ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



ROANOKE
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CENTER

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ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION

The Roanoke Higher Education Center provides citizens of the Roanoke region access to educational opportunities through the delivery of workforce certificate programs and licensures, degree completion programs, associate, bachelor's and graduate degrees.

VISION

The Roanoke Higher Education Center will help create the best educated, knowledgeable and skilled workforce in the Commonwealth.

VALUES

To embrace a shared vision of collaboration and partnership with colleges, universities, community organizations, businesses and industries.

Cover photo: Jaeyun Han, a student enrolled in the Al Pollard Culinary Arts Program at Virginia Western Community College.

EDUCATORS, BAKERS AND HISTORY-MAKERS



A vision that's been cooking since 2014 is now ready for student and public consumption! Local and regional public officials, education leaders, partners and friends gathered for the grand opening of the newly expanded Claude Moore Education Complex (CMEC) hosted by Virginia Western Community College and the Roanoke Higher Education Center on September 12.

From a congested 8-foot-wide trailer to the bottom floor of the CMEC, the Al Pollard Culinary Arts program at Virginia Western has been growing rapidly since its launch in 2007. Recognizing the growth of Virginia's Blue Ridge as a travel and tourism destination, the Roanoke Higher Education Center partnered with Virginia Western to address the growing national and local demand for chefs by expanding the 80-year-old facility. RHEC secured a bond-funded package of $6.4 million from the General Assembly.



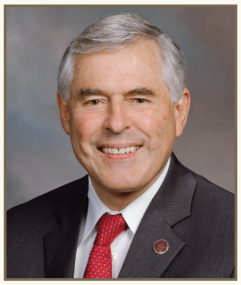
The newly expanded Claude Moore Education Complex

The culinary program is not just a training program, but an opportunity to invigorate an area of the city that was once an iconic cultural center in Roanoke with kiosks that will showcase historical sights and figures of the Gainsboro community.

Located across from the main building of the RHEC, the project created an additional 7,800 square feet of three new kitchens, renovated office and classroom space. Virginia Western hopes to double enrollments over the next few years. The new facility allows individuals the opportunity to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree in Culinary Arts, as well as Career Studies Certificates in Culinary Arts and Baking and Pastry, accredited by the American Culinary Federation.



One of three new state-of-the-art kitchens



Senator John Edwards, Chair, Board of Trustees

"As the Roanoke region grows in the hospitality and food service industry, the Roanoke Higher Education Center, partnering with Virginia Western Community College has expanded the Culinary Arts program to meet this workforce need," said Senator John Edwards, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Authority. On September 12, 2018, the Grand Opening took place for the $6.4 million renovation and expansion of the Al Pollard Culinary Arts program. Tours were given of the new electronic classrooms, new kitchens and office space which make it possible to double enrollment of the popular program. This project reflects the strong partnership between the Roanoke Higher Education Center, Virginia Western Community College, the City of Roanoke and the Gainsboro neighborhood community."

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A MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KAY DUNKLEY

Dear Community of Friends,



Kay Dunkley

I extend a special note of gratitude to our college and community partners who helped the Roanoke Higher Education Center (RHEC) accomplish many things during 2017-2018. The RHEC is unique in the number and types of organizations that have joined forces in one location to expand access to educational resources at every level, from earning a GED to receiving an associate, bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree, as well as access to obtaining workforce certifications and endorsements. I invite you to peruse the pages of this annual report to discover the many highlights of events and programs, as well as the great successes of our students.

> "ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE; TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH."
>
> – HELEN KELLER

Our achievements come from the hard work of our partner institutions—Averett, Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, James Madison, Mary Baldwin, Old Dominion, Radford, University of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth, Virginia Tech, Virginia Western Community College, and TAP-This Valley Works.

Over 200 programs are delivered at the center that help to create an educated and well trained workforce. After all, human capital is an important driver of our economy. Thank you for a spirit of collaboration as we work together to help individuals succeed in the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Kay Dunkley

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RAPPORT IS KEY TO SUCCESS

STUDENT FEATURE: KATHERINE LARSON



Kat Larson

The path of a high school biology teacher is lined with support

When Kat Larson attained the highest grades in science among all eighth graders in her school, she knew she loved science. The Henrico County native later attended a rigorous STEM-focused high school before moving on to the University of Virginia (UVA) to study biology.

"I ended up with a degree in biology and Spanish because I thought I might be a Spanish-speaking doctor," she said. "But when I decided I didn't want to go to medical school, my advisor at UVA convinced me to go to the education career fair."

Though hesitant, Larson had a good rapport with her advisor and trusted her advice. Thanks to the education fair, Larson spent the next few years providing tutoring and test prep for high school students.

"It was seeing that spark a student gets when the light bulb goes on because they finally get something. That made me realize that I wanted to be in education for the rest of my life," Larson said. "So, I thought, why not get a license to teach so I can see that moment all day long?"

