

FY08 Education

Staff Summaries and Recommendations

October 2007

County of Appomattox

Appomattox Workforce Development Center, Phase II

\$250,000

Additional funds requested for Phase II of the Appomattox Workforce Development Center located in the west wing of the 16,000 square foot Carver-Price School to assist with the addition of laboratory cabinets and equipment and unexpected structural issues. Phase II will involve the renovation of four classrooms that will be used for distance learning classrooms for Central Virginia Community College, Adult GED/Adult Education programs coordinated by Appomattox County Public Schools, and the Nuclear Technology Pipeline program collaborated between the School, CVCC and Areva. Previous TICR funds assisted with roof repairs and the renovation of three classrooms and office space for CVCC, Region 2000 Workforce Investment Board, VEC, and Region 2000 SBDC. The Center is projected to serve 815 residents per year, of which 241 are distance learning students, 80 GED program participants, 20 nuclear high school students, and the remaining 474 are clients of the Career Center, SBDC and VEC.

Total project cost is \$1,289,073 (\$556,950 for Phase II). Other funds include: \$16,240 FY02 TICRC Southside Economic Development (Phase I); \$250,000 FY07 TICR Education (Phase II); \$71,401 FY08 Southside Economic Development – to be applied for November 1st (Phase II); \$527,889 Appomattox County (Phase I & II); \$103,092 U.S. Dept. Housing & Urban Development (Phase I); \$25,000 DHCD CDBG Planning Grant (Phase I); \$175,000 Central Virginia Community College - portion of FY06 allocation (Phase I).

Staff comments & recommendation: Project has received \$425,000 of TICR funding for the Center to date. Applicant intends to apply for Southside Economic Development allocation for a portion of Phase II costs, which would increase TICR's share to 82% of Phase II, and approx. 60% of the total project to date. **Staff recommends award of \$250,000.**

County of Bedford

Bedford's 21st Century Agribusiness Initiative

\$75,000

First-year pilot funds requested to hire a project manager that will initiate the development and marketing of an agriculture and agribusiness curriculum that would explore career pathways in food products & processing systems, power, structural and technical systems, animal systems, natural resource systems, environmental service systems, agribusiness systems and plant systems. A management team with representatives from the Bedford Agriculture Economic Development Advisory Board, Central Virginia Community College and Bedford County Public Schools will oversee the project manager and provide curriculum input. Once developed, CVCC will integrate the program into its offerings at the Bedford Center and will be made portable to other community colleges across Virginia. Position would then either be eliminated or absorbed into CVCC staff.

Total project cost is \$96,600. Other funds include: \$20,000 Bedford County (approved) for benefits package, \$1,600 Central Virginia Community College (confirmed in-kind) for office space.

Staff comments & recommendation: County has initiated exemplary efforts in agricultural development and preservation, including this potential partnership with CVCC. However, the issue of accessibility to affordable agricultural education is applicable to most tobacco region counties. Rather than funding it at a local level, it should be expedited on a larger regional basis (potentially through the TICR Agribusiness Committee) with VA Community College System and other agriculture and education partners. **Staff recommends no award.**

Central Virginia Community College Educational Foundation, Inc.
Building Workforce Infrastructure in Virginia's Region 2000
\$302,500

CVCC requests funds for five projects which include: (1) the purchase of instructional production studio equipment that will enable the professional production facilities to college professors to develop interactive and innovative instructional media to support a total of 522 online and distance education learning students; (2) the purchase equipment for a University Physics Lab that will directly support the CVCC/UVA Engineering Bachelors Degree program that will produce 60 students in the 1st year and 120 in the 2nd year; (3) the purchase of lab-in-a-box science lab equipment to serve College Biology 101-102 to high school students enrolled at CVCC Centers in Appomattox and Bedford; (4) the purchase of multipurpose laboratory for the Bedford Center to serve 24 students in the 1st year and 48 students in the 2nd year from Bedford High School. The equipment will address the two semesters of science needed to complete the students general studies associate degree; and (5) to complete the replacement of unsupported CISCO electronics training equipment that is used for training of 60 existing and new technician workers at Tyco Electronics per year.

Total project cost is \$302,500. Other funds include \$4.1 million from CVCC for renovation of library where instructional production studio will be housed; \$70,000 requested from the state for renovation of the university physics lab; \$135,400 from CVCC for tuition, textbooks and staff for support of the lab-in-a-box program; \$67,000 from CVCC for tuition, textbooks and staff for support of the Bedford Lab; \$14,000 from CVCC for installation of CISCO training equipment.

Staff comments and recommendation: Proposal provides good breakout of anticipated equipment costs, enrollment projections, and prioritization. These projects will positively impact a number of science and technology programs in multiple locations. **Staff recommends award of \$302,500.**

Community Improvement Council, Inc.

Building Renovation

\$287,500

Renovation funds are requested by non-profit organization for its Westmoreland Building-B, a donated former school which will house satellite instruction, a library, computer lab, and hands-on-skill experiences. Improvement work includes the creation of kitchen space, renovation of two-floors and bathrooms, providing handicap accessibility, and upgrading telephone, computer, security and ventilation systems.

Total project cost is \$1,817,500. Other funds include: \$16,700 from Wrap-Around (Title One) for extended day for two classes of Head Start; \$1,300,000 from Health & Human Services for Head Start operations; \$55,000 Community Development Block Grant for Head Start operations.

