

# CoVF Update

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December 2009

*The Council on Virginia's Future had an active agenda in 2009. This update highlights recent awards and activities involving information and education, assessment, and service performance.*

## Recognition

The Council on Virginia's Future has received two prestigious awards and is a finalist for a third:

- The Council on Virginia's Future has been awarded the Innovation in Government Award as part of the Excellence in Virginia Government Awards (EVGA) program at the L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University.
- Virginia Performs has won an award from the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) for Data, Information, and Knowledge Management.
- Virginia Performs is also a finalist for the 2009 Community Indicators-Performance Measurement Integration Award from the Community Indicators Consortium.

## Information and Education

Presentations and contacts with key public and private sector audiences about the Council on Virginia's Future, performance leadership and accountability, and Virginia Performs are ongoing. Highlights of recent contacts include:

- Pew Center on the States with Governor Kaine
- Representatives from the Republic of South Africa
- Pennsylvania Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
- The Council of State Governments
- Public Manager Conference
- Richmond Education Innovation Forum
- The State of the USA

The fourth issue of the Council's e-newsletter was published in September and included updates on the educational attainment initiative, agency training to improve performance metrics, and the Productivity Investment Fund.

The Virginia Association of Counties published an article on Virginia Performs in the October edition of their newsletter, *County Connections*.

The *Virginia Report 2009* was published November 1st.

Updated Community Snapshots from data on Virginia Performs are being developed for delivery to General Assembly members in January.

## Assessment

- Agencies continue to refine performance measures and have begun entering performance data for productivity and administrative measures. Quarterly data is current through the first quarter of fiscal year 2010.
- Ongoing updates are being made to the Virginia Performs and Hampton Roads Performs websites.
- Three new indicators are under development for Virginia Performs: Energy, Civic Engagement, and Government Operations.

## Performance

- Five large agencies developed prototypes of re-designed Executive Progress Reports that present more consistent and integrated executive views of strategic challenges and opportunities. Ultimately, these new Executive Progress Reports will be included in agency strategic plans. Reports were completed for the Departments of Conservation and Recreation, Juvenile Justice, Medical Assistance Services, Motor Vehicles, and Transportation.
- Additional agency and Cabinet-level training on planning and performance management practices was provided.
- A staff member is part of the steering committee supporting the Department of Planning and Budget's project implementing the new performance budgeting system.
- 2010 – 2013 agency strategic and service area plans are now available on the Virginia Performs website.

## Other

Educational attainment activities are continuing. Two forums were held on important issues related to educational attainment:

- Economic Competitiveness: Enhancing the Alignment of Higher Education with Long-Term Workforce Needs, featuring Dr. Chris Chmura, Chmura Economics and Analytics, and Dr. Craig Herndon, Virginia Community College System.
- Higher Education Finances and Productivity, featuring Dennis Jones and Patrick Kelly, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, and Jane Wellman, Delta Project on Postsecondary Education Costs, Productivity, and Accountability.

A special edition of *The Virginia Report* focusing on educational attainment in Virginia is available from the Council's website. Also available is *Enhancing the Alignment of Higher Education with Long-term Workforce Needs* by Dr. Chris Chmura, Chmura Economics and Analytics, 2009.