Larson pursued that dream through Mary Baldwin University at the Roanoke Higher Education Center.

"It was really a wonderful experience for me because the Roanoke Higher Education Center was so convenient and the faculty at Mary Baldwin were so helpful," she said. "It was easy for me to connect with professors online, but also to meet with them in person. I liked that blended instruction, as well as the rapport I had with the advisors – Kari Salois and Alice Waddell – who helped me through my student teaching."

> "I BELIEVE THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN TEACHING IS BUILDING RAPPORT..."
>
> – KAT LARSON

Larson earned her certification in secondary biology and chemistry and quickly landed her first teaching job at Salem High School, where she now teaches biology. From the support she received from family, to the rapport she established with professors, advisors and teachers throughout her life, Larson learned that establishing rapport is vital to success

"I believe the key to success in teaching is building rapport," she said. "I find, especially after tutoring, that I am able to connect very well with high school students and build that rapport which leads to students wanting to work hard and achieve great things. And that excites me."

THE POWER OF PERSONALIZATION

STUDENT FEATURE:
ALLISON GARLAND AND JAMIE NICHOLS

Leadership development at JMU

Allison Garland and Jamie Nichols have several things in common, including a love of teaching and learning and an appreciation for the James Madison University (JMU) Educational Leadership Certificate Program at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. While Garland recently completed the program and Nichols is currently enrolled, both share an appreciation for the convenience and the personal interaction they have experienced at RHEC – both with school leaders from multiple school divisions and with JMU professors.



Allison Garland

"We met once a week, which is very manageable while you're working," said Garland, who serves as dean of students at Benjamin Franklin Middle School in Franklin County. "I really wanted face-to-face interaction, rather than online. I loved hearing the different perspectives and getting to learn from people from several other school divisions who deal with similar issues."

Nichols, who teaches at Lucy Addison Middle School in Roanoke and was recently recognized as Teacher of the Year for Region 6, is more than a little excited about her JMU experience.

"I had been wanting to take courses at JMU for a long time because it was near my home, but I couldn't after moving to Roanoke two years ago," she says. "I was thrilled when I found out about the educational leadership cohort JMU was offering at the Roanoke Center."



Jamie Nichols

Nichols touts the one-on-one interaction with instructors, as well as the networking with local educators, as part of what she enjoys most about her experience at RHEC.

"I love having local educators and leaders come in as guest speakers and instructors," she said. "I like that localized touch and the networking opportunities it creates."

In addition to flexibility and convenience, Nichols also appreciates the cleanliness and professionalism of the RHEC.

"The facility is so clean and quiet, and you feel like you're in a safe environment. Plus, I love the café," she said with a chuckle.

JMU's Educational Leadership certification program is designed to prepare candidates to assume leadership positions both in school and district offices. Nichols will complete her certification this spring.

"I love the classroom, so if I stayed there ten more years I would be fine," she said. "But I do plan to apply for leadership positions."

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

STUDENT FEATURE: KATIE STEWART, CRNA

Nurse Anesthesia programs at VCU

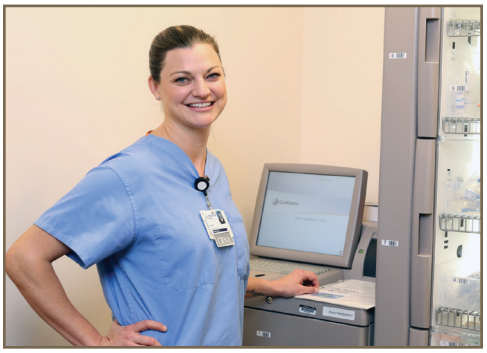
"The convenience of taking high-level VCU classes at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, while also being surrounded by so many medical sites in Roanoke, is like having the best of both worlds," said Katie Stewart, a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA), at Valley Anesthesia in Roanoke.

Stewart completed the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Nurse Anesthesia, Master of Science (MSNA) at the Roanoke Higher Education Center last December. Part of a dual enrollment degree program, Stewart also completed VCU's DNAP (Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice) program in May.

"I have two kids and my husband is based in Roanoke, so moving to go to school for what I wanted to study wasn't an option," said Stewart. "The fact that it was local, yet gave me a chance to interact with classmates in Richmond, Northern Virginia and in Abingdon through the technology, was really important because it made learning easier and you felt like you were all in the same class."

> "IT'S A UNIQUE CLINICAL EXPERIENCE..."
>
> – KATIE STEWART

Since 2009, VCU's Department of Nurse Anesthesia has offered graduate programs with a broad array of clinical experiences to Roanoke students. The department has established clinical site placements in the Roanoke region that include Bedford Memorial Hospital, Blue Ridge Surgery Center, Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital, Carilion Giles Memorial Hospital, LewisGale Hospital, Montgomery Regional Hospital, Carilion New River Valley Medical Center, Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, and the Salem VA Medical Center.



