-County, VA CARES, WJCC-CAA

Region 1 - Wytheville - May 24 – 9:30am-2pm – <https://cvent.me/rQ581A>

AppCAA, Clinch Valley, LynCAG, Mt. CAP, NRCA, PCCA, Project Discovery, People, Rooftop, SERCAP, STEP, TAP, VA CARES

Region 2 - Fredericksburg - May 31 – 9:30am-2pm – <https://cvent.me/40qykK>

Alexandria, Arlington, Bay Aging, CAPSAW, Fairfax, MACAA, Project Discovery, People, SERCAP, Skyline, Thrive, VA CARES

Save the Date: VACAP Summit Confirmed for October 10-11, 2023 (Richmond, Virginia)

VACAP's second annual Pathways from Poverty to Prosperity Summit will continue to include networking, encouragement, and hearing about key opportunities from strategic partners and funders. VACAP has confirmed October 10-11, 2023 at the Virginia Housing Center in Richmond. Please note this is a slight day change from the original tentative date. We hope you will save the dates so you can join us for this keystone VACAP event!



Reminder of SNAP and Medicaid Changes – Resources to Assist

COVID-19 Emergency SNAP Allotments are ending, with recent federal changes. This ends the Virginia Department of Social Services' authorization to issue benefits through that temporary federal program, which began in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. **Recipients received their final payment of these additional benefits on February 16.**

It's estimated about 460,000 Virginia households are losing their emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Some estimates predict a loss of \$178 per month to households, and an overall monthly statewide decrease of \$69 million. However, some households will see dramatic decreases in support, especially seniors.

For assistance with applying for food benefits, visit the VDSS SNAP webpage:

<https://dss.virginia.gov/benefit/snap.cgi> To access information regarding resources statewide and in your local community, please contact 2-1-1

Virginia: <https://www.211virginia.org/consite/index.php> or visit the VDSS food and other nutritional assistance page: <https://dss.virginia.gov/benefit/wic.cgi>

A temporary phone line for information set up by the Virginia Poverty Law Center opened January 30. Families may call 1-855-635-4370, weekdays from 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Virginians can also contact VPLC's SNAP Helpline at 866-753-7627.

Federal changes also end the Medicaid continuous coverage requirement. Since March 2020, all existing and new Medicaid enrollees were kept in coverage even if their circumstances changed. Starting this month, March 2023, the more than 2.1 million Virginians enrolled in Medicaid will have their eligibility re-evaluated. This will take place over a 12-month unwinding period.

Virginia's Department of Medical Assistance Services estimates that up to 400,000 members could lose coverage during this time.

See Cover Virginia link to learn more about ways to help your clients navigate this major change:

<https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/return-to-normal-enrollment/>

Good Reads & Newsworthy Updates

One CEO's Story of Executive Burnout

By: Angel B. Pérez

Reports of burnout at the top level of organizations are on the rise. An association CEO shares his personal journey of struggling with burnout and how he found joy in work and life again.

https://www.asaecenter.org/resources/articles/an_plus/2023/2-february/one-ceos-story-of-executive-burnout/



Youngkin's Workforce Development Bill passes House and Senate

By DAVID RESS, Richmond Times-Dispatch

One of Gov. Glenn Youngkin's top legislative priorities — a bill to consolidate dozens of programs — is headed to his desk after both the House of Delegates and state Senate voted Tuesday to enact the change. The new Department of Workforce Development and Advancement would be the administrator and fiscal agent — the money manager— for state programs that help people train for and find jobs.

https://richmond.com/news/state-and-regional/govt-and-politics/youngkins-workforce-development-bill-passes-house-and-senate/article_fe5e5184-a72c-11ed-8d6c-d3aa7e7512a9.html

Community Action Plan Update

The annual Community Action Plan is due May 1, 2023. All components of the Community Action Plan (CAP) are submitted through CSBG Reporter. On March 2nd at 1pm the CSBG Staff will be conducting a webinar to review the components of the CAP Plan. A meeting invitation and link was sent out upon registration. If you did not register or did not receive the meeting link please email csbg@dss.virginia.gov.

The webinar will be recorded and added to LearnWorlds. CSBG staff developed a CAP Tip Sheet which contains common questions regarding the CAP plan.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/d52d9850501/9834f471-f349-4b31-a5fd-9b4eed05e020.pdf>

Upcoming Free Webinars for VACAP Members

VACAP and OEO are partnering with the Region 3 Regional Innovation and Performance Consortia (RPIC) to offer a variety of trainings over the next several months. These trainings are open to any staff or board member who may be interested, please forward as needed. There will be two webinars each month between February and August, topics vary each month, so make sure to sign up for any session relevant to your position!