Staff comments and recommendation: Proposal lacks specifics regarding adult training curricula, frequency of offerings and outcomes, and potentially duplicates investments made at DCC for adult training. Building renovation cost estimates are unclear and include improvements that would benefit Head Start (a low TICR priority). **Staff recommends no award.**

Crater Regional Partnership

Skill Streams for Success – A Workforce Development Program

\$100,000

Funds are requested by the regional economic development partnership to provide scholarships for workforce development and training for youth and adults at locations in Emporia/Greenville, Sussex & Dinwiddie. “Skill Streams for Success” (www.skillstreams.com) provides hands-on basic skills training in four industry clusters: manufacturing and metals, building construction, the health industry and businesses needing employees with basic computer skills. A new Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) licensing/certification program (120 hour curriculum) will be added to the program and a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) program will be expanded throughout the service region [CNA current wages in the Crater region range from \$11 to \$12 per hour]. Furthermore, the program will work to integrate Phillip Morris International’s 137 employees at the Dinwiddie Tobacco Processing Plant (closing December 2007) into the Chaparral Steel skills training program. Chaparral Steel’s entry wage for a production worker is \$13.50 per hour with maintenance personnel earning \$20+ per hour. The proposal will serve an estimated 250 individuals during the grant period. Participants will be administered the WorkKeys Assessment System at no cost, and receive the Virginia Career Readiness Certificate upon successful completion.

Total project cost is \$103,600 over one year. Other funds include: \$20,000 from Crater Regional Partnership for supplies and support; \$8,600 John Tyler Community College in-kind for office space and project management.

Staff comments and recommendation: This program has received five TICR grants totaling \$472,000 from FY01-FY07. Much of the area is served by community colleges that have not received TICR allocations, and reaches four localities at eight sites. A ninth site at the TICR-funded Southern VA Higher Education Center in Emporia/Greenville should be added when it opens next year. Project is expanded this year to assist trainees in allied health and employees

who will lose jobs at Philip Morris' Dinwiddie site. Project includes private match from employers but lacks local government funding support. **Staff recommends award of \$100,000.**

Cumberland County

Cumberland County Education Advancement Center: Phase II

\$500,000

Renovation funds are requested for the build-out of the remaining two-thirds (approximately 12,679 square feet) of the Cumberland County Educational Advancement Center. The County recently completed the renovation of a computer lab, office space and a Middle College classroom which opened in August '07. Phase II activities include the renovation of additional classrooms, construction of an electrician shop, a nursing and health professional training area, and technology training facility that will offer advance instruction, certifications and licensure training in partnership with Southside Virginia Community College. The Center projects within three years of its completion that 100 residents will have completed a degree or certificate program.

Total project cost is \$1,584,875. Other funds include: Unknown in-kind contribution from SVCC for furnishings and technology; \$4,397 in-kind from Cumberland for on-site construction manger.

Staff comments and recommendation: Previous Education award of \$250,000 assisted in construction of Luther Jackson Adult Education Center for adult education, and County has made substantial investment in Phase I to establish a Middle College. Costs and matching funds for next phase are not yet clear. **Staff recommends award of \$37,500 for design of next phase.**

Danville Community College

FY08 Danville Community College

\$518,875

DCC requests funds for three projects which include: (1) Tobacco Financial Assistance Awards that will be made available to qualified recipients related to the tobacco industry with a maximum award of \$3,000 annually; (2) personal to offer tutoring support [765 students received 12,141 hour of tutoring in 06-07]; and (3) the purchase workforce training equipment, which includes the patient simulators to support the addition of an on-campus Registered Nurse (RN) program that will admit 40 students, the upgrade of equipment for instruction in PC repair, robotics training and replacement equipment that will benefit 100 trainees, and the addition of drive trainers, panel view trainers and PLCs to expand industrial maintenance training and to provide 200 students with maintenance technicians with certificates.

Total project cost is \$518,875. Other funds include: \$406,200 funded by Virginia Community College System for tutoring, faculty salaries and equipment; \$30,000 funded by Carl D. Perkins grant for tutoring; \$9.7 million awarded by the Danville Regional Foundation for construction of the DCC Health Sciences Building.

Staff comments and recommendation: DCC staff has accounted for previous allocation balances (obligated to scholarships and Middle College II). Request targets several high priority programs/careers with substantial outcomes generated. **Staff recommends award of \$518,875.**

County of Franklin

The Franklin Center Career Initiative

\$341,500

Funds are requested for the new workforce center in downtown Rocky Mount (TICR provided construction funding of \$1.9 million) to provide equipment, instructional costs, marketing, materials and scholarships to Franklin County residents to support offerings in developmental and prerequisite classes (GED, Basic Computers, Writing, etc.), Business Leadership and Allied Health/Biomedical programs at PHCC and VWCC that include nursing, radiology, dental hygienist, pharmacy technology, biotechnology, construction trades, information technology, welding, EMT/Fire/Rescue and other courses. Specific equipment requests include office software, wireless classroom packages, and Pre-GED software; SimMan and SimBaby; and a mobile construction trades lab.

Total project cost is \$560,000. Other funds include: \$20,000 from Franklin County for scholarship assistance; \$198,500 in-kind from partner contributions (Patrick Henry CC, Virginia Western CC, Franklin County Adult Education, Goodwill of the Valleys, and Department of Rehabilitation).

