

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (937)

3/17/2014 11:52 am

Biennium: 2008-10 ▼

Mission and Vision**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center is to provide affordable and accessible educational opportunities to the citizens of Southside Virginia through partnerships and regional cooperation.

Vision Statement

We envision the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (SVHEC) as a model in providing comprehensive education and training to all sectors of our community and the Southern region of Virginia. We especially envision the Center as a catalyst for change by enabling the individual citizen, through opportunity and encouragement, to become academically proficient in at least one discipline of choice and conceptually creative throughout life.

Executive Progress Report**Service Performance and Productivity**

- *Summary of current service performance*

Currently, students are enrolled in non-credit enrichment courses, professional development courses, General Educational Development (GED) and Middle College programs, associate degree programs, four year bachelor programs, graduate programs and PhD programs. The Center offers programs from Danville Community College, Southside Virginia Community College, Central Virginia Community College, Old Dominion University, Longwood University, Mary Baldwin College, Cambridge College, Troy University, James Madison University, the Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program, Virginia Tech and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The greatest number of students are enrolled in associate degree programs. Our goal is to increase two and four year graduation rates in our service area by working with education partners to offer a variety of desirable opportunities. Similarly, we will strive to provide convenient, affordable graduate degree programs according to the assessed needs of this region. The SVHEC can provide more affordable education by bringing higher education closer to the people where they live so they can work and go to college in their own communities.

The Center currently offers the following programs:

Children's Summer College (5yr-12yr)

50+ Enrichment Program (seniors over 50)

Non-credit enrichment program for all ages

Literacy Programs. Adult one on one tutoring, GED training and Testing

Middle College Programs of Southside Virginia Community College and Danville Community College

Longwood Small Business Development Center Seminars

Associate in Arts and Science, University Parallel

Associate in Applied Science, Registered Nursing

Associate in Applied Science, Information Systems Technology Associate in Applied Science, Human Services

Associate in Applied Science, Medical Lab Technology

Bachelor of Science or Arts in English

Bachelor of Science or Arts in Sociology

Bachelor of Science or Arts in Psychology

Bachelor of Science or Arts in History

Bachelor of Science or Arts in Religion

Bachelor of Science or Arts in Philosophy/Religion

Bachelor of Science or Arts in Psychology/Sociology

Bachelor of Applied Science, Resource and Technology Management

Bachelor of Science in Applied Computer Science

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences

Bachelor of Science in Sports and Fitness Management

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing

Master of Education, Mathematics

Master of Science Engineering, 10 disciplines

Master of Science Education, 4 disciplines

Master of Science in Public Health Leadership
 Master of Business Administration (2 disciplines)
 Master of Public Administration (9 disciplines)
 Master of Science in Adult Education
 Master of Science in Criminal Justice
 Master of Science in Human Resources Management
 Master of Science in International Relations (3 disciplines)
 Master of Science in Management (5 disciplines)
 Doctorate Program in Community College Leadership
 Doctorate Program in Occupational and Technical Studies
 Doctorate in English

CERTIFICATIONS:

Certificate in Nursing Assistant
 Certificate in License Practical Nursing
 Certificate in Truck Driving
 General Maintenance Technician Program

In addition to the above listed programs, the Center has the expanding capability to offer degree programs being offered at its Coalition partner sites, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research and the New College Institute through high definition distance learning over our Southern Virginia Education Network (SVEN). This Coalition through its SVENetwork effectively creates a distributed campus thereby giving the SVHEC the potential to offer an additional 15 programs. Longwood University and Old Dominion University have expressed interest in this opportunity. In the past, the Center generally has served the non-traditional student—one working towards a change in career, degree completion, or upward mobility in their current profession. However, the SVHEC is trending towards the traditional 18-21 year old student seeking a more economical alternative to educational attainment. Our student population is approximately 1/2 traditional 18-21 year old and 1/2 adult learner. As more and more traditional students see the Center as a viable, cost effective, convenient method to obtain a degree or training, this growing trend will continue.

The Center with our coalition partners, the New College Institute (NCI) in Martinsville and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) in Danville is committed to serving a 22 county region through our Southern Virginia Education Network (SVEN) through high definition distance learning opportunities at regional outreach learning centers. The coalition partners are committed to the opportunities that exists for each site to cross deliver degree programs to all three sites in addition to the six regional learning centers throughout the 22 county region.

As the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center provides affordable, accessible educational opportunities to our region's citizens, the workforce of Southern Virginia will experience an increase in its pool of educated job seekers; this in turn, will strengthen the economy of Southern Virginia by attracting business and industry to the region. The SVHEC's focus is to contribute to the success of regional businesses, government agencies, schools, and professional organizations by: 1) preparing the workforce for current and future knowledge-based jobs; 2) providing the means for advanced educational opportunities to all constituents of the Southern region; 3) providing convenient and cost effective educational opportunities to meet the needs of students; and 4) providing access to a cutting edge technology facility for professional and community development.

- *Summary of current productivity*

In fall 2006 the Center enrolled 993 students in degree courses alone. Two hundred and twenty-nine (229) K-12 students were enrolled in courses. More students are moving to the next level of education as exemplified by the growing number of students moving from GED programs to associate level programs and from associate to bachelor programs. Masters and PhD programs are also available with a steady and growing interest in them. A wide range of age groups receive services at the Center starting at 4 years old and progressing up to 80 years old. The number of students realizing their ability to become educated citizens is increasing with the available programming of the Center.

The SVHEC is recognized as a meeting space for the region and for the Commonwealth. The Center has hosted numerous statewide meetings, as well as a variety of groups on the regional and county level. The actual facility has approximately 20,000 square feet of unfinished space. The need to expand is evident and becomes more so each semester as we experience exponential growth.

Initiatives, Rankings and Customer Trends

- *Summary of Major Initiatives and Related Progress*

The establishment of the Center for Rural Education and Economic Development (CREED) is composed of a network of 18 school divisions extending to Patrick County in the west and Sussex in the east. The mission of CREED is to inspire a "culture of education" that reaches out to the region's public schools, students, teachers, and administrators.

CREED seeks to foster advanced Pre-Kindergarten-12th grade outreach and initiatives to improve teaching and learning. The CREED Director and Board of Directors are in place and program delivery through this entity began Spring 2007. Examples of outreach efforts and success of CREED are:

