



## College- or Career- Readiness

**As they continue their education or enter the workforce, young people need access to skills and training that enable them to secure and maintain gainful employment with a living wage.**

For most, the goal after high school is to secure a job that will provide income and serve as the starting point for a career. Some enter the workforce immediately after high school, while others continue their education in college or pursue a credential. Many people continue their education and work at the same time. However, too many residents in this region are falling behind on that journey and finding themselves without the skills or training needed to secure and maintain a job.

While there are many routes to take, the goal is the same. Without a stable job and sustainable income, residents will struggle to maintain financial stability and provide a safe and healthy living environment for themselves and their families.

### By the Numbers

#### KEY INDICATOR

**ASSET POVERTY AMONG ADULTS AGES 25-64 (2019)**



**119,139** (19.1%)

**RESIDENTS NOT CURRENTLY IN WORKFORCE**

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, 2019*

#### RELATED INDICATOR

**EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2014-2018)**

**431,088** (54.5%)  
LESS THAN  
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

**360,032** (45.5%)  
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE  
OR HIGHER

**302,610** (38.3%)  
BACHELOR'S DEGREE  
OR HIGHER

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018*

#### RELATED INDICATOR

**FAFSA COMPLETION (2019)**



**6,018** (46.6%)  
STUDENTS DID NOT  
COMPLETE THE FREE  
APPLICATION FOR  
FEDERAL STUDENT  
AID (FAFSA)

*Source: U.S. Department of Education, Federal Student Aid Office, 2019*

#### RELATED INDICATOR

**HIGHER EDUCATION ENROLLMENT (2018)**



**7,841** (66.6%)  
PEOPLE ENROLLED IN  
AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
EDUCATION WITHIN 16  
MONTHS OF EARNING A  
DIPLOMA

*Source: Virginia Department of Education*

#### RELATED INDICATOR

**INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS (2018-2019)**



**5,442** (10.2%)  
PUBLIC SCHOOL  
STUDENTS EARNING ONE  
OR MORE INDUSTRY  
RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

*Source: Virginia Department of Education, 2018-2019*



## What We Do

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg works to bridge the gap between high school graduation and the beginning of a career or pursuit of post-secondary degree or credential. We fund programs that focus on career-readiness and post-graduation planning, help graduates understand the path to a career and provide them with the supports needed to succeed on their journey.

- We serve as the convening organization for the **Workforce Partnership Team** which works to streamline services by building a network with strong referral mechanisms, share curriculum and best practices and provide professional development opportunities for team members.

## Supported Programs

United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg is proud to support the following programs:

- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond:** Life Readiness Program for Teens
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Richmond:** Coordinated Support for Alumni/Opportunity Youth
- **Goodwill of Central VA:** Education to Occupation - Richmond
- **Goodwill of Central VA:** Education to Occupation - Petersburg
- **Pathways:** Pathways to Education
- **Sacred Heart Center:** College and Career Bound Program
- **The Literacy Lab:** Leading Men Richmond

## Spotlight

We partner with **Richmond Technical Center** and **Goodwill of Central and Coastal VA** to help students become college- or career-ready. United Way volunteers will provide high schoolers enrolled in the vocational program with résumé preparation assistance as well as interview practice and improvement. Volunteers will help support the crucial development of workplace readiness skills in young people receiving career and technical education within Richmond Public Schools.

**Richmond Technical Center**



## How to Help



**DONATE** Make a gift designated to United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg. Let us know that you want your gift to help increase college- or career-readiness.



**VOLUNTEER** Give your time to an initiative that supports these efforts. Email [Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org](mailto:Volunteer@YourUnitedWay.org) and we will help match you with the right opportunity.



**CONNECT** Visit [YourUnitedWay.org](http://YourUnitedWay.org) to learn more about our work and how we're addressing the community's most pressing needs.



[YourUnitedWay.org](http://YourUnitedWay.org)

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING  
YOUR UNITED WAY**