Staff comments and recommendation: Request is well-targeted to local and regional employment clusters, and County Workforce Consortia programs are well-established. Approximately one-half of request would fund equipment to expand program offerings in allied health, IT and GED, which are high priorities. Nearly \$100,000 of the request would create scholarship pools for residents of an individual county, which is a direction the Committee rejected last year. Equipment can alternatively be funded from Economic Development allocation in November 2007 cycle but are short-lived assets that are not preferred use of restricted funds. Leadership programs have not been high priority due to lack of recognized completion credential. **Staff recommends award of \$216,721 for equipment and personnel (excluding scholarship funds, marketing and personnel for leadership program).**

Greensville County

Truck Driving Training School

\$713,970

The school has leased an abandoned, deteriorated airport runway as a site for SVCC to train commercial truck drivers (classes began earlier this year). TICR funds are being requested to repave and stripe four training courses and related roads and parking in order to better handle the weight of transfer trucks.

Total project cost is \$872,320. Other funds include: \$50,000 TICR FY07 Special Projects (modular classroom), \$66,095.50 Greensville County (spent), \$35,053.50 City of Emporia (spent), \$7,200 Toll Brothers, Inc. (spent).

Staff comments and recommendation: County has provided estimated costs for a phased approach that would re-pave two of the four courses (two courses and the entrance road and

student parking areas would be paved in the future). The County's lease with the Airport Commission allows the property to be taken back for airport use (if needed) with 120 days notice. All matching funds have been spent to establish the site and no concurrent matching funds are indicated. **Staff recommends an award of \$225,000 with a required match of 15 percent of project costs.**

John Tyler Community College Foundation

Placing career coaches in Amelia and Sussex High Schools

\$68,500

Career coaches have been utilized in high schools to guide students into workforce training and higher education. The community college will use funding to support expansion of this program into other high schools in its service area.

Total project cost is \$70,785. Other funds include: \$2,285 JTCC (in-kind), \$? Sussex and Amelia (in-kind).

Staff comments and recommendation: Career coaches have been funded with TICR grants in earlier years but are now prevalent in many school districts and community college service areas. All matching funds are in kind, with no discussion of sustainability and no specific measurable outcomes that can be clearly attributed to the positions. **Staff recommends no award.**

Lonesome Pine Office on Youth

Southwest Virginia Imagination Library

\$262,512

Funds are requested by non-profit regional applicant to enroll 80% of eligible children under the age of five from several Southwest localities in Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program. The program provides an age-appropriate book for each enrolled child once each month from birth to the fifth birthday. The requested amount would cover the \$30 annual enrollment fee for children in the Counties of Dickinson, Lee, Scott and Wise and the City of Norton.

Total project cost is \$328,140. Other funds include: \$34,000 County governments (ongoing requests), \$60,000 Slemo, Napoleon Hill, Speedway foundations (ongoing requests), \$40,000 local business & private citizens (ongoing requests).

Staff comments and recommendation: Request has been passed over and referred by Southwest Economic Development and Special Projects Committees. Pre-K activities are a low TICR priority. **Staff recommends no award.**

Longwood University

Development of a Critical Needs Rural Bachelor of Nursing Curriculum

\$545,460

The University seeks to develop a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program to meet the rising demand for healthcare professionals. TICR funds will be used to support one year of planning and accreditation for the program, in which a curriculum will be developed through the

consultation of a Program Director, curriculum expert, and faculty member, and presented for approval by accrediting bodies. Initial enrollment of 30-120 nursing students is anticipated.

Total project cost is \$2,903,688. Other funds include: \$2,330,955 Longwood University (to be requested), \$30,000 Southside Community Hospital (expended), \$30,000 Longwood University (expended).

Staff comments and recommendation: Applicant has agreed to reduce request to enable three critical positions to be hired to develop curriculum and pursue accreditation. **Staff recommends award of \$392,293.**

Mt. Rogers Regional Adult Education Program

RACE to GED

\$262,020

Funding is requested to conduct the fifth year of the SWVA RACE to GED program. The program represents an ongoing partnership of the three regional adult education programs serving planning districts 1, 2, and 3, and is the primary source of GED testing and adult education in SW Virginia. Funds are requested for scholarships to provide “testing on demand”, which will offer the GED test once a week in order to allow individuals to take a test or a partial test at his/her own pace. Proposed funding will be used for marketing in order to recruit individuals who would benefit from a GED. Scholarship funds will also be provided to GED recipients to cover first-year tuition expenses at Virginia Highlands Community College or Wytheville Community College.

Total project cost is \$1,246,537. Other funds include: \$64,937 Regional Adult Education Programs (in hand), \$30,000 Food City (approved), \$350,000 Bristol Motor Speedway (approved), \$518,380 Charter Media (approved), \$15,000 WIB (approved), \$6,200 VALRC (approved).

Staff comments and recommendation: Applicant has received four previous TICR grants totaling \$514,542, and the entire balance of two FY07 grants for these programs (\$236,522) is unspent and available for continuation of programs. The newest component would provide 30 GED graduates with scholarships to attend Wytheville Community College (WCC has not previously received TICR funds), although the process and criteria for awarding scholarship funds are not defined and sustainability would hinge on future grant funding. **Staff recommends no award.**

Mountain Empire Community College

Workforce Preparation for Energy Jobs

\$300,000

Funding is requested to assist with training needs resulting from the proposed construction of a new 585-megawatt electric generating power station in Virginia City. The Shaw Group, the presumed construction contractor, has estimated that they will need up to 800 workers from various trades during the 36-48 month construction period. One third of requested TICR funds will be used for 90 scholarships for training in either credit or non-credit formats, with preference given to training leading to certification to enable The Shaw Group in meeting their employment demands. Another third of requested funds will be used to offer a short-term On-the-Job training

program to aid 33+ workers/companies in combining training with employment. This program will assist new or incumbent workers in obtaining high-wage jobs that require industry certifications. A final third of the requested funding will be used to add instructional equipment for mining simulation, to support training for other energy jobs in mining and related fields.