1. \$13 million Advanced Placement grant received from ExxonMobil, September 2007. The purpose of this initiative is to increase the number of students throughout the Commonwealth, and particularly in rural Southside and Southwest Virginia, participating in AP Math, Science, and English courses and succeeding on the corresponding AP exam. A nonprofit organization to administer the grant has been established, a Board of Trustees has been selected, and Executive Director and finance officers have been hired.
 - Nonprofit 501c3 organization - Virginia Advanced Studies Strategies (VASS) - has been formed to manage and implement program.
 - VASS Board of Directors includes Dr. Dorothea Shannon (Chair), Jack Reasor (Vice-Chair), Chris Lumsden (Secretary/Treasurer), Clarke Hogan, Tom Morris, Pat Wright, Virginia McLaughlin, Bryant Stith, Barney Day, Hugh Keogh, Ben Davenport, Eva Tieg Hardy, and Patrick Dexter.
 - Paul Nichols (former Executive Director of Administration for Halifax County Public Schools) has been appointed President/CEO of VASS
 - Jennifer Stevens (Research & Development Specialist at HEC) has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer/Project Director of VASS.
 - VASS is currently recruiting for four other staff positions: Administrative Assistant, Director of Math, Director of Science, and Director of English.
 - Matching funding of over \$3 million has been raised from supporting partners.
 - Virginia Tobacco Commission - \$2.5 million
 - Dominion - \$300,000
 - Halifax Education Foundation - \$100,000
 - Old Dominion Electric Cooperative - \$110,000
 - Philip Morris USA - \$150,000 (pending approval of application)
 - VASS plans to enlist up to 30 schools in the first year - most to be chosen from Southern and Southwestern regions of the state.
 - Schools will be chosen through an RFP process with assistance from NMSI staff
 - First training of teachers to be held in spring and summer, 2008
 - Plans are moving forward to combine AP and dual enrollment programs where appropriate
2. Broadband Project
 - Concept paper for Southern Virginia Education Network developed at the request of Governor Mark Warner (handout)
 - SVEN plans to facilitate the connection of all the public schools and education entities in the region together in a private intranet - infrastructure to be leveraged by internet service providers to expand broadband access to businesses and homes.
 - Event September 21 for Governor Warner, Secretary of Technology Aneesh Chopra, and Governor Kaine's Broadband Round table - demonstration of network capabilities
 - Federal request submitted for \$3.3 million in funding to support development of SVEN and purchase of video conferencing units to be placed throughout the region
3. Other CREED Activities
 - CREED Steering Committee meetings held monthly
 - CREED Board of Directors meetings held quarterly - superintendents also invited to attend event with Warner, Chopra, and Broadband Round table.
4. \$1 million Teaching American History grant received for four regional school divisions. Classes began October 4, 2007.
5. \$1.5 million Tobacco Commission Grant for development of bachelor degree programs. One bachelor degree program began fall 2007. Three programs will begin by fall 2008.

- *Summary of Virginia's Ranking*

The Southside Region has experienced large numbers of permanent losses due to plant and industry closings over the last few years. For centuries, the agricultural community in this region has relied heavily on tobacco production. Citizens in our region have counted on large plants and tobacco production for many years. Those two resources are now gone with no hope of returning. The region must therefore find other avenues to maintain and enhance the economy.

- The per capita personal income in Halifax County was \$20,968. This was an increase of 22.1 percent from 1997. The 2002 figure was 68 percent of the national per capita income, which was \$30,906.
- In Halifax County, 18.6% of the population lives at or below the poverty threshold, compared to 9.9% for the Commonwealth as a whole, and 13% for the US (US Census Bureau, 2009).
- The current unemployment in Halifax County is 6.7%, an improvement over 11.9% unemployment rate in 2003 but primarily due to an exodus of workers seeking and obtaining permanent employment out of the region.
- 32 percent of adults in Halifax County are illiterate (measuring at level 1 literacy).

- *Summary of Customer Trends and Coverage*

The SVHEC has seen a positive trend over the last few years in the age of its student population. Since the Center moved to its current facility (a renovated historical tobacco warehouse in the downtown district), students in the 18-24 year range have increasingly see the SVHEC as having more of campus setting. We are seeing more young students take advantage of the convenience of the Center. The ratio of younger students to adults over 30 is about 50/50. Previously, the SVHEC served mostly adult learners who were career changers, or workforce training individuals. In addition, the use of technology and our outreach campaign have enabled us to reach more students. Reaching out to K-12 with CREED-directed efforts combined with significant 2plus2 and four year degree program completion offerings in the region is critical to the revitalization of the region.

The Mid-Atlantic Broadband Initiative (MBC) will assist the Center in reaching more areas in our 22 county region. This in turn will allow training and programmatic development to reach its fullest capacity. Seven outreach sites already receive on-site classes. The capacity to offer more opportunities to underserved communities and populations will be greatly enhanced with MBC in place. Our Coalition partnership (IALR and NCI) will increase our reach throughout the Southern region of Virginia to provide and exponentially increase the opportunities available.

Future Direction, Expectations, and Priorities

- *Summary of Future Direction and Expectations*

To fulfill our mission and adhere to our agency values, it is imperative we bring to each student the best of curricula from the best of faculty from the best schools of thought and practice so each student is taught to her strengths, be they linear, analytic and logical, or inventive, creative, and capable of seeing the "big picture."

To accomplish this commencing in the next biennium, the Center expects to expand spatially and programmatically. The SVHEC has 20,000 square feet of unfinished space available. Renovations will begin to make this space into additional classroom and office space. Not only is this space needed to accommodate current students and staff, but also to provide space for the four new bachelor degree programs that will be added within the next two years. The new slate of program areas are: graphic arts and design, wood science and design, hospitality and tourism, and forestry. The opportunity to offer more nursing programs (RN level) through Southside Virginia Community College is also available. Immediate needs and plans are to add a nursing lab and specialized training area. More classroom space will be needed for Old Dominion Teletechnet Programs.

The SVHEC has created the Center for Rural Education and Economic Development (CREED). CREED's goals are to support the mission and initiatives of the SVHEC through outreach to Pre-K-12 grade school systems in the region. The primary initiatives of CREED are: the identification of best practices in school administration and teaching; providing professional development to participating school divisions; developing a clearinghouse of proven strategies based on research; providing educational enrichment opportunities for children; providing a focus for Science, Technology, and Math (STEM) programs; conducting original research to guide and justify future academic planning. The success of CREED is already beginning to permeate the region and state through two grant funded projects: one to expand the Advanced Placement access and success in Virginia, and a second to give teachers specialized training in American History. We anticipate continued success in CREED's efforts, as well as increased exposure and participation as the two grant funded initiatives are implemented, but only if permanent funding for the CREED personnel positions responsible for its successes can be obtained. Currently those positions are funded by short term and temporary development monies from the Tobacco Commission.

- *Summary of Potential Impediments to Achievement*

Currently, there is a lack of space: all classrooms are in use Monday through Thursday as well as most weekends. Generally, the Center uses 4 to 5 classrooms each Saturday for instruction and two to three classrooms on Sunday. The new initiatives and accompanying equipment needs will require significant, additional classroom and office space. In addition, there is a need for a student services area to include a comprehensive bookstore and food area. The most obvious impediment is the unreliability of state funding. General operating funds, funds for additional technology, programmatic development, furnishings, and personnel have been needed for two years and as yet are unrealized. Needed also are funds to properly market programs throughout the region. The nature of our service population is that the region has few concentrated population areas. This, combined with limited financial resources, handicaps our ability to effectively market our wide and growing program offerings to our entire regional service area. While staff members work diligently to overcome this liability, increased funding is critical to remove part of this barrier. The less obvious, but equally critical barrier, combined with the above, is two-fold: [1] the reluctance, if not outright refusal, of some of the Commonwealth's institutions of higher learning to take any four-year degree courses and programs off-campus to the under served poorer regions of the state except through the web; [2] lack of funding to Centers like ours fairly to fairly compensate institutions that will outreach to these regions in need make redevelopment virtually impossible. Virginia Commonwealth University has been prepared for nearly two years to deliver a significant, world class design degree program for the region through our center, awaiting only state funding support.

Service Area List

Service Number	Title
----------------	-------

937 199 00 Administrative and Support Services

Agency Background Information**Statutory Authority**

§ 23-231.24. Southern Virginia Higher Education Center created; duties.

