



## **VACAP NEWS**

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### **Invite Your Federal Legislators to Visit Your Agency!**

Now is a perfect time to invite your Members of Congress to visit your agency during your fall events.

For more tips and information, including a template email to send to your Congressman, visit NCAF website here: <https://mailchi.mp/fcf8725d5d48/important-opportunity-august-work-period?e=2f5a530e9b>

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### **VACAP Pathways from Poverty to Prosperity Summit Registration Now Open!**

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.

**Newly added: optional post conference offerings. Look out for an email soon on new details!**

We are excited to announce that registration is open for the annual Summit on October 10-11 in Richmond at the Virginia Housing Center with a new ad on Experience on October 12. New this year on October 10 in the morning we have added an interactive joint session with both the CEO peer Group and Senior Leader Peer group. We also will have a roundtable designed for program managers and ROMA professionals.



The optional Summit Add-on Experience is a Racial Healing Circle and Tour of the Black History Museum & Cultural Center of Virginia on October 12. This new optional and exciting experience is space limited and has an added registration cost.

Click below for the full agenda, hotel information, and to register:

<https://cvent.me/EMgGmg>

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## **2023 Common Cents Virtual Conference Registration Now Open!**

Join 100+ practitioners for interactive sessions on financial empowerment challenges and opportunities. The Common Cents Conference, held virtually over two days, is designed for those who care about helping families earn, keep, and save their money. The regional conference provides an opportunity to learn about financial challenges and innovative program models to help achieve financial dreams. CCC 2023 is co-hosted by Community Tax Aid, DC, CASH Campaign of Maryland and Virginia Community Action Partnership.

Dates: Tuesday, September 19 and Wednesday, September 20.

Learn more and register: <https://cvent.me/eBe92V>

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## **Good Reads & Newsworthy Updates**

### **Dominion: Program to cap bills for low-income Virginians to start this year**

By Dave Ress

Richmond Times Dispatch

A state-mandated program to cap electric bills for eligible low-income Dominion Energy customers is set to start by the end of the year, filings at the State Corporation Commission say. The program would cap the participants' bills at 6% of income for those who do not use electricity to heat their homes and 10% for those who do. It is intended for households earning up to 150% of the federal poverty level. The state Department of Social Services' newly released manual for the program sets the annual income caps for participants at \$20,385 for one person and \$41,625 for a family of four.

[https://richmond.com/news/state-regional/business/dominion-energy/article\\_c54ed4b4-3079-11ee-87bb-df30e0c7b2e4.html](https://richmond.com/news/state-regional/business/dominion-energy/article_c54ed4b4-3079-11ee-87bb-df30e0c7b2e4.html)

### **Governor Glenn Youngkin Announces \$2.3 Million in Workforce Opportunity Grants**

Governor Glenn Youngkin today announced nearly \$2.3 million in workforce development opportunity grants awarded for 22 projects throughout Virginia. Grant recipients will focus program efforts on boosting outreach and education for youth, providing technical and soft skill training, and increasing work-based learning opportunities, such as internships and apprenticeships. The programs are designed to help disadvantaged youth and help remove barriers of entry for individuals seeking meaningful employment.

Link to awards: <https://virginiacareerworks.com/wp-content/uploads/Workforce-Development-Grant-Awards-June-2023-v-08142023.pdf>

Link to full press release: <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/news-releases/2023/august/name-1012434-en.html>



### **Paperwork mistakes should not end a child's health coverage**

By Washington Post Editorial Board

When states finish culling their Medicaid rolls for the first time since the pandemic began, nearly 7 million eligible people will have lost their health insurance, according to federal estimates — and more than half will be children. This slow-moving public health disaster can be avoided, if state officials act now or the federal government forces them to.

Virginia is a model. Of the 290,000 Medicaid renewal applications the state has finished evaluating, it has denied only 6 percent for procedural issues, according to data from Georgetown University's Center for Children and Families. The state averted paperwork challenges by relying on automation — something all states should be doing.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/08/10/medicaid-unwinding-children-states/>

### **Fairfax County to experiment with monthly payments to families in need this fall**

By Vivian Hoang, FFXnow

This fall, Fairfax County will launch a guaranteed income pilot program, following in the footsteps of neighbors including Arlington County and Alexandria. The upcoming Fairfax County Economic Mobility Pilot (FCEMP) will begin providing families with monthly payments totaling \$2 million to “promote economic stability and social capital,” according to a press release. The monthly payments of \$750 will go to 180 eligible families chosen via application over the course of 15 months, with the funds being considered untaxable COVID-19 disaster relief that families have the freedom to choose how to spend.