Total project cost is \$337,100. Other funds include: \$37,100 MECC (in-kind), \$2,000,000 Dept. of Labor (to be applied for), \$100,000 ARC (to be applied for).

Staff comments and recommendation: Project is expected to result in 90 scholarships, at least 33 OJT trainees and allow additional mine training certificates for the 1,700 mining trainees that are currently served by MECC. If DOL grant application is successful, MECC requests that scholarship funds be redirected to match federal funds for purchase of additional training equipment. **Staff recommends award of \$300,000.**

Mountain Empire Community College

Scholarships for Tobacco Families and 08 Cohort of AIMS Higher Scholars **\$400,000**

Funds are requested to continue to award scholarships to tobacco producers, their families and tobacco workers as well as to continue the AIMS scholarship program for the 2008 cohort. Seventy percent of funds (\$280,000) will be awarded in scholarships to tobacco producers, their families, and tobacco workers. The remaining 30% of funds (\$120,000) will be awarded to students qualifying for AIMS Higher Scholarships which will assist the student with tuition costs for up to 72 credit hours.

Total project cost is \$668,005. Other funds include: \$130,415 State Financial Aid (projection based on prior years), \$137,590 Federal Financial Aid (projection based on prior years).

Staff comments and recommendation: MECC's balance of available TCR grants (nearly \$700,000 from FY06 and FY07 allocations) provides sufficient funds to cover scholarship needs through Spring 2009, and applicant agrees to reduce this request to focus solely on the AIMS cohort that will graduate from area high schools in 2008. **Staff recommends award of \$120,000 for AIMS scholarships.**

Norton City Schools

Dual Enrollment Book & Tuition Fund for Low Income Students **\$5,000**

Funds are requested to assist low income students enrolled in dual enrollment courses through MECC, with the remaining 20% cost of tuition not already covered by MECC as well as the cost of textbooks. To qualify for this assistance the student would need to also qualify for the federal school lunch program.

Total project cost is \$(varies with student number). Other funds include: \$16.63 per credit hour per course or 20% of tuition at MECC-Norton City Schools.

Staff comments and recommendation: Promoting dual enrollment is a positive objective but funding individual school systems is not consistent with the Strategic Plan and regional solutions. The proposal also lacks a plan for sustainability. **Staff recommends no award.**

Old Dominion University

Building a Web-based Resource to Expand Education and Professional Development Opportunities for Nurses in Southern and Southwest Virginia **\$376,100**

Funds are requested to develop a pilot web-based resource for nurses that will leverage ODU's 25,000 hours of course content archives to provide on-line professional development programs for nurses at no charge. This program seeks to stimulate interest in advanced nursing education at the baccalaureate and graduate level and to increase the applicant pool for higher education nursing programs in the region.

Total project cost is \$536,100. Other funds include: \$160,000 ODU (in-kind staff and equipment).

Staff comments and recommendation: Benefits of the project will be available well beyond tobacco region borders, and direct outcomes will be difficult to attribute solely to this project. **Staff recommends no award.**

Patrick County Education Foundation

Patrick County Entrepreneurship and Educational Advancement Initiative **\$85,000**

TICR funds will be used to contract with a consultant to assess employers' workforce training needs and coordinate planning with Patrick Henry Community College and Patrick County Public School System to establish a "middle college", which will allow students to work toward their GED, receive college credit, and workforce certification simultaneously. Funds also requested to provide grants to cover participants' costs of tuition and materials for an Entrepreneurship program to be developed. Graduates of the Tek Advantage program will be targeted for participation in entrepreneurship classes. Other program costs including staff travel expenses and speaker fees are requested as well.

Total project cost is \$170,000. Other funds include: \$85,000 US Dept. of Labor (approved).

Staff comments and recommendation: Proposal's objectives are a good fit for TICR but lack specifics for building upon existing resources through PHCC satellite facility in Patrick and West Piedmont small business development center/incubator in Martinsville. Outcomes are modest and speculative (e.g. facilitate ten home-based businesses) and sustainability of program operating expenses is not projected. **Staff recommends no award.**

Patrick Henry Community College

Educational Attainment: Diplomas, Degrees and GED **\$469,000**

The College seeks to increase the number of individuals who obtain academic success by: (1) increasing the number of GED and Adult Basic Education enrollment by 115 students by using funds for instructor/counselor salaries, student tuition, marketing and computers/software; (2) increasing dual enrollment by 40 students through funding of student scholarships for tuition and books, and for faculty stipends and tuition to encourage a minimum of 10 teachers to become

dual enrollment certified; (3) to increase the number of students enrolled in credit courses by 50 new students through scholarships, testing stipends, and tutoring services; (4) to create an Accelerated College Education (ACE) Academy in Patrick County that will provide 20 students in the 1st year with an Associates Degree when graduating from high school through use of funds for scholarships, supplies, planning stipends, and computers/furniture; (5) to provide a career coach in five tobacco region high schools.