From such funds as may be appropriated, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, previously established as an off-campus center of Longwood University, is hereby continued as an educational institution in the Commonwealth and shall be referred to in this chapter as the "Center." The Center shall:

1. Encourage the expansion of higher education, including adult and continuing education, associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree programs in the region, and foster partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance higher education in the region;
2. Coordinate the development and delivery of continuing education programs offered by those educational institutions serving the region;
3. Facilitate the delivery of teacher training programs leading to licensure and graduate degrees;
4. Serve as a resource and referral center by maintaining and disseminating information on existing educational programs and resources; and
5. Develop, in coordination with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, specific goals for higher education in Southside Virginia.

§ 23-231.25. Membership of governing board; terms; compensation; officers.

A. The Center shall be governed by a 15-member Board of Trustees, consisting of the Director of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia or his designee; the Chancellor of the Virginia Community College System or his designee; the presidents or chancellors, as appropriate, or their designees of Longwood University, Danville Community College, and Southside Virginia Community College; the division superintendent of Halifax County public schools; two members of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; one member of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; and six nonlegislative citizen members to be appointed by the Governor, including the chairman and two other members of the Halifax Education Foundation, and three representatives of business and industry. Nonlegislative citizen members of the Board shall be chosen from among residents of the Southside region of the Commonwealth and shall be citizens of the Commonwealth.

B. Legislative members and the representatives of the Council, the Virginia Community College System, and the named institutions of higher education shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office. After the initial staggering of terms, all nonlegislative citizen appointments shall be for terms of four years, except that appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments.

No nonlegislative citizen member of the Board shall be eligible to serve more than two successive four-year terms, but after the expiration of the remainder of a term to which appointed to fill a vacancy, two additional four-year terms may be served by such member if appointed thereto.

C. Nonlegislative citizen members shall not be entitled to compensation for their services. Legislative members of the Board shall be compensated as provided in § 30-19.12, and all members of the Board shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in the work of the Center as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. The funding for the costs of compensation and expenses of the members shall be provided by the Center.

D. The Board shall elect a chairman and a vice chairman from among its members.

§ 23-231.26. Powers of Board; contracts for educational services.

A. The Board of Trustees shall have, in addition to its other powers, all the corporate powers given to corporations by the provisions of Title 13.1, except in those cases where, by the express terms of its provisions, it is confined to corporations created under that title. The Board shall also have the power to accept, execute, and administer any trust in which it may have an interest under the terms of the instrument creating the trust.

B. The Board shall have the authority to establish and administer agreements with public and private institutions of higher education for the provision of associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree instructional programs at the Center.

§ 23-231.27. Executive director; powers and duties; staff.

A. The Board shall appoint an executive director for the Center who shall supervise and manage the Center and shall prepare and submit, upon direction and approval by the Board, all requests for appropriations. The Executive Director of the Center shall be authorized to employ such staff as necessary to enable the Center to perform its duties as set forth in this chapter. The Board is authorized to determine the duties of such staff and to fix salaries and compensation from such funds as may be appropriated or received.

B. Additional staff support for the functions of the Center may be provided upon agreement by Longwood University, Danville Community College, and Southside Virginia Community College.

§ 23-231.28. Application for and acceptance of gifts and grants.

The Board is authorized on behalf of the Center to apply for, accept, and expend gifts, grants, or donations from public or private sources to enable it to carry out its objectives.

§ 23-231.29. Cooperation of other agencies.

All agencies of the Commonwealth shall cooperate with the Center, and, upon request, assist the Center in the performance of its duties and responsibilities.

Customers

Customers	Potential
-----------	-----------

Customer Group	served annually	customers annually
Colleges and universities that offer courses at HEC	8	12
Customers attending conferences, meetings and events	2,500	4,000
Organizations that use the HEC for meetings, events and shows	100	250
Students enrolled in non-credit programs	586	800
Students registered in credit programs (unduplicated enrollments based on a year)	4,107	6,000

Anticipated Changes To Agency Customer Base

We anticipate a continuation of the current trend of increased enrollment from students in the traditional 18-21 year old demographic. As our college and university partners continue to gain a foothold in this region we anticipate their programs, and the Center by extension, experiencing increased enrollment. In addition, we foresee growth in the workshops and events offered to the Pre-K-12 population and attendance at said events as our outreach initiatives through CREED continues.

Our analysis of the aging population leads us to believe that it will only add to our customer base.

Partners

Partner	Description
Cambridge College	Offers Masters of Education in Interdisciplinary Studies (concentrations in Math, U.S. History & Biology), Special Education with Licensure, and School Administration with Licensure.
Central Virginia Community College	Provides a distance learning Associate's degree in Medical Laboratory Technology
CLE (Continuing Legal Education)	A series of professional development workshops and seminars for attorneys.
Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program	A consortium of five Virginia public universities (UVA, VPI, ODU, VCU, & GMU) who offer distance learning Master's degrees in engineering. There are 10 different disciplines available.
Danville Community College	Offers a number of career studies certificates and diplomas, as well as Associate's degrees in Applied Science & Arts & Sciences. A variety of program majors are available.
Longwood University	Offers Master's degrees in Educational Leadership and Community & College Counseling through onsite instruction. Additionally, courses towards teacher licensure, elementary education, special education and literacy & culture are offered either online or onsite as needed.
Mary Baldwin College	Offers 11 different Bachelor degree programs and courses towards teacher licensure.
Old Dominion University	Offers Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees through one of three delivery methods: TELETECHNET satellite, videostreaming, or online.
Southside Higher Education Coalition Partners: The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) & New College Institute (NCI)	Both IALR in Danville and NCI in Martinsville are higher education centers in the same vein as the SVHEC, with each institution focusing on a different academic emphasis. As coalition partners, IALR & NCI agree to, as much as possible, cross deliver their degree programs to the SVHEC. Likewise, the SVHEC has made the same pledge to IALR & NCI.
	Offers a number of career studies certificates and

Southside Virginia Community College	diplomas, as well as Associate's degrees in Applied Science & Arts & Sciences. A variety of program majors are available.
Troy University	Offers a number of Bachelors and Masters degrees through online instruction.
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Offers verificates in Field Epidemiology and Core Public Health, as well as a Masters degree in Public Health through online instruction.
Virginia Electronic Commerce Technology Center (VECTEC) of Christopher Newport University	Offers assistance to help businesses compete in the electronic, global economy.
Virginia Tech	Offering courses in Forestry leading to a Bachelor's degree in Forestry, and will begin providing the third and fourth year instruction for a Bachelor's degree in Wood Science.

Products and Services

- *Description of the Agency's Products and/or Services:*

The SVHEC provides a 35,000-square-foot facility that is fully equipped and staffed to support over eight colleges and universities and their programs. It is also a meeting space for conferences, meetings, and events for the region and state. Courses are provided primarily for location-bound traditional students and working adults who need advanced education and training to move forward in their careers. Ninety percent of our courses are taught face to face while the remaining 10% are delivered via distance education. Most courses are available in the evening and on weekends. Businesses, professional organizations and governmental groups are able to utilize the Center for their meetings and events. Videoconferencing is available to institutions, businesses and organizations for use in meeting with clients and students from all over the world.

The Center provides students with a wide array of student support services including career counseling, exam proctoring (including students who are not attending an SVHEC partner institution), academic advising, and IT support. All services are provided free of charge.