Katie Stewart

"It's a unique clinical experience because we weren't competing with residents from VCU's Richmond program. What's cool is that we have clinical sites here in Roanoke that students from Richmond would come to experience because they are so different from the environment they're used to in Richmond," Stewart explained.

Stewart is grateful that the RHEC had everything she needed to be successful.

"We had plenty of space, the testing center was always nice and quiet and we had a well-equipped room for all of our lab studies. We didn't have to go very far for anything."

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION VISITS THE ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

Virginia Secretary of Education Atif Qarni, who set a goal to visit all the higher education centers in Virginia, made the Roanoke center one of his first stops last April. Joined by Fran Bradford, deputy secretary of education, Qarni was impressed as he learned more about the impact higher education institutions, as well as workforce agencies, have on addressing the workforce needs of the region.



Atif Qarni, Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Virginia



Sarah Hudson, Admissions Counselor, Averett University

Qarni met with representatives from colleges and universities, as well as staff from TAP-This Valley Works. He also held an open forum with community college leaders from Dabney S. Lancaster, New River, and Virginia Western.

"I applaud Secretary Qarni's interest in coming to see firsthand how we are providing access to degrees, certifications, endorsements, and other workforce training opportunities for our citizens," said Kay Dunkley, RHEC executive director. "We were thrilled to have the opportunity to offer him a better understanding of how we are addressing current and future workforce skill gaps."

A SHARED MISSION. A COMMON GOAL.



Head Start builds a learning foundation for kids under 5

Since the opening of the Roanoke Higher Education Center, Total Action for Progress (TAP) of the Roanoke Valley has had a presence in the center. Providing everything from support to help income-eligible families become more self-sufficient and prenatal education to pregnant women, to health and family services and early childhood education, TAP Head Start has been headquartered at the center for more than three years. Head Start promotes school readiness of children under 5 from low-income families through education, health, social and other services.

"TAP Head Start's presence in the building represents the beginning of a continuum of educational opportunities that the Center supports, from early childhood education to graduate degrees," said Carla James-Jackson, senior director of academic & student services at the RHEC.

TAP programs include Head Start and Early Head Start; This Valley Works, which offers 12 education and career development programs at RHEC; and SwiftStart, which gives working parents in southwestern Virginia career pathways to secure higher-wage jobs by helping them obtain affordable, high-quality early childcare while attending skills training for careers in health care, information technology, and advanced manufacturing.

"The TAP mission and goals for families are very much in line with the mission and vision of the RHEC," said Yesenia De la Cruz, program director, TAP Head Start. "Our goal to offer a comprehensive developmental program that meets the needs of children, while working together with parents and others in our community to make early childhood education beneficial for our children. The end result is a direct and long-term impact on the economic growth of the Roanoke Region."

Originally from New York, De la Cruz has more than 15 years of experience in Head Start.

"All families can benefit from TAP services in one way or another. The higher education center is accessible for our clients, as well as visiting staff. It's close to the bus line for clients without transportation and there's lots of available parking," she said. "For our team, the RHEC staff is helpful, accommodating and always very pleasant."

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

AVERETT UNIVERSITY

Since 1859, Averett University has grown and developed into a dynamic institution offering more than 30 undergraduate majors, minors and special programs and five graduate programs with a number of concentrations. Averett enrolls a diverse student body of more than 1,500 students from 26 states and 24 countries, with its historic main campus in Southern Virginia and regional campuses throughout Virginia and online.

For over 25 years, Averett's Graduate and Professional Studies division (GPS) has offered continuing education specifically for working adults. Averett has offered online classes at the Roanoke Higher Education Center since its inception in 2000, as well as courses from its Individually Designed Education for Adult Learners program (IDEAL) and face-to-face night classes for business administration students. Distance learners are connected through highly interactive classrooms via Zoom meeting technology and may also connect remotely to their Student Success Coach, Financial Aid officer, tutors and more. For more information, visit gps.averett.edu/.

DABNEY S. LANCASTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Dabney S. Lancaster Community College (DSLCC) is proud to partner with the Roanoke Higher Education Center to expand their Massage Therapy program. The field of therapeutic massage is an ever-growing field, spanning multiple occupational boundaries from spas to the medical field. As the practice continues to expand and strengthen, DSLCC is poised to offer the highest quality educational experience.

The college strives to keep programs and services financially and geographically accessible for all students with locations in Clifton Forge, Buena Vista and Roanoke. Special tuition assistance programs are offered for students of the DSLCC Massage Therapy program at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. Call (540) 863-2820 for more information or visit www.dslcc.edu.