<https://www.ffxnow.com/2023/08/17/fairfax-county-to-unveil-monthly-payment-program-for-families-in-need-this-fall/>

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## **Save the Date! VDSS Office of Trauma and Resilience Policy Presents- The Virginia Heals Initiative and Toolkit**

Join OEO and the Office of Trauma and Resilience Policy [OTRP] for two informative sessions in September. OTRP will provide a comprehensive overview of the Virginia HEALS Initiative.

Virginia HEALS, a groundbreaking cross-systems initiative dedicated to preventing and mitigating childhood trauma through the implementation of a trauma-informed model of service delivery for our Commonwealth's families. Because The Model is a cross-systems and community-based approach, Community Action Agencies and other community-organizations are the perfect place to connect with individuals, organizations, and communities about this important work.

Register for one of the workshops:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=geUKYsFOoE-GQV2fOGxzCQfyf5fmHG1NiXcciHaYHspUNFVDNjFOR0tTUU9EOVpVM0FYTU1GM1hM Mi4u&web=1&wdLOR=c29E5E89D-991F-4646-8A73-3359C72077E6>



- Tuesday, September 19th from 10- 11:30 am
- Thursday, September 21st from 10- 11:30 am

**The deadline for registration is Monday, September 11th.**

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## **OEO Updates**

### **2024-2026 State Plan - Planning Starts Soon!**

The CSBG State Plan is developed every two years by the Virginia Department of Social Services in conjunction with the Virginia Community Action Partnership and its member agencies. The purpose is to describe the Virginia's goals and processes for creating and maintaining a high quality community action network.

Webinar overview of the state plan process: <https://vacsb.org/learnworlds.com/course/csbg-state-plan-2024>

Interested in being on the workgroup to form the state plan? Sign up here:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qeUKYsFOoE-GQV2fOGxzCRbz6w60hmVMILOmuD5a0r1UQ0Q2WFZDRDRRMjE2REFCQUFMMEFEVD RGNS4u>

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## **Consider AmeriCorps Funding Opportunities for your Agency**

Did you know that last year more than \$10.8 million in federal funding was invested in Virginia to help non-profit organizations, state agencies, and other eligible entities develop a service project to meet critical community needs?

The source of this investment - AmeriCorps - allows organizations to design and implement an AmeriCorps program that will leverage "people power" as a solution. Your agency can then recruit, train and manage individuals, called AmeriCorps members, to deliver those services.

Through a unique partnership with America's Service Commissions (ASC) and Serve Virginia (<https://servevirginia.org/>), the Roanoke-based nonprofit and government consulting firm Building Beloved Communities LLC is now offering free consultations to non-profit and state agencies throughout Virginia to assess how an AmeriCorps program could help expand their capacity and impact.

BBC can then offer further consultations on program design, AmeriCorps application preparation, and program planning. These consultations are led by Sam Sokolove, BBC's Senior Consultant, who previously served as Executive Director of New Mexico's AmeriCorps Commission. If you would like to schedule a free consultation with Sam, please send an email request to [sam@buildingbelovedcommunities.com](mailto:sam@buildingbelovedcommunities.com).

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## **Microsoft 365 Discounts for Nonprofits**

Microsoft Tech for Social Impact is dedicated to providing affordable and accessible technology to help nonprofits of all sizes achieve their mission. With the Microsoft 365 grant, eligible nonprofits can get Microsoft 365 Business Premium free for up to 10 users and discounted pricing of \$5.50 (USD) per user/month for additional users.

Microsoft 365 Business Premium is best for small and mid-sized nonprofits that need email, Office desktop applications, cloud file-storage and sharing, web conferencing with IM, audio and HD video, and simple device management and advanced security features.

Get started: [https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/nonprofits/microsoft-365?mkt\\_tok=OTMxLUVLQS0yMTgAAAGNfhTt7C4jXr3N\\_8HCVgvOJspSktVqZpaYcw52A6bcA1TRQd\\_uexVVHqrFSaC\\_vP9jfsqeV7zBFpSEIfGTBUrei03dZK3sDRLqN9ek-71KKIq0I-U](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/nonprofits/microsoft-365?mkt_tok=OTMxLUVLQS0yMTgAAAGNfhTt7C4jXr3N_8HCVgvOJspSktVqZpaYcw52A6bcA1TRQd_uexVVHqrFSaC_vP9jfsqeV7zBFpSEIfGTBUrei03dZK3sDRLqN9ek-71KKIq0I-U)