Through CREED, the SVHEC provides outreach to the PreK-12 school systems in the Southside region. Part of the outreach initiatives includes identifying best practices in teaching and school administration, providing professional development opportunities to participating school divisions, developing a clearinghouse of research-based strategies for effective instruction, providing educational enrichment opportunities for children, providing a regional focus on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), and conducting original research that will guide and justify future regional, academic planning. Part of CREED's initial success is the implementation of two grant-funded projects: a \$13 million project to expand Advanced Placement opportunities in Math, Science, and English throughout the state, and a three-year, \$1 million Teaching American History grant to fund professional development and workshop/lecture series for educators in four regional school divisions.

- *Factors Impacting Agency Products and/or Services:*

Funding

Agency partners and the services they offer.

Customer needs and demand for programs.

Training needs of business and industry.

- *Anticipated Changes in Products or Services:*

See Summary of Future Direction section.

Finance

- *Financial Overview:*

Funding to operate the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center is derived from state and local government appropriations, rent and non-credit program revenues and grant awards. Our focused efforts and success at grant acquisition has enabled us to significantly leverage state funding.

In October 2007, the Tobacco Commission awarded the owner lessor of our facility, the Halifax Educational Foundation, \$468,000 to build out 4,200 square feet for construction of our Center of Nursing Excellence. Additional awards received by the lessor to cover nursing equipment needs are \$250,000 and could be as much as \$550,000. The SVHEC was awarded \$158,000 with an additional private match to us of \$50,000 from the Halifax Regional Hospital for initial operating funds for salary, benefits and rent. The Center of Nursing Excellence opened August, 2008.

Previously, in January, 2007, the Tobacco Commission awarded the SVHEC \$1,500,000 to develop degree completion programs. These funds were committed to development of a broadband network to share educational programs with

the Southside Higher Education Coalition (see below), purchase of equipment and developmental staff for Wood Design and Digital Arts/Electronic Gaming program. These programs have classes in operation in August 2008. Both Tobacco Commission Grants will run out during FY2010. The additional \$250,000 appropriated by the General Assembly, at our request during the 2008 session, will provide sustaining funds for the operating costs for The Center of Nursing Excellence (a critical workforce development program) and the degree completion programs developed in Wood Design and Digital Arts. The SVHEC committed this \$250,000 to cover cost of rent for the 4,200 square feet renovated and equipped for the Center for Nursing Excellence with the aforementioned grant funds, and salary/benefits of key personnel who were recruited to continue to develop and operate these important nursing and wood design, etc., programs for the economic and workforce development of this region.

The funds appropriated by the General Assembly in the 2008 session have been committed to staff, equip, secure, operate and maintain the Center facilities, and to provide critical services to its members and customers. The region will benefit from additional educational programs in the undergraduate area and the additional funds will be needed to sustain these degree completion programs.

Southside Higher Education Coalition (SHEC)

The three higher education centers in the Southern Virginia region - Southern Virginia Higher Education Center in South Boston, Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, and New College Institute in Martinsville - have formed a coalition to work cooperatively for the advancement of the region. In accordance with this, the Coalition has agreed to bring unduplicated degree completion programs, into the region. When all is completed there will be nine new bachelor degree programs available to students. To bring these "2+2" programs to our region by partnering with regional community colleges and state funded four- year higher education institutions, there is a need for additional funding by the Commonwealth.

- **Financial Breakdown:**

	FY 2009		FY 2010	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	\$1,433,476	\$400,000	\$1,433,476	\$400,000
Change To Base	\$508,189	\$2,412	\$718,189	\$2,412
Agency Total	\$1,941,665	\$402,412	\$2,151,665	\$402,412

This financial summary is computed from information entered in the service area plans.

Human Resources

- **Overview**

The SVHEC has appropriations for 22 FTEs. The Center has 18 full-time positions that are funded with state appropriations and grant funds and there are 8 part-time staff positions approximating 4 FTEs funded with both state appropriations and grant funds. All of the positions are critical for the SVHEC to provide current services.

The Center is in the process of asking for the authority to employ its Executive Director as an "at will" position. The General Assembly will need to approve this change.

- **Human Resource Levels**

Effective Date	8/29/2008
Total Authorized Position level	22
Vacant Positions	-4
Current Employment Level	18.0
Non-Classified (Filled)	0
Full-Time Classified (Filled)	18
Part-Time Classified (Filled)	0
Faculty (Filled)	0
Wage	4
Contract Employees	0
Total Human Resource Level	22.0

breakout of Current Employment Level

= Current Employment Level + Wage and Contract Employees

- **Factors Impacting HR**

The SVHEC is growing, both in types of educational programs and in the number of students using the Center. The staff is working extremely hard due to the additional programs and responsibilities that the Center has added in the last couple years. With continued anticipated growth in programs and four + positions funded through grants, additional sustainable funds will be needed in the future.

- *Anticipated HR Changes*

See earlier sections.

Information Technology

- *Current Operational IT Investments:*

The Southern Virginia Higher Education Center's Information Technology Team has built a 100/1000 Mbps switched Ethernet network with redundancy as its core backbone with over 400 wired data drops and a dozen wireless access points. This network is connected to our videoconferencing network which has been converted to IP (H.323) [although still maintaining ISDN (H.320) through our onsite PBX]. Included in our video network is our MCU (multiple conference unit) and 5 units for supporting videoconference classroom/conferences, dual satellite receivers with satellite ip system for connecting two classrooms to the Old Dominion University TELETECHNET, along with our CCTV system for routing video and audio to and from most rooms in the center. The SVHEC has extended our network through a private gigabit fiber connection to the Prizery, a local arts center allowing us to collaborate. The SVHEC utilizes a fiber connections to the internet [10Mbps connection saleable on a flexible basis to 100Mbps] provided by the Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative's Network (MBC).

This year, the SVHEC is a lead institution in the creation of the Southern Virginia Education Network, a private regional IP based network with 10/1000 Mbps connections through the MBC network with routing and policy managed by SVEN members. Currently 5 local education partners are directly connected through this network creating an opportunity to leverage the new network's physical infrastructure to provide reliable, high-speed, cost-effective broadband service that here to fore have been plagued by unreliable internet service, limited broadband access, slow connections, and very high costs that are not capable of supporting modern applications and future distance learning models necessary for schools and universities to compete.

Most of our students do not have access to wireless laptop computers so the Information Technology Team uses our 200+ classroom and common area computers combined with our redundant servers to allow students a central storage option and a customizable roaming profile configured to access their class needs and a seamless desktop functionality throughout our computer classrooms/labs/common space. As SVHEC computers are refreshed, these computers are reconfigured and made available to our smaller regional education partners for courses designed to increase computer competency skill level in the regional workforce.

Current (F08) upgrades and modifications include increased 1000Mbps connects to key devices, a wireless controller to securely grant and audit access to our intranet and the internet, a multi- server environment with a SAN storage backbone incorporating VMware to "virtualize" the SVHEC's server environment (increases server hardware efficiencies and saves cost, and improves COOP efficiency planning).

Through a Tobacco Commission grant the SVHEC is adding Graphic Arts as a curriculum and therefore IT is deploying our first Mac computer based educational classroom environment.