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

James Madison University (JMU) has been a member of the Roanoke Higher Education Center since 2008, offering a variety of credit and non-credit programs. Currently, the Master's of Education and graduate certificate in Educational Leadership are running multiple cohorts. Various online graduate and undergraduate programs, as well as non-credit programs, such as Passport to Retirement, are also available at RHEC.

JMU, founded in 1908, is a comprehensive master's level university that serves 22,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Set in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, JMU is only two hours from Washington, D.C. and ninety minutes from Roanoke. This university is fast becoming one of the nation's most appealing campuses to earn a degree. For more information, contact Richard Turner at turne2ra@jmu.edu.







MARY BALDWIN UNIVERSITY

Since 1984, MBU's partnership with RHEC has enabled student ambitions and dreams to become reality. Men and women are able to complete a bachelor's degree in a dozen majors, including business, social work, criminal justice, healthcare administration, psychology and teacher licensure through the Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Licensure program. In addition to undergraduate degrees, MBU Online offers 12+ online graduate and certificate programs, such as a social-benefit-focused MBA and a doctorate of occupational therapy for working professionals.

Busy adult students enjoy the close partnership with a local advisor. A generous transfer policy allows up to 90 semester hours and MBU offers additional credit for work and life experiences, including military training. Most students are eligible for financial aid, with tuition deferment available for students with employer reimbursement. MBU is a military-friendly university, supports veterans as a V3 Certified Educator and participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program. Call (540) 767-6170 for more information.

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Roanoke Higher Education Center serves as a host for Old Dominion University's (ODU) distance learning program. At RHEC, students can take advantage of several ODU*Online* services, including academic advising and enrollment and technical support. Students may complete general education requirements of their coursework through the Virginia Community College System at Virginia Western Community College, and the remaining coursework can be completed through ODU*Online*. Depending on the class, courses are offered in either a synchronous (live) web-based conferencing or asynchronous online format. ODU*Online* offers more than 100 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degree programs or professional certifications.

Students interested in ODU admission or course registration can contact ODU*Online* at both VWCC and RHEC by calling (540) 857-6543 or visiting online.odu.edu/inquiries.

PROJECT DISCOVERY

Currently offered in 22 locations, Project Discovery assists low- to moderate-income students and potential first-generation college students. Last year Project Discovery served over 1,500 students by providing workshops to improve basic skills (study skills, time management, financial planning, etc.) and assisted students and parents in completing applications for both admission and financial aid. As a result, a greater number of students go on to post-secondary education.

Project Discovery has a proven record of effective stewardship of public dollars, spending less than $975.00 per student. Similar federal programs spend nearly $5,000.00 per student for the same type of programs.

Project Discovery believes that hardworking, meritorious students should not be deprived of an opportunity to attend college simply because of a lack of funding. The goal is to see that every student graduates from high school and that those who have the desire and demonstrate the ability to succeed can enroll in post-secondary education. For more information, contact Bill Scharrer at bilschar@gmail.com.





MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Radford's missions of teaching, research and public service converge in a strong presence at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. Radford University (RU) offers undergraduate degree programs in nursing, criminal justice, interdisciplinary studies/elementary education and social work, as well as the Master of Social Work (MSW) and graduate-level courses in Special Education.

In 2018, nearly 50 students earned degrees from Radford through the RHEC and almost 200 Radford students per year are enrolled in RHEC-hosted Roanoke programs to take more than 75 traditional, hybrid or online undergraduate and graduate courses.

The Radford University School of Nursing (SON) hosts the largest undergraduate day program at the Roanoke Higher Education Center. With nearly 100 junior- and senior-level students each semester, the Radford University SON is housed on the RHEC third floor and offers the baccalaureate nursing upper division program. Radford's SON students based at the Roanoke Higher Education Center have a 95 percent pass rate on the NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination).

In 2018, Radford and the RHEC collaborated to renovate and expand the Clinical Simulation Center (CSC) that opened in 2006. The CSC was expanded to include six hospital rooms with high-fidelity simulation technology, six examination rooms, additional debriefing rooms, expanded video spaces and rooms for standardized patients, or actors who portray patients. For more information, go to www.radford.edu/rhec or email ruroanoke@radford.edu.

TOTAL ACTION FOR PROGRESS

Total Action for Progress (TAP) has been fighting poverty in the Roanoke Valley for more than 50 years. Beginning with one program, Head Start, TAP has grown over the last five decades into an organization with over 300 staff members and a service area that includes six counties and five cities. TAP now offers 25 different programs that provide families and individuals with jobs, education and safe places to live.