March Sessions:

- March 9 - Agency Wide Budgeting Webinar - 2pm - Recording Available
Agency-wide budgeting is critical for financial planning and ongoing monitoring. The CSBG Organizational Standards require an agency-wide budget. This session will address the nuts and bolts of building one and, even more important, will address the role the agency-wide budget plays in agency planning and ongoing fiscal health.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0kfumuqT8iGdSILfUF059uwm2omGKRCRBw>
- March 23 - Authentic Communication, Part I: Introduction and Mindful Communication Webinar - 10am



Join us as we explore why Authentic Communication is vital to our success and well-being and the five communication practices that strengthen our deep awareness, focus, and clarity. [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlucCgrj0qGNMqqVBPRWTcMmnKoLxdhSR2](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlucCgrj0qGNMqqVBPRWTcMmnKoLxdhSR2)

Full list of upcoming trainings: <https://vacsbg.learnworlds.com/blog/regional-webinars-2023> and on the VACAP Events and Training Calendar <https://www.vacap.org/events/>

Funding Opportunities Available to VACAP Members

USDA Food Access Funding Opportunities

USDA NIFA: Nutrition Incentive Program

Minimum Award: \$500,000

Due Date: May 4, 2023

The GusNIP Nutrition Incentive Program presents the opportunity to bring together stakeholders from various parts of the food and healthcare systems to foster understanding of how they might improve the health and nutrition status of participating households. Applications should support and evaluate projects intended to increase the purchase of fruits and vegetables by providing incentives at the point of purchase among income eligible consumers participating in the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

<https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-program-nutrition-incentive-0>

Office of Community Services (OCS) Funding Opportunities Community Economic Development (CED) NOFO

Max Award: 800,000 per project

Due Date: May 8, 2023

Eligible projects include those that are designed to address the economic needs of individuals and families with low income, through the creation of employment and business opportunities.

The CED program seeks to fund projects that address the personal and community barriers that must be overcome for individuals with low incomes to become self-sufficient.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocs/CED-2023-NOFO-HHS-2021-ACF-OCS-EE-1965.pdf>

Community Economic Development (CED) Focus of Energy Communities NOFO

Max Award: \$800,000 per project

Due Date: May 17, 2023

The Focus on Energy Communities program has the same overarching purpose and strategies as the CED program, but with a focus on projects located in and serving energy communities.

CED projects that will be located in and serve energy communities – communities that have either experienced employment loss and /or economic dislocation events as a result of declines in the



fossil fuel industry and/or are disproportionately reliant on fossil fuel energy production or distribution, including coal, oil, gas, and power plant communities across the country. Projects may

include the creation or expansion of business(es) that reduce emissions of toxic substances and greenhouse gases from existing and abandoned infrastructure and that prevent environmental damage that harms communities and poses a risk to public health and safety. Projects may also employ individuals from energy communities but focus on a range of other industries. The overall goal of this effort will be to create good-paying jobs, spur economic revitalization, remediate environmental degradation, and support energy workers. Further, these grants will be made as part of a broader strategy to address objectives such as decreasing dependency on federal programs, chronic unemployment, and community deterioration in urban and rural areas.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocs/CED-HHS-2022-ACF-OCS-EE-0081-FY2023.pdf>

If you plan on applying, check out these resources!

The 2023 CED NOFO Pre-Application Presentation provides prospective applicants of the CED program with details about the 2023 grant competition, including:

- Information about the CED program;
- Eligibility information;
- Application requirements;
- Application criteria; and
- The application submission and review process.

Watch the 2023 CED NOFO Pre-Application Presentation now!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aJ8lrHko44&t=29s>

Please visit the [Information for Prospective Applicants](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/ced-information-prospective-applicants) page <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/ced-information-prospective-applicants>

This page also provides additional CED NOFO resources, such as:

- Key Considerations for Designing a CED Project
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7mQzyWbveI>)
- Tips on Writing and Submitting a CED Application
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNHV-9fagOE>)

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) How-to-Apply Session

The Virginia Community Development Block Grant Program

(<https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/cdbg>) will be holding its annual How-to-Apply session. The 2023 CDBG How-to-Apply session will provide information on application and project development for the 2023 CDBG programs. DHCD will provide timeline and funding information for all project types, as well as tips for creating a successful application. The event is free but please register by Friday, March 17th in order to receive the login information in time for the event. A recording of the webinar will be posted to the DHCD website for those who are unable to attend. If you have



questions about this event, please contact Matt Weaver (matt.weaver@dhcd.virginia.gov) or Rachel Jordan (Rachel.jordan@dhcd.virginia.gov).

When: Wednesday, March 22 from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Register for the Event (<https://dmz1.dhcd.virginia.gov/dhcdevents/registration.aspx?EID=514>)

The Department of Housing and Community Development's Affordable and Special Needs Housing (ASNH) Program

Max Award:

\$700,000 – Maximum request per source (HOME Investment Partnership Grant, National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF), or Virginia Housing Trust Fund (VHTF))

\$900,000 – Maximum request per source for projects providing qualified Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units

\$2,100,000 – Maximum award for a project requesting HOME, NHTF and VHTF

\$2,400,000 – Maximum award for a project providing qualified PSH units and requesting HOME, NHTF, and VHTF

Due Date: April 4, 2023

The ASNH Program is the consolidated, competitive application used by DHCD to award National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Virginia Housing Trust Fund (VHTF), and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) funds towards the development of affordable multifamily rental and single-family homeownership projects across the Commonwealth.

<https://www.dhcd.virginia.gov/asnh-how-apply-rental-focus>