- *Factors Impacting the Current IT:*

Need capital funding for IP phone system to become fully compatible with other state education partners

- Receiving a federal grant for virtual classrooms (submitted in 2007, endorsed by Gov's office, re-submitted 2008)
- The SVHEC is the only public higher education physicality in Halifax County and as so, is our regions only connection with "latest" technology in a classroom/conference environment. When the SVHEC occupied its current building six years ago, the building was equipped with the latest and greatest in technology equipment (especially audio visual equipment) which was funded through private sources, but without a source of special funds the SVHEC is not going to be able to continue to achieve its goal of serving our constituents with state of the art equipment.
- The SVHEC network infrastructure is approaching "end of life" and IT staff will not be able to maintain our current high service levels to all users.

- *Proposed IT Solutions:*

Equip the SVHEC's Center of Nursing Excellence with latest computer based simulation equipment and audio visual equipment and furnishings. The Center of Nursing Excellence is currently 4100sq. ft. of renovated space that construction costs and staffing needs were funded by Tobacco Commission Grants. The equipment funding is in another Tobacco Commission Grant request.

- Expansion of our graphic arts Mac computer based educational classrooms with funding from the Tobacco Commission.
- Build out SVENetwork via the Mid-Atlantic Broadband(MBC) cooperative's Fiber optic network to all area schools and the SHEC partners. This project is a cooperative project with Higher Education Partners and regional public school system, Department of Education, Secretary of Technology's office, MBC. This request is a current federal grant

request.

- Build virtual classrooms through South Central Virginia creating an environment where student and teacher although physically separated by miles would "feel/look" and sound as if in one physical classroom). This request is a current federal grant request.
- Voice-over-IP system to replace our PBX. An IP phone system is need to become fully compatible with other state education partners allows students direct and seamless communication with home campuses. This option is especially relevant as more higher education partners are planning and considering joining the SVENetwork (creating a true virtual campus for their students)
- Build-out of the next 20,000 sq. ft. of unused space into classrooms/labs/offices/etc with audio visual, network infrastructure, communication systems as required.
- Upgrade of Audio Visual presentation systems.
- Upgrade of Network infrastructure.
- Testing desktop virtualization [this may increase desktop flexibility and extend desktop hardware life 2-3 plus years] (This project is only a test and not a current funding request).

● *Current IT Services:*

Estimated Ongoing Operations and Maintenance Costs for Existing IT Investments

	Cost - Year 1		Cost - Year 2	
	General Fund	Non-general Fund	General Fund	Non-general Fund
Projected Service Fees	\$2,477	\$908	\$2,514	\$922
Changes (+/-) to VITA Infrastructure	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Estimated VITA Infrastructure	\$2,477	\$908	\$2,514	\$922
Specialized Infrastructure	\$25,000	\$0	\$2,500	\$30,000
Agency IT Staff	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-agency IT Staff	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Application Costs	\$88,000	\$23,680	\$98,000	\$23,680
Agency IT Current Services	\$115,477	\$24,588	\$103,014	\$54,602

Comments:

[Nothing entered]

● *Proposed IT Investments*

Estimated Costs for Projects and New IT Investments

	Cost - Year 1		Cost - Year 2	
	General Fund	Non-general Fund	General Fund	Non-general Fund
Major IT Projects	\$0	\$1,350,000	\$0	\$1,500,000
Non-major IT Projects	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$268,000
Agency-level IT Projects	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Major Stand Alone IT Procurements	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Non-major Stand Alone IT Procurements	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	\$0
Total Proposed IT Investments	\$200,000	\$1,475,000	\$200,000	\$1,768,000

● *Projected Total IT Budget*

	Cost - Year 1		Cost - Year 2	
	General Fund	Non-general Fund	General Fund	Non-general Fund
Current IT Services	\$115,477	\$24,588	\$103,014	\$54,602
Proposed IT Investments	\$200,000	\$1,475,000	\$200,000	\$1,768,000
Total	\$315,477	\$1,499,588	\$303,014	\$1,822,602

[Appendix A](#) - Agency's information technology investment detail maintained in VITA's ProSight system.

Capital

- *Current State of Capital Investments:*

The Halifax Educational Foundation is building owner. Any additional funds we would need are for operations (rent and utilities) of expanded facility, furnishings and technology and additional programs.

- *Factors Impacting Capital Investments:*

SVHEC does not have any capital projects currently. As the demand for space continues to grow there may be a need to request funding for a capital project.

- *Capital Investments Alignment:*

No comment necessary.

Agency Goals

Goal 1

Provide affordable, convenient higher education to all citizens of Southside Virginia.

Goal Summary and Alignment

Prior to the establishment of the SVHEC, members of the community had no easily accessible, affordable method of continuing their education. Therefore, our primary goal and reason for existence is to provide affordable, convenient higher education to the citizens of this region. Enhancing the educational opportunities in our region will strengthen the local economy, keep our young people in the community, and provide an overall better quality of life for our region's citizens.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

Goal 2

Elevate the levels of educational preparedness of our workforce in Southside Virginia.

Goal Summary and Alignment

Elevate the levels of educational preparedness of our current workforce and prepare a ready workforce for new opportunities. Work closely with our current business and industry community to closely match their education needs with our training. Offer convenient, relevant training opportunities in a space with up to date training equipment. Work closely with individuals to find financial aid and funding for their training.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

Goal 3

Increase the number of students in our region with Bachelor's degrees and higher.

Goal Summary and Alignment

The levels of educational attainment in Halifax County and the Southside region as a whole, are far below the state averages. The 2006 State Council of Higher Education for Virginia report indicated this low attainment was due, in large part, to a "lack of college going culture" in the region especially among the former and existing blue collar and agricultural working families. A mere nine and one half percent of adults hold a bachelor's degree or higher, and only 63.9 percent of

the Halifax County adult population holds a high school diploma.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

Goal 4

Increase the level of literacy in Halifax County in collaboration with other agencies and partners.

Goal Summary and Alignment

The Center's goal is to raise the level of literacy in Halifax County and the surrounding counties within our region by employing a variety of avenues targeted at increasing literacy in the region. Currently, Halifax County has a 32 percent illiteracy rate, and 10,000 adults ages 18 and up without a high school diploma or General Education Degree (GED). Approximately 4,600 adult residents are capable of taking and passing the GED while the remaining 5,400 cannot read, comprehend or write on at least a 9th grade level. This latter group must be targeted to ensure that the literacy rate increases in Halifax County. The Volunteer Literacy Program has shown marked success in reaching adults on a one on one basis. Since 1998, this program has served 1,112 adults. This program trains volunteers that want to see a difference in our county to assist participants with various levels of learning. The program takes a person from where they are to a higher level of learning. The Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program assists participants in a classroom setting. The use of computers, peer discussion, and direct instruction allows students to learn from all tools available. With the success of each of these programs, Halifax County will eventually be considered more literate—a fact that will serve as an incentive for business and industry to locate here. Additionally, once these individuals have improved their literacy skills they will be more attractive to potential employers and will draw more job opportunities to themselves.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

Goal 5

Be recognized as the leading regional center for K-12 teacher education and student learning resources with an emphasis on research, best practices, outreach, and intervention strategies.

Goal Summary and Alignment

Through the SVHEC's CREED initiative, it will position itself as the leading force in educational research (including a data clearinghouse), best practices, professional development for teachers, outreach, and early childhood intervention initiatives. Because CREED has a committed network of 18 school divisions within the region, it has the credibility and reach to make systemic changes in Southside education.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Be a national leader in the preservation and enhancement of our economy.

Goal 6

Enhance economic development in Southside Virginia in collaboration with other initiatives in the region.