TAP's education and career development arm, This Valley Works, has called the Roanoke Higher Education Center home since 2000. Providing services such as dropout prevention, job training, and job placement, This Valley Works serves over 1,500 youth and adults every year. The headquarters of TAP Head Start and Early Head Start, which provides education and care for roughly 1,100 children each year, is also located in the RHEC. For more information, contact Jo Nelson at jo.nelson@tapintohope.org.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

The School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS) at UVA is positioned to provide continuous learning both online and face-to-face and is focused on meeting the challenges of data literacy, technical competence, global readiness and creative agility.

The School's mission is to be responsive to nontraditional learners by providing continuing education opportunities that help individuals achieve their personal and professional goals. In turn, SCPS has developed partnerships with various universities to provide master's degree opportunities for its graduate certificate students.

The School offers 16 certificates (14 online) to those wishing to advance or change careers. Having completed at least 60 hours of transferable college credits, individuals can complete a degree from UVA in either the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies or the Bachelor of Professional Studies in Health Sciences Management. For more information, call 1-800-346-3882 or www.scps.virginia.edu.

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY

The Department of Nurse Anesthesia offers a Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP) degree program at Virginia Commonwealth University's main campus in Richmond, as well as at three distance locations—including the Roanoke Higher Education Center. The distance-learning curriculum in Roanoke is identical to the Richmond campus, as classes are offered synchronously in real time to all distance sites through two-way video conferencing, web-based tools and face-to-face onsite instruction. Additionally, the program features local intensive clinical training and high-fidelity simulation education.

The department has graduated over 30 students from the RHEC since 2011, and the majority of program completers remain in the area to practice as Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) to support the health care needs of the region. For more information, go to nrsa@vcu.edu or call (804) 828-9808.

VIRGINIA TECH

The Virginia Tech Roanoke Commonwealth Campus Center has been a part of the Roanoke community since 1989 and was one of the founding institutions at the Roanoke Higher Education Center's current location. Virginia Tech (VT), founded in 1872, was one of the first land grant universities in Virginia. Its motto, Ut Prosim, "that I may serve," embodies a spirit of service through university engagement efforts and Commonwealth Campus Centers across Virginia and the world.

VT's Roanoke locations have served over 54,000 students and community members through an array of credit and non-credit offerings. VT currently offers customized professional development, training programs, conference planning and graduate and certificate opportunities for students throughout the region. The university is also proud to be a leader in community involvement through STEM engagement with area students, providing professional development articles for local publications and holding complimentary Facts and Snacks presentations monthly. For more information, call (540) 767-6100 or email VTRoanoke@vt.edu.

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) is a two-year public institution of higher education operating under the Virginia Community College System. VWCC is located on a 70-acre campus in southwest Roanoke and the service region of the college includes Roanoke, Salem, Roanoke County, Craig County, southern Botetourt County and northern Franklin County.

With the growing demand for chefs in the region, VWCC answered the call in partnership with RHEC. The center received a bond-funded investment of $6.4 million from the General Assembly to renovate and expand the Claude Moore Education Complex (CMEC) that houses Virginia Western's Al Pollard Culinary Arts Program. The CMEC is located across from the main building of the RHEC and this construction project created an additional 7,800 square feet to create three new kitchens and provided renovated office and classroom space. Individuals can earn an A.A.S. in Culinary Arts and Career Studies Certificates in Culinary Arts and Baking and Pastry, all accredited by the American Culinary Federation. For more information, contact Yvonne Campbell at YCampbell@virginiawestern.edu.





NICELY DONE

STUDENT FEATURE: KEN NICELY



Ken Nicely, Superintendent, Roanoke County Public Schools

New superintendent of Roanoke County Public Schools attributes his success, in part, to the convenience, collaborative nature and professional atmosphere of the Roanoke Higher Education Center

When recently appointed superintendent of the Roanoke County Public Schools, Ken Nicely, took his first class at the Roanoke Higher Education Center in 2000, construction on the new building was barely complete.

"I was going for my educational specialist degree through Virginia Tech at the time and I remember thinking how cool it was to be a part of one of the first cohorts at the new center," Nicely said. "I found the environment very professional and quite accommodating as far as fitting my schedule."

Years later, Nicely returned to the Roanoke Higher Education Center to complete his doctorate degree at Virginia Tech.

"I was almost at a point where I wasn't sure if I was going to go for a doctorate," he said. "But when the cohort got started and was going to be at the higher education center, which was convenient to my work and fit my family needs at the time, I knew I needed to go for it."

Nicely believes that the strength of the Roanoke Higher Education Center lies in its people. He points out the value that people from a variety of backgrounds bring to classroom discussions and group projects.

"I personally think the most effective delivery model for educational leadership is face-to-face classes," he said. "My time at the Roanoke Higher Education Center opened up an incredible opportunity to network and learn from a cohort of people from different school divisions and different backgrounds and to hear from people with different ideas and perspectives."