Total project cost is \$1,156,550. Other funds include: \$225,000 Virginia Community College System for faculty, tutoring services, furniture and equipment; \$30,000 USDOE/Tech Prep for career coaches; \$48,000 from Henry, Franklin and Patrick Counties for career coaches; \$280,000 PHCC Foundation for scholarships and faculty; \$24,000 PHCC Perkins Grant for career coaches; \$50,550 in-kind from Boys and Girls Club of Martinsville-Henry County for dual enrollment support; \$20,000 pending from Staples Learning Foundation for dual enrollment.

Staff comments and recommendation: Request targets several high priorities including GED and dual enrollment. **Staff recommends award of \$434,000 (excluding career coach positions).**

Saint Paul's College

Rose Creek Park

\$137,863

Funds are requested by the private college in Brunswick County to create Rose Creek Park on its campus. The park will provide an open classroom for students to study ecology, biology, chemistry, and geology. Additionally, the park will offer recreational opportunities as well as provide campus walkways that will allow students to avoid the main highway.

Total project cost is \$177,863. Other funds include \$40,000 Saint Paul's College (in-kind land).

Staff comments and recommendation: No information is provided on specific curricula or academic credentials that will directly result from the use of the park, and no concurrent matching funds are listed. Project otherwise appears to be a campus recreation and traffic amenity, which are low TICR priorities. **Staff recommends no award.**

Smyth-Washington Regional Industrial Facilities Authority

Dream It Do It Manufacturing Skills Training

\$450,000

Funds are requested to continue to assist with this regional workforce development program (based on the National Manufacturers Association's Dream It Do It program) whose objective is to meet local industry's workforce skills training needs, including specific hard skills such as CNC machining, welding, electro-mechanical maintenance and general production. Another stated objective is to offer training to enhance soft skills, or basic employability skills, to aid manufacturers in assessing the skills of applicants for their job openings. Funding is requested to cover 75% of the cost of these training elements. Additionally, \$25,000 is requested to provide scholarships to high school Career and Technical Education graduates who plan to pursue post-secondary, manufacturing-oriented career studies. Funding is also requested to purchase 4

Programmable Logic Controller systems (with laptop and annual software charge) to be located in a community college or adult skill center within the Dream It Do It service area.

Total project cost is \$924,351. Other funds include: \$900,000 DHCD (received and partially spent), \$25,000 ARC (pending), \$150,000 Smyth and Washington Counties (received and partially spent), \$95,000 manufacturer match payments (extended), \$8,000 Mt. Rogers PDC (underway).

Staff comments and recommendation: TICR Special Projects funding is supporting marketing of this program (\$100,000). Project has excellent tracking systems to measure training outcomes and a growing track record of participation by regional employers. Selection of site to place PLC trainers has not yet occurred, and soft skill training has been a lower priority for TICR funding. **Staff recommends an award of \$190,000 for advanced manufacturing (“hard skill”) training needs (excluding soft skills, scholarships and PLC trainers).**

South Central Area Health Education Center ***South Central Licensed Practical Nurse Program*** **\$303,500**

Planning funds requested by SCAHEC for the development and implementation of a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program offering. Funds are requested for a program director, project coordinator and program instructor, operating support, equipment/furniture, facility renovations, and certification by the Virginia State Board of Nursing. Twenty students per class, with classes lasting 12 months, will be served. The nearest LPN program offerings include Centra Health in Lynchburg and DCC in Danville, which represents a 2 hour roundtrip for students. Additionally, other LPN programs were stated as having a 2-year waiting list.

Total project cost is \$245,150. Other sources of funds to sustain the program are under development (Lane Foundation, Kellogg’s Foundation, Roberts Wood Johnson Foundation, locality support, and student tuition).

Staff comments and recommendation: SCAHEC has successfully used previous funding totaling \$215,000 for renovations and equipment to establish and expand CNA programs, with significant sustained outcomes and growing demand for additional career options. Applicant has reduced request to include positions and expenses needed to plan curriculum and pursue accreditation. **Staff recommends award of \$110,000 for personal services (\$85,650), contractual services (\$20,000) and equipment (\$4,350).**

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center ***Center for Nursing Excellence at the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center*** **\$426,951**

Start-up funds requested for a Center for Nursing Excellence (CNE) which will provide a one-stop location for training and retraining for several levels of nursing (from nursing assistant to a Masters degree). Funds are requested for furnishing and equipment for a nursing skills lab, simulation lab, computer resource center and classrooms located in the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, and for operational funding which includes a full-time director and full-time administrative support specialist. An additional CNA cohort of 10 students per semester and one

PN cohort of 30 students will be added during the 18 month grant period, with additional course programs increased as additional CNA and PN faculty are hired. A separate request for the build-out of 4,175 square feet of space at the SVHEC has been submitted to the Special Projects Committee.

Total project cost is \$587,540. Other sources of funds: \$110,589 from Southern Virginia Higher Education Center for development, operations and services; \$10,000 anonymously donated for the development and planning; \$50,000 from Halifax Regional Hospital for operational and program costs.