Goal Summary and Alignment

The Center will continue to work with the county and region to promote economic development in collaborative relationships with other agencies and entities by:

- Working collaboratively with area businesses and industry to provide relevant training to their employees
- Working closely with regional economic development offices to assist with training of potential business and industry.
- Working with Longwood Small Business Development Center and VECTEC to provide entrepreneurial training and relevant small business seminars and workshop.
- Continuing to provide a first rate meeting place and a facility with state of the art technology to enhance the opportunities of our region.
- Working closely with the Halifax Chamber of Commerce to reach the community visioning goals identified in their 20/20 Marketing Strategy.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Be a national leader in the preservation and enhancement of our economy.

Goal 7

Be recognized as a viable change agent in Southside Virginia.

Goal Summary and Alignment

Be recognized in the state of Virginia as a catalyst for change and show marked improvements in overall educational attainments for our region. Work collaboratively with community and regional efforts to raise the education level of our citizens.

Goal Alignment to Statewide Goals

- Be a national leader in the preservation and enhancement of our economy.

Goal Objectives

- We will be prepared to act in the interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and its infrastructure during the emergency situations by actively planning and training both as an agency and as individuals

Objective Strategies

- The agency Emergency Coordination Officer will stay in continuous communication with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Link to State Strategy

- nothing linked

Objective Measures

- Agency Continuity of Operations Plann (COOP) Assessment Score

Measure Class: Measure Type: Measure Frequency: Preferred Trend:

Measure Baseline Value: Date:

Measure Baseline Description: 2007 COOP Assessment Results (%out of 100)

Measure Target Value: Date:

Measure Target Description: Minimum of 75% or if at 75%, increase the average by 5% each year.

Data Source and Calculation: The COOP Assessment Review is a 24 component assessment tool that helps measure the viability of a COOP plan.

Goal 8

We will strengthen the culture of preparedness across state agencies, their employees, and customers.

Goal Summary and Alignment

This goal ensures compliance with federal and state regulations, policies and procedures for Commonwealth Preparedness, in collaboration with the Governor's Cabinet, the Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group, the Department of Planning and Budget and the Council on Virginia's Future. The goal supports achievement of the Commonwealth's statewide goal of protecting the public's safety and security, ensuring a fair and effective system of justice and providing a prepared response to emergencies and disasters of all kinds.

Goal Objectives

- We will be prepared to act in the interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and its infrastructure during the emergency situations by actively planning and training both as an agency and as individuals

Objective Strategies

- The agency Emergency Coordination Officer will stay in continuous communication with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Link to State Strategy

- nothing linked
-

Service Area Strategic Plan

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (937)

3/17/2014 11:52 am

Biennium: 2008-10 ▼

Service Area 1 of 1

Administrative and Support Services (937 199 00)**Description**

The Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (SVHEC), previously established as an off-campus center of Longwood University, is now an independent Commonwealth educational institution established as such on July 1, 2005, by the Virginia General Assembly. The Center was established to encourage the expansion of higher education, including adult and continuing education, associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree programs in the region, and to foster partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance higher education in the region. The Center also works with the school divisions in the region through its Center for Rural Education and Economic Development (CREED) to inspire a "culture of education" that reaches out to the region's public schools, students, teachers, and administrators. CREED seeks to foster advanced Pre-Kindergarten-12th grade outreach and initiatives to improve teaching and learning.

Only nine and one half percent of Halifax County's population has a bachelor's degree or higher, and a little more than half the population (63.9 percent) has a high school diploma or GED. The surrounding region is similar in demographics. For centuries, the region has relied on low skill, manufacturing jobs and tobacco farming to sustain the economy. With the irrevocable decline in both areas, the region has suffered, and continues to suffer, dramatic economic decline. The SVHEC was established in 1986, originally as a way to provide higher education in Halifax County—a county with no community college or four-year college or university. Initially, the Center offered courses from Danville Community College, Southside Virginia College and Longwood University. Since then, the SVHEC has evolved into a comprehensive Center offering many opportunities for advancement from General Educational Development (GED) training to PhD programs. The Center works in collaboration with all educational partners to bring opportunities to our citizens, as well as to provide complementary services such as assistance with Small Business Development, financial aid preparation, and career counseling. The SVHEC's current education partners are: Danville Community College, Longwood University, Southside Virginia Community College, Mary Baldwin College, Old Dominion University, Cambridge College, the Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program, Central Virginia Community College and Virginia Tech, Troy University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In addition to our in-house opportunities, our Southside Higher Education Coalition partnership with the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) in Danville and the New College Institute in Martinsville establishes a distributed campus that gives the SVHEC the opportunity to cross deliver classes and programs to and from the coalition sites. The Mid-Atlantic Broadband (MBC) Initiative will continue to improve the possibilities for program delivery to these sites, as well as outreach to additional site in the region. Current outreach sites include Clarksville, Chase City, Charlotte County, Clover and Scottsburg, Virginia, with on-site classes through the SVHEC currently being taught in these locations.

The Center provides classroom space, broadband technology, instructional equipment, and support staff to its constituency. It is open seven days a week, Monday through Friday from 7:30am - 10pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 8am-4pm. The Center closes on Sundays if no classes are scheduled. The SVHEC is a convenient and affordable alternative to attending a college or university's main campus; the Center has also become a sought after meeting space for regional and state activities.

Background Information**Mission Alignment and Authority**

- *Describe how this service supports the agency mission*

Through partnerships with the Center's member colleges, universities, coalition partners, and workforce training groups and by providing a high quality educational facility, with state of the art technology, support staff, meeting space and conference rooms for community, regional and state use, the Center expands the access of educational programs to the citizens of the Southside Region. Programs range from specialized research and training for regional PreK-12 school divisions, to literacy and GED training and doctorate programs with everything in between. The SVHEC is truly a Southside Virginia's regional connection from GED to PhD. The Center offers an overall emphasis on economic development and economic vitality, providing workforce training and program development to meet the needs of the contemporary workforce.

- *Describe the Statutory Authority of this Service*

§ 23-231.24. Southern Virginia Higher Education Center created; duties.

From such funds as may be appropriated, the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center, previously established as an

off-campus center of Longwood university, is hereby continued as an educational institution in the commonwealth and shall be referred to in this chapter as the "Center." The Center shall:

1. Encourage the expansion of higher education, including adult and continuing education, associate, undergraduate, and graduate degree programs in the region, and foster partnerships between the public and private sectors to enhance higher education in the region;
2. Coordinate the development and delivery of continuing education programs offered by those educational institutions serving the region;
3. Facilitate the delivery of teacher training programs leading to licensure and graduate degrees;
4. Serve as a resource and referral center by maintaining and disseminating information on existing educational programs and resources; and
5. Develop, in coordination with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, specific goals for higher education in Southside Virginia.