Nicely joined Roanoke County Public Schools in 1993 as a teacher at Cave Spring High School. In 2002, he was named an assistant principal at Hidden Valley Middle School and later became principal at Hidden Valley High School in 2006. Nicely moved to the central office in 2012 as the director of secondary instruction and became the director of administration in 2016.

> "I PERSONALLY THINK THE MOST EFFECTIVE DELIVERY MODEL FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP IS FACE-TO-FACE CLASSES"
>
> – KEN NICELY

Following the retirement of the former superintendent, Greg Killough, Nicely served as acting superintendent until August 2018, when the Roanoke County School Board voted 4-1 in favor of his appointment as superintendent.

Nicely said he's committed to the heavy responsibilities carried by a school chief, a job he "never dreamed" he'd have 25 years ago.

CLINICAL SIMULATION CENTER

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the renovation and expansion of the Clinical Simulation Center (CSC), located on the first floor of the center, took place on November 15, 2017. This $2 million project illustrates the strong partnership between the Roanoke Higher Education Center and Radford University. The lab is operated by the School of Nursing in Radford University's Waldron College of Health and Human Sciences and is used to train approximately 1,600 nursing students each semester from Radford University, Jefferson College of Health Sciences and Patrick Henry Community College. This nationally accredited simulation center provides a teaching learning space that includes hospital and clinical rooms, a debriefing video room, and an apartment in which home health scenarios occur.



(left to right) Kenneth Cox, Kimmy Stafford, President Brian Hemphill, Senator John Edwards, Kay Dunkley, Anthony Ramsey, Carla James-Jackson

"Before nurses go into the field, they have been exposed to a full range of experiences in simulation and thoroughly debriefed by the faculty," said Cindy Cunningham, Radford's CSC director. "Nursing can be intense and we want our students to be confident as a result of this rigorous preparation".

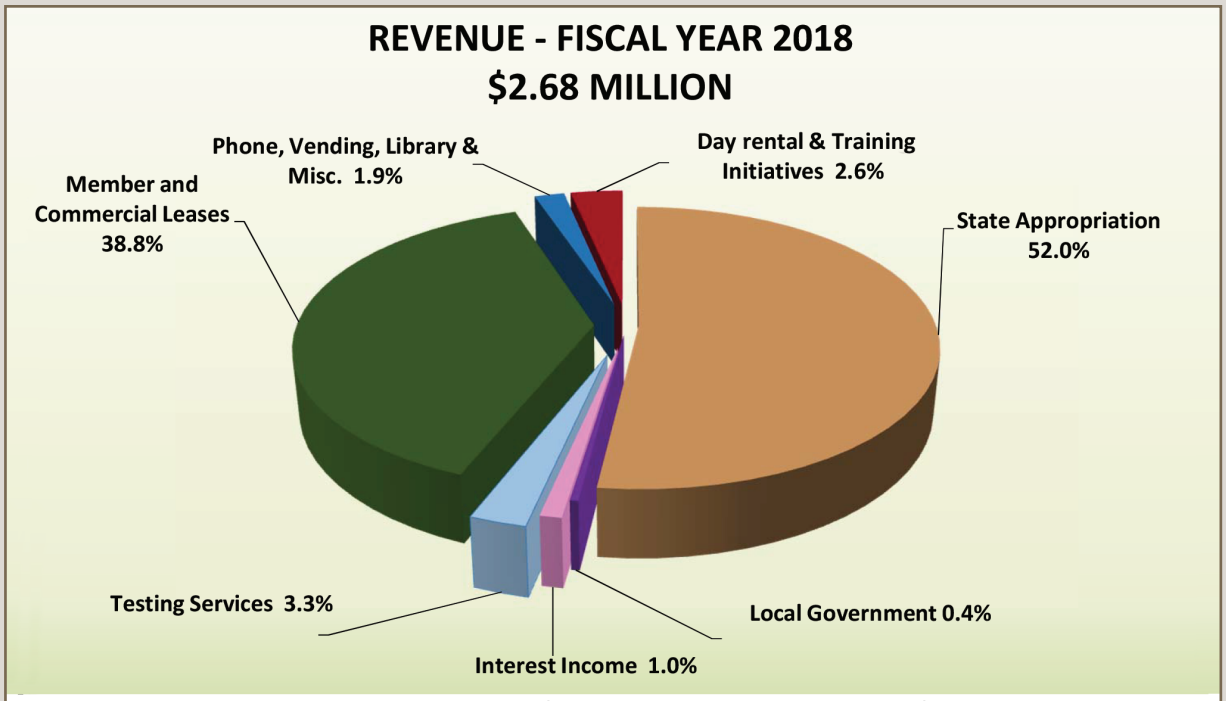
Health care remains the region's biggest employment sector in the Roanoke region and the higher education center stands ready to address this current and future workforce need.



