



September 2023 Update

Tech Hub Application Submitted

The New River Valley Regional Commission was pleased to serve as the lead applicant on behalf of a coalition of partners in pursuit of a strategy development grant and regional designation to establish Virginia's Additive Manufacturing and Applied Materials Tech Hub through the US Economic Development Administration (US-EDA). The consortium consists of the counties, city, higher education institutions (VT, RU, NRCC), workforce development board, Onward NRV, industry partners: MELD, Print Works, Volvo Trucks, 2c Innovation Commons, Hollingsworth & Vose, FasTech LLC, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, along with several other collaborators. If selected, the strategy development grant would provide resources to hire a regional innovation officer and prepare a regional playbook for expanding the industry sector. The designation would allow the region to pursue implementation funds in the \$50M to \$75M range following development of the strategy. The US-EDA will make decisions on proposals in the coming months.

For more information, contact Kevin Byrd kbyrd@nrvc.org.





Share your thoughts about substance abuse and treatment in the NRV

The NRVRC is supporting the New River Health District (NRHD) in gathering survey responses to better understand how our communities are affected by substance abuse and how we can improve our response. This work will help inform opioid abatement efforts as the NRHD partners with the NRV Recovery Ecosystem program to provide education, treatment, and harm reduction services to our community.

You do not have to register to submit a survey; your response is confidential. Visit the survey page here: <https://ow.ly/6C0b50PxERe>

We also need your help to get the word out! Feel free to share the survey link above or you can share this Facebook post: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=615088900805210>.

For more information, contact Kim Bonner, kbonner@nrvc.org.



Rich Creek Bike Rodeo

Community members and families attended the Rich Creek Bike Rodeo on Saturday, July 29. The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for local children to learn and practice bicycle safety in a fun atmosphere. The event included representatives from the Town of Rich Creek, Rich Creek Police Department, Rich Creek Fire Department, Giles Sheriff's Office, Giles Rescue, Glen Lyn Rescue, Carilion Hospital, Giles Health Department, and Giles County. NRVRC staff attended to collect community feedback for the Town's Comprehensive Plan. Thank you to the Town for hosting a great event!

For more information, contact Bethany Peters, bethany@nrvc.org.

We're Hiring!



Help us find a new team member to lead our economic development program! This position works with communities to advance projects that help shape their future; supports small businesses by managing a regional revolving loan fund; and crafts the regional economic strategy alongside key partners in the public, private and nonprofit sectors. To learn more, please visit our website <https://nrvc.org/news/careers>

\$1.8M NRV Housing Trust Fund Award Announcement



The Regional Commission, with significant input from stakeholders around the region, have been working to create a pilot regional housing trust fund, using seed money from Virginia Housing. A call for proposals solicited applications from Pulaski and Montgomery counties, with available funds totaling \$1.8M. An award recommendation was approved by the housing trust fund stakeholder group to award 1) \$850,000 to Landmark Development for the development of 50 multi-family units for the Claremont project in the Town of Pulaski, and 2) \$950,000 to Community Housing Partners for the development of 56 multi-family units for the Legacy on Main project in the Town of Blacksburg. Funds were awarded as a 30 year, 1% loan. Long-term

sustainability is being sought through grantmaking and local public and private investment.

For more information contact Jennifer Wilsie, jwilsie@nrvc.org.

Opioid Abatement Information Sharing Lunch and Learns



The New River Valley Community Services hosted Lunch and Learns across the region in August in collaboration with the Regional Commission to share information about the Opioid Abatement Authority funding of the NRV Recovery Ecosystem program. It was also an opportunity to gather ideas, thoughts and concerns from citizens regarding implementation of this work. Governmental and community leaders and service providers in each locality gathered to discuss needs, ask questions, and share interest in supporting elements of the work ahead. This information was shared with the NRV Recovery Ecosystem Leadership Team at their August 30th meeting to align the goals and the proposal elements to begin implementation.

To view videos of the Lunch and Learns, visit the NRVCS YouTube channel. Links to each is listed below :

[Pulaski](#)

[Giles](#)

[Floyd](#)

[Montgomery](#)

[Radford](#)

For more information, contact Holly Lesko, hlesko@nrvc.org.

[Visit our website](#)

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