Customers

Agency Customer Group	Customer	Customers served annually	Potential annual customers
Customers attending conferences, meetings and events	Community, regional and state entities using the facilities of the Center for various meetings, events and gatherings.	2,500	4,000
Students registered in credit programs (unduplicated enrollments based on a year)	Students enrolled in for credit programs year 4. Aggregated duplicated enrollment for Spring, Summer, and Fall 2004.	4,107	6,000
Students enrolled in non-credit programs	Students enrolled in non-credit programs 2004. Spring, Summer, and fall enrollments.	586	800
Colleges and universities that offer courses at HEC	The colleges, universities, and agencies offering programs at the Center, including Longwood SBDC and AH Philpot Manufacturing Workforce Training.	8	12

Anticipated Changes To Agency Customer Base

We anticipate a continuation of the current trend of increased enrollment from students in the traditional 18-21 year old demographic. Also, as our college and university partners continue to gain a foothold in this region we anticipate their programs, and the Center by extension, experiencing increased enrollment. As our outreach initiatives through CREED continue, we foresee growth in the workshops and events catering to the Pre-K-12 population and attendance at said events.

Partners

Partner	Description
Cambridge College	Offers a Master's of Education in Interdisciplinary Studies (concentrations in Math, US History, and Biology), Special Education with Licensure, and School Administration with Licensure.
Central Virginia Community College	Provides a distance learning Associate's degree in Medical Laboratory Technology
CLE (Continuing Legal Education)	A series of professional development workshops and seminars for attorneys.
Coalition Partners: The Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR) & New College Institute (NCI)	Both IALR in Danville and NCI in Martinsville are higher education centers in the same vein as the SVHEC, with each institution focusing on a different academic emphasis. As coalition partners, IALR & NCI agree to, as much as possible, cross deliver their degree programs to the SVHEC. Likewise, the SVHEC has made the same pledge to IALR & NCI.
Commonwealth Graduate Engineering Program	A consortium of five Virginia public universities (UVA, VPI, ODU, VCU, & GMU) who offer distance learning Master's degrees in engineering. There are 10 different disciplines available.
Danville Community College	Offers a number of career studies certificates and diplomas, as well as Associate's degrees in Applied Science & Arts & Sciences. A variety of program majors are available.
	Offers Master's degrees in Educational Leadership and Community &

Longwood University	College Counseling through onsite instruction. Additionally, courses towards teacher licensure, elementary education, special education and literacy & culture are offered either online or onsite as needed.
Mary Baldwin College	Offers 11 different Bachelor degree programs and courses towards teacher licensure.
Old Dominion University	Offers Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees through one of three delivery methods: TELETECHNET satellite, videostreaming, or online.
Southside Virginia Community College	Offers a number of career studies certificates and diplomas, as well as Associate's degrees in Applied Science & Arts & Sciences. A variety of program majors are available.
Troy University	Offers a number of Bachelor's and Master's degrees through online instruction.
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Offers certificates in Field Epidemiology and Core Public Health, as well as a Master's degree in Public Health through online instruction.
Virginia Tech	Offering courses in Forestry leading to a Bachelor's degree in Forestry, and will begin providing the third and fourth year instruction for a Bachelor's degree in Wood Science.

Products and Services

- *Factors Impacting the Products and/or Services:*

The most obvious impediment is the unreliability of state funding. Sustainable funds for additional technology, programmatic development, furnishings, and personnel is always needed.

The less obvious, but equally critical barrier, combined with the above, is two-fold: [1] the reluctance, if not outright refusal, of some of the Commonwealth's institutions of higher learning to take any four year degree courses and programs off campus to the underserved poorer regions of the state except through the web; [2] lack of funding to Centers like ours to fairly compensate institutions that will outreach to these regions in need makes redevelopment virtually impossible. Virginia Commonwealth University has been prepared for two years to deliver a significant, world class design program for the region through our Center, awaiting only state funding support.

- *Anticipated Changes to the Products and/or Services*

In this biennium, the Center expects to expand spatially and programmatically. The SVHEC has 20,000 square feet of unfinished space available. Renovations will begin to make this space into additional classroom and office space. Not only is this space needed to accommodate current students and staff, but also to provide space for the four new bachelor degree programs that will be added within the next two years. The new slate of programs are: graphic arts and design, hospitality and tourism, wood science, and forestry. The opportunity to offer more nursing programs (RN level) through Southside Virginia Community College is also available. Plans are to add a nursing lab and specialized training area. More classroom space will be needed for Old Dominion University's TELETECHNET programs.

Currently, all of the classrooms are in use Monday through Thursday evenings. Classes are also in session on Saturday and Sunday. Generally, the Center uses 4 to 5 classrooms each Saturday for instruction and one classroom on Sunday. The new initiatives and accompanying equipment needs will require additional classroom and office space to accommodate future needs and well as some of the needs that currently exist. In addition, there is a need for a student services area to include a comprehensive bookstore and food area.

The establishment of the Center for Rural Education and Economic Development (CREED) is composed of a network of 18 school divisions extending to Patrick County in the west and Sussex in the east. The mission of CREED is to inspire a "culture of education" that reaches out to the region's public schools, students, teachers, and administrators.

CREED seeks to foster advanced Pre-Kindergarten-12th grade outreach and initiatives to improve teaching and learning. The CREED Director and Board of Directors are in place and program delivery through this entity began Spring 2007. Examples of outreach efforts and success of CREED are:

1. \$13 million Advanced Placement grant received from ExxonMobil, September 2007. The purpose of this initiative is to increase the number of students throughout the Commonwealth, and particularly in rural Southside and Southwest Virginia, participating in AP Math, Science, and English courses and succeeding on the corresponding AP exam. A nonprofit organization to administer the grant has been established, a Board of Trustees has been selected, and Executive Director and finance officers have been hired.

-Nonprofit 501c3 organization - Virginia Advanced Studies Strategies (VASS) - has been formed to manage and implement program.

-VASS Board of Directors includes Dr. Dorothea Shannon (Chair), Jack Reasor (Vice-Chair), Chris Lumsden

(Secretary/Treasurer), Clarke Hogan, Tom Morris, Pat Wright, Virginia McLaughlin, Bryant Stith, Barney Day, Hugh Keogh, Ben Davenport, Eva Tieg Hardy, and Patrick Dexter.

-Paul Nichols (former Executive Director of Administration for Halifax County Public Schools) has been appointed President/CEO of VASS

-Jennifer Stevens (Research & Development Specialist at HEC) has been appointed as Chief Financial Officer/Project Director of VASS.

-VASS is currently recruiting for four other staff positions: Administrative Assistant, Director of Math, Director of Science, and Director of English.

-Matching funding of over \$3 million has been raised from supporting partners.

--Virginia Tobacco Commission - \$2.5 million

--Dominion - \$300,000

--Halifax Education Foundation - \$100,000

--Old Dominion Electric Cooperative - \$110,000

--Philip Morris USA - \$150,000 (pending approval of application)

-VASS plans to enlist up to 30 schools in the first year - most to be chosen from Southern and Southwestern regions of the state.

-Schools will be chosen through an RFP process with assistance from NMSI staff

-First training of teachers to be held in spring and summer, 2008

-Plans are moving forward to combine AP and dual enrollment programs where appropriate

2. Broadband Project

-Concept paper for Southern Virginia Education Network developed at the request of Governor Mark Warner (handout)

-SVEN plans to facilitate the connection of all the public schools and education entities in the region together in a private intranet - infrastructure to be leveraged by internet service providers to expand broadband access to businesses and homes.

-Event September 21 for Governor Warner, Secretary of Technology Aneesh Chopra, and Governor Kaine's Broadband Round table - demonstration of network capabilities

-Federal request submitted for \$3.3 million in funding to support development of SVEN and purchase of video conferencing units to be placed throughout the region

3. Other CREED Activities

-CREED Steering Committee meetings held monthly

-CREED Board of Directors meetings held quarterly - superintendents also invited to attend event with Warner, Chopra, and Broadband Round table.