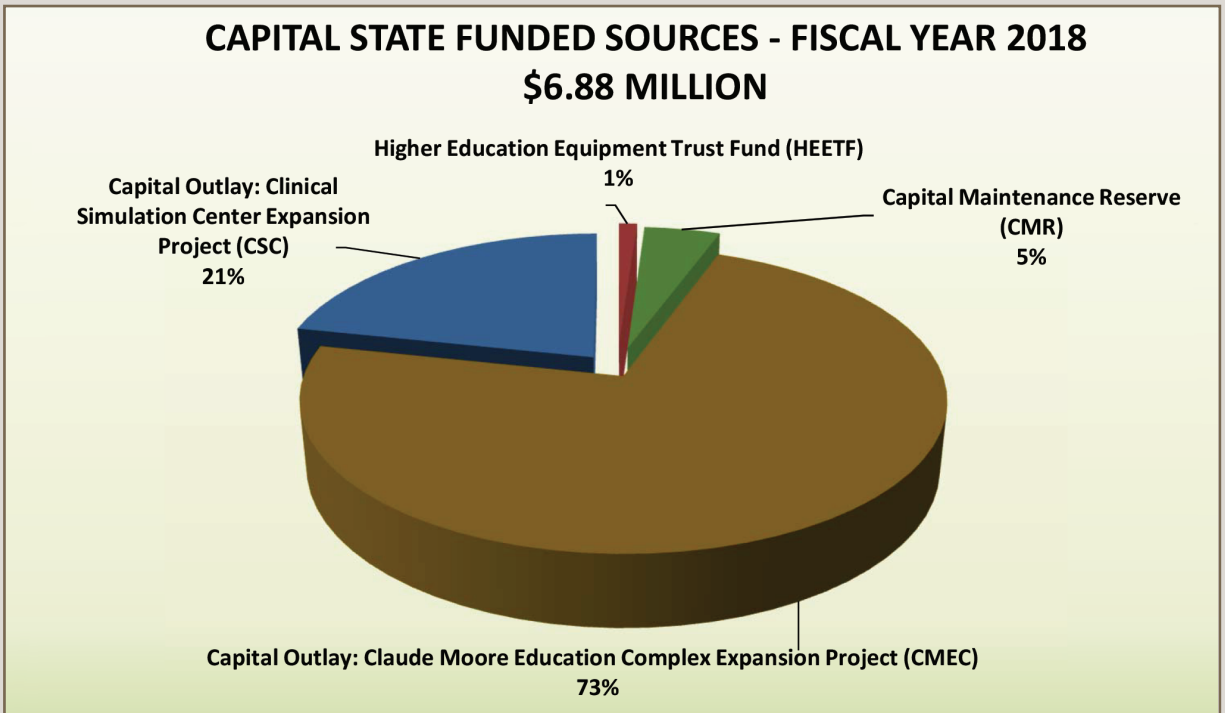
Brianna Graham, Cindy Cunningham, Kimmy Stafford

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 2018 Funding Sources Total: $9.56 Million



NOTE: revenue sources consist of Operating ($1.25 million) and Nonoperating ($1.43 million). Other state funding is listed below.



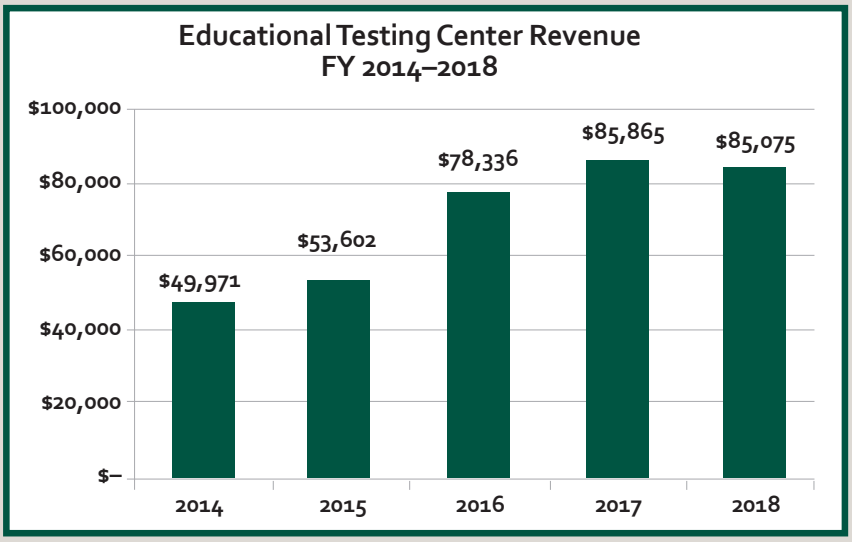
NOTE: state funding for construction, maintenance and repairs, equipment, etc.