Staff comments and recommendation: Request will build on established nursing pathways currently offered at SVHEC, and expand outcomes and pathways in the building's existing vacant space. A concurrent request in Special Projects is recommended by staff for \$511,885 of renovation costs. Fully funding this request would bring TICR's role in this program expansion to 85% of start-up costs, whereas similar equipment needs at other facilities have been met with USDA Rural Development and/or DHCD CDBG grant funds. **Staff recommends award of \$158,000 for personnel.**

Southside Virginia Community College Foundation ***Southside Workforce Academy Preparation*** **\$814,000**

SVCC's Southside Workforce Preparation Academy proposes to address in-demand occupation opportunities through the following four initiatives: (1) to strengthen high demand programs by adding a Nursing Success Coach for recruitment and retention of nursing students in the Registered Nursing degree program with a goal of maintaining 37 students for the 2nd year and renovating the existing welding lab on the Keysville campus to accommodate the addition of 44 students per class; (2) to expand and create needed programs by hiring a program developer and purchasing needed equipment for the Lake Country Enrichment Center (Clarksville) construction trades program (serving 12-18 students), to complete the interior of the Occupational/Technical Center expansion that will enable the addition of day and night classes for programs such as diesel technician training (20 additional slots per session), to complete the demonstration site for the Virginia Center for Onsite Wastewater Training program (36 additional sessions with an additional 648 participants), and to begin offering certification for the statewide Center for Utility Damage Prevention program; (3) to utilize unused seat capacity in programs offered by hiring a project coordinator; and (4) to provide tobacco scholarship funds to tobacco-related families. A total of 169 scholarships were awarded during the '06-'07 academic year.

Total project cost is \$6,946,043. Other sources of funds include: \$225,913 from SVCC for project admin, supplies, equipment, salaries; \$200,000 pledged by hospitals in Emporia, South Hill, South Boston and Farmville for faculty salaries; \$4,536 pledged by Mecklenburg Co. Comm. Services Corp. for year one utilities; \$25,000 pledged by Clarksville Ruritan Club for construction trades equipment; \$40,000 pledged by private vendors for training modules; \$5,551,094 in federal/state matching aid.

Staff comments and recommendation: Request builds on an array of successful programs with substantial outcomes at several locations in a large service area and several targeted careers. Coordinator position to increase seat capacity could be handled through existing career coaches. Construction has not yet begun on facility in Clarksville that will house construction trades

program. **Staff recommends award of \$640,516 (excluding coordinator in Initiative 3 for unused seat capacity and equipment for Clarksville facility in Initiative 2).**

Southwest Virginia Community College
SWVCC Tobacco Outreach Scholarship Program FY07
\$550,000

Funds are requested to continue the College's scholarship program for tobacco growers, quota holders, workers and their families. Scholarship funds will provide assistance with tuition and fees to program-placed students after other sources of financial aid have been used. An estimated 200 participants will receive credentials over a 3 year program as a result of this program. Students who meet AIMS Scholars eligibility criteria will also be eligible for scholarships of up to \$200 per semester under this program. Funds are requested to provide scholarships during the semesters of Fall 2007, Spring 2007, Summer 2007, and Fall 2008.

Total project cost is \$980,606. Other funds include: \$15,000 VCCS for development of two first year online Engineering courses, \$250,000 VCEDA for IT curriculum development and for career coaches, \$100,000 ARC.

Staff comments and recommendation: TICR funds in previous years have been spent in a timely manner (the year awarded), and this request would allow the College to commit scholarship funds through the time leading up to the next Education cycle. **Staff recommends award of \$550,000.**

Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center through the BOV of UVA
Facility Expansion Construction Project
\$1,400,000

Funds are requested to assist with a 6,200 square foot addition to the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon. This expansion will allow the Center to add 30 courses annually and increase the number of students served by 750 or more. New degree programs in Physical Therapy, Radiation Sciences, Nursing, and Network Engineering will be added when the new space is available by freeing existing classrooms to be renovated and dedicated to science lab space. The estimated cost of this expansion will be \$545 per square foot.

Total project cost is \$3,379,000. Other funds include: \$1,835,000 General Assembly (secured), \$144,000 self generated revenue (secured).

Staff comments and recommendation: Project will allow expansion of several targeted priority programs (e.g. allied health, engineering) and allow for the creation of other programs (funded in part by a TICR FY07 Special Projects award of \$918,000), with significant outcomes in terms of students served and degrees granted. **Staff recommends award of \$1,400,000.**

The Town of Saltville
Saltville Regional Dental Training Facility
\$255,330

Funds are requested to purchase equipment to be used in a Dental Training Facility to be located in the renovated T.K. McKee Hospital. This training facility will provide a site for obtaining clinical experience for a projected 100 dental assistant and dental hygienist students from Wytheville Community College and the Washington County Skill Center, as well as 50 dental students from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry. These students will also provide affordable dental care to area residents. The facility will also house a private dental practice.

Total project cost is \$1,824,540. Other funds include: \$700,000 DHCD (to be applied for), \$224,585 VHF (pending), \$125,000 Virginia Primary Care Association (to be applied for), \$519,625 USDA(pending).

Staff comments and recommendation: Majority of implementation funds are not yet committed. Clinical experience for local dental students has merit for TICR funding, but affordable care and private practice are low priorities. **Staff recommends no award.**

Virginia Advanced Study Strategies
Advanced Placement Training for Teachers
\$2,500,000

VASS has been awarded one of the first grants from the National Math and Science Initiative's (NMSI) Advanced Placement training and incentive program. The NMSI grant, providing up to \$13.2 over the next six years, will provide start-up funding for a Virginia-based AP training and incentive program for AP and pre-AP courses. The goal of the program is to improve students' performance in math and science coursework in order to prepare them for college level work in math, science and engineering. The project is estimated to serve approximately 130 schools across the Commonwealth and to provide extensive AP training of 650 teachers impacting 26,000 students in Virginia. TICR funds are requested to be dispersed over a six-year period from 2007 to 2013 to assist VASS in focusing on areas needing the program most, including Southern and Southwestern Virginia, and to train as many as 300 teachers within these school divisions resulting in an increase of passing AP exam scores from 0 to at least 30 in each school by the end of the initial project period. Funding of \$150,000 for the 1st year would specifically be used for teacher training by the College Board, travel expenses, conferences/training for VASS staff, supplies/materials, computer equipment and software.