4. \$1 million Teaching American History grant received for four regional school divisions. Classes began October 4, 2007.

5. \$1.5 million Tobacco Commission Grant for development of bachelor degree programs. One bachelor degree program began fall 2007. Three programs will begin by fall 2008.

● *Listing of Products and/or Services*

- Provide support services including technology, custodial services, conference space and public information to students and member colleges, universities and workforce groups.
- Provide facility and support services to the business community for corporate meetings, training and teleconferences.
- Provide general operating and support. Supports special interest, non-credit programs and children's summer program.

Finance

● *Financial Overview*

Funding to operate the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center is derived from state and local government appropriations, rent and non-credit program revenues and grant awards. Our focused efforts and success at grant acquisition has enabled us to significantly leverage state funding.

In October 2007, the Tobacco Commission awarded the owner lessor of our facility, the Halifax Educational Foundation, \$468,000 to build out 4,200 square feet for construction of our Center of Nursing Excellence. Additional awards received by the lessor to cover nursing equipment needs are \$250,000 and could be as much as \$550,000. The SVHEC was awarded \$158,000 with an additional private match to us of \$50,000 from the Halifax Regional Hospital for initial operating funds for salary, benefits and rent. The Center of Nursing Excellence opened August, 2008.

Previously, in January, 2007, the Tobacco Commission awarded the SVHEC \$1,500,000 to develop degree completion programs. These funds were committed to development of a broadband network to share educational programs with the Southside Higher Education Coalition (see below), purchase of equipment and developmental staff for Wood Design and Digital Arts/Electronic Gaming program. These programs have classes in operation in August 2008. Both Tobacco Commission Grants will run out during FY2010. The additional \$250,000 appropriated by the General

Assembly, at our request during the 2008 session, will provide sustaining funds for the operating costs for The Center of Nursing Excellence (a critical workforce development program) and the degree completion programs developed in Wood Design and Digital Arts. The SVHEC committed this \$250,000 to cover cost of rent for the 4,200 square feet renovated and equipped for the Center for Nursing Excellence with the aforementioned grant funds, and salary/benefits of key personnel who were recruited to continue to develop and operate these important nursing and wood design, etc., programs for the economic and workforce development of this region.

The funds appropriated by the General Assembly in the 2008 session have been committed to staff, equip, secure, operate and maintain the Center facilities, and to provide critical services to its members and customers. The region will benefit from additional educational programs in the undergraduate area and the additional funds will be needed to sustain these degree completion programs.

Southside Higher Education Coalition (SHEC)

The three higher education centers in the Southern Virginia region - Southern Virginia Higher Education Center in South Boston, Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, and New College Institute in Martinsville - have formed a coalition to work cooperatively for the advancement of the region. In accordance with this, the Coalition has agreed to bring unduplicated degree completion programs, into the region. When all is completed there will be nine new bachelor degree programs available to students. To bring these "2+2" programs to our region by partnering with regional community colleges and state funded four- year higher education institutions, there is a need for additional funding by the Commonwealth.

● *Financial Breakdown*

	FY 2009		FY 2010	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	\$1,433,476	\$400,000	\$1,433,476	\$400,000
Change To Base	\$508,189	\$2,412	\$718,189	\$2,412
Service Area Total	\$1,941,665	\$402,412	\$2,151,665	\$402,412

Human Resources

● *Human Resources Overview*

The SVHEC has appropriations for 22 FTEs. The Center has 18 full-time positions filled that are funded with state appropriations and grants and there are 8 part-time staff positions approximating 4 FTEs funded with both state appropriations and grant funds. All of the positions are critical for the SVHEC to provide current services.

During the next General Assembly Session (January 2009) the agency will ask for the Executive Director position to be an "At Will" employee appointed by the Board of Trustees.

● *Human Resource Levels*

Effective Date	8/29/2009
Total Authorized Position level	22
Vacant Positions	4
Current Employment Level	18.0
Non-Classified (Filled)	0
Full-Time Classified (Filled)	18
Part-Time Classified (Filled)	0
Faculty (Filled)	0
Wage	4
Contract Employees	0
Total Human Resource Level	22.0

breakout of Current Employment Level

= Current Employment Level + Wage and Contract Employees

● *Factors Impacting HR*

The SVHEC is growing, both in types of educational programs and in the number of students using the Center. The staff is working extremely hard due to the additional programs and responsibilities that the Center has added in the last couple years. With the continued anticipated growth in programs and with four + positions funded through grants

additional sustainable funds are needed in the future.

- *Anticipated HR Changes*
See earlier section

Service Area Objectives

- We will work collaboratively with all current education partners and develop new partnerships to increase the number of students receiving GEDs, associate, bachelor, master, and Ph.D. degrees

Objective Description

Because the level of educational attainment within Halifax County and the Southside region is significantly below state averages, the Center will take a regional approach to develop a college-going culture that will translate into increased numbers of people seeking and obtaining higher levels of education.

Alignment to Agency Goals

- Agency Goal: Provide affordable, convenient higher education to all citizens of Southside Virginia.

Link to State Strategy

- nothing linked

Objective Measures

- We will increase the proportion of students in Center-based educational programs who receive GEDs and college degrees by 30 percent by the fiscal year 2010.

Measure Class: Measure Type: Measure Frequency: Preferred Trend:

Measure Baseline Value: Date:

Measure Baseline Description: Students enrolled in the Fall 2005

Measure Target Value: Date:

Measure Target Description: Students enrolled in the Fall 2009

Data Source and Calculation: The SVHEC educational partners will provide enrollment numbers to us. In addition, we will use regional enrollment data as submitted to the Commonwealth by our regional educational partners.

- We will work collaboratively with the the Southern region pre K-12 public school systems to develop new educational program initiatives that meet the specific needs and current areas of deficiency of the region.

Objective Description

Because of the “lack of a college going culture” in the region, especially among the former and existing blue collar and agricultural working families as found by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and reflected in their 2006 report, and as further evidenced by the lower than state average academic achievement and aspirations of its residents, we believe expanded, quality educational opportunities is the key to Southern Virginia’s future economic growth and viability. The linchpin in the success of this endeavor is an effort to bring about systemic changes in the region that will begin to inculcate a “college going culture.” The SVHEC sees its Center for Rural Education and Economic Development as the vehicle to bring about that change. Through CREED’s initiatives, the Center will position itself as the leading force in educational research (including a data clearinghouse), best practices of instruction, professional development for teachers, PreK-12 outreach, and early childhood intervention initiatives. Because CREED has a committed network of 18 school divisions within the region, it has the credibility and reach to bring about a transformation in Southside education.

Alignment to Agency Goals

- Agency Goal: Increase the number of students in our region with Bachelor's degrees and higher.

Link to State Strategy

- nothing linked

Objective Measures

- PreK-12 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs

Measure Class: Agency Key Measure Type: Outcome Measure Frequency: Annual Preferred Trend: Up

Measure Baseline Value: 89 Date: 6/30/2006

Measure Baseline Description: Number of participants in FY2006

Measure Target Value: 500 Date: 6/30/2010

Measure Target Description: Number of participants in FY2010

Data Source and Calculation: This measurement represents students enrolled in fall, spring and summer programs. An annual measure will allow the SVHEC to see trends without seasonal fluctuations affecting the comparison of data.