



United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg

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Community Invests in Strengthening Youth Programs

More than \$100,000 in funds will support youth programs in improving their quality and capacity to teach, engage and empower youth.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 9, 2018 – Richmond Youth Program Quality Intervention (YPQI), a partnership between United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg and VCU’s Mary and Frances Youth Center, has received more than \$100,000 in grant funding to improve the quality of out-of-school time programs across the region.

Richmond YPQI is a nine-month continuous improvement process that provides assessments, planning, coaching and training to help before-school, after-school and summer programs improve their instructional quality and their overall ability to teach, engage and empower young people. Currently, 47 sites across the region participate.

“United Way is proud to work with out-of-school time programs throughout the region and help create spaces where kids experience learning, receive social and emotional support and feel empowered,” said James Taylor, President and CEO of United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg. “These funds will enable us to continue this successful program and work with even more sites in the Greater Richmond and Petersburg region.”

Catherine Howard, Vice Provost, VCU Division of Community Engagement said this about Richmond YPQI: "Virginia Commonwealth University values being a partner with the United Way and the generous funders in order to bring best practice learning opportunities to the many after-school programs in RVA so that our children are provided safe and enriching environments that will benefit their academic and personal growth."

Grant Details

Funds from these grants are used to support overall operations of Richmond YPQI and allow youth programs to participate in YPQI at a fraction of the cost. Funds will be used to develop advanced training modules and facilitate knowledge-sharing across programs through a Professional Learning Community.

- The Community Foundation (\$50,000)
- The Robins Foundation (\$50,000)
- Memorial Foundation for Children (\$12,500)

Learn More

- For more information about YPQI and United Way's broader efforts to support youth in our communities, visit YourUnitedWay.org/program/middle-school-engagement.

About United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg

Established in 1924, the United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg empowers individuals and addresses systemic problems to provide everyone with a clear path to success. The organization provides opportunities for those who care about their neighbors and the region's quality of life to give, volunteer and advocate for a better community. Learn more at yourunitedway.org.

About VCU's Mary and Frances Youth Center

The Mary and Frances Youth Center, part of VCU's Division of Community Engagement, works to be a regional leader in university-community collaboration for positive youth development by providing programming and training to enhance the lives of youth in the Richmond metro area.