Total project cost is \$23 million. Other sources of funds: \$13.2 million from NMSI for AP program expenses; \$100,000 from Halifax Educational Foundation; \$300,000 from Dominion; \$100,000 from Old Dominion Electric Cooperative; \$10,275 in-kind from Southern Virginia Higher Education Center; \$3,000 in-kind from IALR; \$5,000 from participating school divisions for substitute teacher costs.

Staff comments and recommendation: Request is structured to target TICR funds only on expenses in TICR region schools, specifically for teacher training, and is highly-leveraged with national private foundation grant. NMSI will evaluate outcomes annually to verify continuation of funding in the six year project period. **Staff recommends award of \$150,000 for Year 1 costs.**

VirginiaFIRST

Increasing Understanding of Math, Science, and Technology in the tobacco regions of Virginia

\$150,000

Funds are requested for expansion of FIRST, a year long program of team competitions for middle and high school students using robotic platforms to solve design challenges. The proposal is intended to serve 10 existing school districts and 4 new school districts the program, involving 400-500 students. TICR funds are requested for workshops, program coordinators, travel, team registration fees, and tournament funding. Funding will also be used for supplies, materials and equipment needed to build the robot and practice elements.

Total project cost is \$450,000. Other funds include: \$TBD NASA (pending initial funding), \$75,000 participating public schools, \$225,000 corporations (matching funds pending initial seed funding).

Staff comments and recommendation: Project will cover costs for ten schools that have participated in past competitions and four schools that would be new to the competitions. While the program builds interest in careers in sciences and technology, it targets middle and high school age groups that are not a priority of TICR funding, does not provide a specific academic credential, and assists schools that have chosen to cut funding for their teams. **Staff recommends no award.**

Virginia Highlands Community College

VHCC Tobacco Scholarships & AIMS Higher Programs

\$450,000

Funds are requested to award up to 400 VHCC Tobacco Scholarships for enrollment in VHCC credit courses for Summer Term '08, Fall Semester '08, and Spring Semester '09 (a total of \$350,000). Funds will also be used to award up to 75 AIMS scholarships to eligible 2008 area high school graduates for VHCC academic years 2008-09 and 2009-10 (\$100,000).

Total project cost is \$500,000. Other funds include: \$50,000 VHCC Educational Foundation (to be raised).

Staff comments and recommendation: Request would allow college to commit funds through the timeframe of the next Education grant cycle. Program guidelines state TICR funds are used as last dollar for students. **Staff recommends award of \$450,000 with condition that students must be program-placed and tobacco region residents.**

Virginia Highlands Community College

VHCC Greenhouse Motorized Shade System

\$63,900

Funds are requested to install a motorized shade system within three zones of VHCC's on-campus greenhouse, which was built using \$555,000 of TICR funds (FY01-03). The system will provide shade to keep the facility at the optimum temperature to support plant growth and to hold warm air inside the facility during cooler periods to reduce the volume of air that needs to

be heated, thereby reducing energy costs during the winter months. This system will increase the usability of the facility by degree-seeking and non-credit VHCC students, as well as middle and high school students who participate in enrichment opportunities at the college. The “Growing Room”, a community gathering spot, will also be created.

Total project cost is \$71,000. Other funds include: \$7,100 VHCC (available).

Staff comments and recommendation: TICR funds provided the majority of the facility’s construction funding. The shade is an industry standard for horticulture facilities, but net new outcomes are difficult to measure and community uses are a low priority. **Staff recommends no award.**

Virginia Highlands Community College
Strengthening Orientation, Advising & Retention (SOAR) - Quality Enhancement Plan
\$63,176

Funds are requested to improve the college’s website as part of an overall plan to improve student success by revising the advising process during the student’s first year. Consultants will be hired to improve the website’s usefulness by developing an online preview of the college, creating tools for virtual advising as well as early alert tools to identify students needing assistance.

Total project cost is \$268,065. Other funds include: \$204,889 VHCC (available).

Staff comments and recommendation: The enhancements are part of a well-crafted national model for improved management of the school, but outcomes would be difficult to directly measure and attribute to the website. **Staff recommends no award.**

Virginia Highlands Community College
Career Advancement for Paramedics
\$260,000

The Virginia Appalachian Tricollege Nursing Program (VATNP) seeks funding to introduce a part-time evening/weekend Paramedic to RN program at its three community colleges (VHCC, SwVCC, and MECC). The program estimates that it will enroll approximately 20-30 students per year. TICRC funding will be used to hire two full time nursing instructors to work with this program beginning in Fall 2008. Positions would then be absorbed into annual operating budgets funded by tuition and other sources.

Total project cost is \$713,202. Other funds include: \$165,871 U.S. Department of Labor, \$297,000 VHCC SwVCC MECC.

