



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GO VIRGINIA REGION 9 COUNCIL SOLICITING GRANT PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL GROWTH

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA — The GO Virginia Region 9 Council is now accepting 2018-2019 grant inquiries and applications for a September 25 deadline. GO Virginia is a statewide economic development initiative designed to encourage economic growth through the creation of higher-wage jobs. Applications must propose to impact at least two localities in the region. The region includes the Counties of Albemarle, Culpeper, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Madison, Nelson, Orange, and Rappahannock, and the City of Charlottesville.

The region, also known as the Piedmont Opportunity Corridor, has over \$1 million in grant funding available for regional projects. Additionally, there are over \$19 million in funds available for larger, state-wide or multi-regional projects.

During the past year, the Council awarded five grants totaling over \$830,000. The approved projects will develop a certified machinists and welders training program to support local manufacturing demand; expand a proven enology training program to grow the region's adult beverage industry; advance eight potential business sites along a site readiness scale; create a region-wide cybersecurity training platform; and, develop a strategic plan for the Biotech sector.

GO Virginia funding should grow jobs that pay higher than the regional average wages and attract new investment in Virginia. Proposed projects should benefit an industry or the region as a whole and not a single business entity. Region 9 is focused on job creation and expansion in five target sectors including, Light Manufacturing, Biotech, Food and Beverage Manufacturing, Information Technology, and Financial and Business Services. Projects should emphasize support for these traded sectors and demonstrate an ongoing, region-wide demand for the project or program.

All proposals must support the statewide and regional goals of the GO Virginia initiative. Projects are also required to include matching funds, including meaningful funding and in-kind support from local governments.

To review the Region 9 Growth and Diversification Plan, review grant applications, deadline information and other important program details go to www.GOVirginia9.org.

For more information, contact Shannon Holland, GO Virginia Director at the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development by email at sholland@centralvirginia.org or call 434-979-5610 extension 103.

What is GO Virginia?

The Virginia Initiative for Growth & Opportunity in each Region or "GO Virginia" is an economic development initiative to help generate private-sector growth and job opportunities in the Commonwealth. The initiative provides new framework for strengthening the economy in each region through collaboration between business, education and local government. Region 9 encompasses all localities in planning district 9 (Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock) and planning district 10 (Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson). For more information about Region 9, go to

www.GOVirginia9.org.

About the Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development

The Central Virginia Partnership for Economic Development (the Partnership), a not-for-profit public/private partnership, is the regional economic development organization for the City of Charlottesville and Counties of Albemarle, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Madison, Nelson, and Orange. The Partnership serves as the support organization for GO Virginia Regional Council 9. For more information, please visit www.centralvirginia.org.