PROGRAM COMPLETIONS FY 2018 VS. FY 2017

PROGRAM COMPLETIONS FY 2018 vs. FY 2017

Total number of program completions rose in FY 2018, with the greatest increase in workforce training.

PROGRAM TYPE	NUMBER OF STUDENTS COMPLETING PROGRAMS –FY 2018	NUMBER OF STUDENTS COMPLETING PROGRAMS –FY 2017
Doctoral	19	7
Post-Master's	6	4
Master's	105	83
Bachelor's	64	51
Associate	14	11
Post-Baccalaureate/ Teacher Licensure	2	4
Teaching Endorsements	13	
Certificates	45	35
Workforce Training	479	316
Non-Credit	142	
TOTAL	**889**	**511**

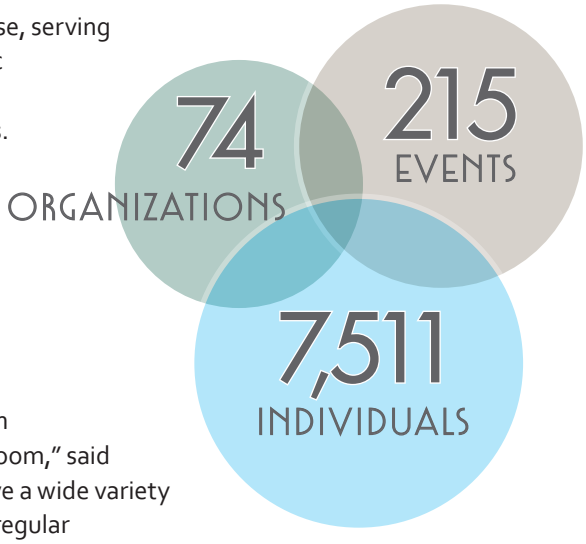


REVENUE FROM TESTING SERVICES

The Educational Testing Center offers proctoring for graduate school exams, standardized tests, distance-learning exams, prior learning assessments and industry-specific tests.

ALL IN A DAY'S RENTAL

Day rentals at the Roanoke Higher Education Center are on the rise, serving over 7,500 people in twelve months. Clients range from economic development, health care, financial and legal professionals, to education, government, non-profits and community associations.



From computer labs to video conferencing, testing space to a welcoming reception area and café, clients from throughout the region have offered positive feedback on the professional, state-of-the-art meeting environments, as well as on the availability of contemporary technology for corporate training and business meetings.

"We get great feedback on the facilities as well as our flexibility on everything from the size of the room to the arrangement of the room," said Alexandra Thacker, day rental coordinator for the RHEC. "We have a wide variety of people who use the facilities. For some organizations, this is a regular meeting space. We have groups that come in every month and some that come once or twice a year. We also have folks from Richmond, the Tidewater area or other parts of the state who want to reach people here in the Roanoke Valley."





> "ROANOKE IS LIKE A BIG SMALL TOWN THAT'S A GOOD CENTRAL LOCATION..."
>
> – *ALEXANDRA THACKER*

Thacker, who has managed day rentals as the Academic Program Assistant at the RHEC for the past year, notes that the center's historic location offers added appeal.

"Roanoke is like a big small town that's a good central location for various localities in the region," she said. "Being right next to a historic hotel and several downtown restaurants within walking distance, offers even more benefit for guests hosting meetings or events in Roanoke."

RHEC rental facilities can accommodate from small intimate meetings for two up to large board meetings or retreats for up to 200 people (when groups are divided into multiple rooms, including the largest room which accommodates 100 people). For information about day rentals at the Roanoke Higher Education Center, call (540) 767-6013 or email reservations@education.edu.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

20-YEAR ANNIVERSARY IN 2020!

Stay tuned for activities, events, and celebrations commemorating 2 decades of delivering degrees, certificates, endorsements and workforce skill development programs to citizens of the Roanoke region.



OVER THE EDGE

The center will sponsor the **Big Brothers Big Sisters–Over The Edge** event on May 17-18, 2019 to show our community support for strengthening the lives of children and families. The event allows individuals to donate or raise $1,000 to rappel off the higher education center building. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwest Virginia has operated for more than 60 years serving children who need role models and require support when adequate parenting does not exist. Come join the fun!

HBCU

The center will gauge interest in partnering with a **Historic Black College and University (HBCU).** This initiative is an example of our efforts to support diversity and inclusion.

SEASONS & OCCASIONS CAFÉ

Seasons & Occasions Café, located on the 2nd floor, will undergo several renovations and improvements to the flooring, countertop, and storage areas. This "refresh" is intended to improve customer service and create a more comfortable and welcoming environment for our faculty, students, staff, and visitors.



ROANOKE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

108 N. Jefferson Street | Roanoke, VA 24016
540.767.6161
www.education.edu

RHEC Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday	7:00 AM – 10:30 PM
Saturday	7:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunday	Closed