Staff comments and recommendation: TICR funding in FY06 (\$169,300) assisted in initiating VATNP’s part time evening/weekend nursing programs. While initial outcome numbers are low (20-30 students annually) this request would leverage that equipment funding for training sites by providing additional cohorts of students across the region. Graduates would see substantial income increases in moving from paramedic employment to nursing. **Staff recommends award of \$260,000.**

Virginia Industry Foundation-Virginia Manufacturers Association
Rural Virginia Advanced Manufacturing Skills Project
\$450,000

Funds are requested by the 501(c)(3) non-profit arm of the statewide trade association to design and implement an employer-led certification program for advanced manufacturing trades, and conduct a county by county assessment of the existing primary manufacturers in Southwest and Southside Virginia, focusing on those with the greatest job creation potential. A minimum of ten manufacturers will be selected from each of the two regions. A target of 250 participants in each region will be enrolled in one of three levels of manufacturing technician training resulting in 500 newly trained advanced manufacturing technicians (at a cost of \$1,800 per participant). The program will work with community colleges in both regions and the Virginia Council on Advanced Technology Skills to provide this training.

Total project cost is \$900,000. Other funds include: \$1,400,000 US Dept of Labor (approved), \$7,500 VMA/Virginia Industry Foundation (approved).

Staff comments and recommendation: Project will build on earlier implementation phases in other regions of Virginia, but the request is well-targeted to benefit the tobacco region, its major employers and incumbent/prospective workers. Proposal will build on the established Work Keys and Career Readiness Certificate to create a ladder of advanced industry-driven certification. **Staff recommends award of \$270,000 to begin implementation to target certification of 150 workers in each tobacco region.**

West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board
Building a 21st Century Workforce
\$3,500,000

The West Piedmont WIB seeks to coordinate efforts in providing customized training programs (such as Industrial Robotics Computer Integrated Manufacturing Training), dual enrollment and GED instruction, tuition assistance for technical skills training and to increase the ability of K-12 to incorporate 21st Century Skills and work readiness into curriculum in the counties of Pittsylvania, Henry, Patrick and Halifax, and the cities of Danville and Martinsville. TICR funds are requested over a 5-year period to provide tuition assistance for workers, to develop and pay the costs of customized job training and OJT at various manufacturing companies, to provide administrative support salaries, to pay co-op teachers for apprenticeship programs, and to fund indirect costs.

Total project cost is \$6,125,000. Other sources of funds: \$176,000 from Virginia Department of Business Assistance for training new hires; \$145,000 from West Piedmont WIB for technical training and youth services; \$150,000 from DCC for technical training; \$20,000 Danville-Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce for career days; \$50,000 from Danville and Pittsylvania School Systems for K-12 guidance counselors.

Staff comments and recommendation: Request duplicates several regional initiatives that currently receive TICR funding and are included in competing proposals, including community college scholarships, dual enrollment and ABE/GED. Indirect charges, salaries for grant administration and five year funding commitment are not consistent with General Funding Policies. Robotics curriculum represents strongest new direction in the proposal. Applicant has provided information on first year implementation of robotics curriculum in conjunction with

DCC's RCATT. **Staff recommends award of \$103,000 for implementation of Industrial Robotics Manufacturing Training.**

Wise County Public Schools w/regional partners

RALI Rural Appalachian Learning Initiative

\$819,250

Funds are requested to purchase updated video conferencing and related equipment linking nine city/county school districts and three colleges, which will allow for expanded distance learning and professional development opportunities. This project will increase the ability of regional high schools to offer advanced dual enrollment courses. The project anticipates generating nearly an 80% increase in the number of students that are now involved in dual enrollment programs in these districts (currently more than 1,300).

Total project cost is \$1,698,500. Other funds include: \$400,750 School Districts (budgeted).

Staff comments and recommendation: Project was submitted to Special Projects and referred to Education. Project expands the reach of the TICC-funded SVETN network (\$1.5 million in FY06) by using VBrick MPEG4 technology that allows a greater number of locations to be linked for building critical mass for class enrollment (SVETN equipment can reach four locations simultaneously while RALI equipment can reach up to twenty). Participating schools will contribute \$400,000 (one-third of the cash cost) to acquire equipment. **Staff recommends award of \$819,250.**

Wytheville Community College

Truck Driver's Training Program

\$610,940

Funds are requested to develop and implement a truck driver training program. This program will initially train 60-70 truck drivers per year by offering a six-week career studies training curriculum of 18 credits currently offered through the Virginia Community College System. Funds are requested to develop a 300 foot by 300 foot driving range, to purchase two road-ready eighteen wheelers, a one year supply of diesel fuel, and insurance.

Total project cost is \$750,740. Other funds include: \$90,000 WCC (available).

Staff comments and recommendation: Two sites in Galax are still under consideration, so site development costs are as yet unknown. Program would parallel TICC investments in SVCC programs in three Southside locations. **Staff recommends award of \$280,000 for acquisition of trucks.**

Wytheville Community College

Rural Leadership Academy

\$78,581

Funds are requested to create a Leadership Academy which will provide 12-15 selected students the opportunity to learn about community leadership and regional culture through a special two

credit course offered each semester. TICR funds will be used to fund half of the cost of student tuition of the special course, honoraria for speakers, program materials supplies, program marketing costs, and field trips (including abroad). WCC will provide the other half of the program cost. Funds also requested to provide scholarships for a year of tuition for each student who completes the Academy.

Total project cost is \$194,652. Other funds include: \$37,490.10 WCC (available), \$78,581 private investment (pledged).

Staff comments and recommendation: Leadership development is a pervasive challenge but not a TICR priority (no widely-recognized credentials are awarded from this program and travel out of state and abroad is planned, using public funds). **Staff recommends no award.** ■