Richelle Alexander

Community Impact Project

To have a seat at the table with community leaders in the development of affordable housing, providing input based on my work experience, and research to share the valuable knowledge I gained from VRLI.

Goal

My current employer, Rockbridge Area Housing Corp. has 2.8 acres in consideration of further development. A Housing Study will assist us in determining specific housing needs for the wider community. Then more traction can be given to a specific project.





Luke Allison

Community Impact Project

Historically restore a building in Downtown Pulaski and the adjacent property will be developed into a Farmer's Market. The Junction will be a hostel for bikers from the New River Bike Trail State Park.

Goal

Purchase Building and Complete Historic Analysis of Property



Garrett Blaize

Community Impact Project

Building community knowledge around cooperative business models for Southwest Virginia Community.

Goal

3 community learning+synthesis meetings over the course of 2023 culminating in the release of a policy brief outlining the potential benefits and opportunities related to further cooperativization of Appalachian economies.

Neva Bryan & Jessi Fritz

Community Impact Project

Engage high-school-age St. Paul residents in a community assessment photography project to document strengths and opportunities for change.

Goal

At least 20% of high-school-aged youth in St. Paul will participate in a photography activity and reflection that will help them develop community engagement interest and hometown knowledge.









Rebekah Castle, Debbie Irwin, & Jenna French

Community Impact Project

Develop a database to assist existing manufacturers identify partners in their supply chain and match entrepreneurs to available space and equipment to develop product

Goal

A database complete for local manufacturers and entrepreneurs to utilize











James Clements & Stacey English

Community Impact Project

Our community impact project is working to create a framework for a food hub/incubator/support for local producers and farmers in the Central Virginia area.

Goal

The creation of a framework to create a food hub or incubator supporting local agriculture and producers.







Lydia Gilmer

Community Impact Project

Restart the Pulaski Farmer's Market with support from Pulaski on Main. Engage vendors to increase access to fresh and local foods. Promote the Market within the regio

Goal

Annual sustainability – engage local vendors and hire Director to manage the Market; funding support from Town



Shannon Hair

Community Impact Project

Support the expansion of food emergency programs at Danville Community College by funding food pantry meals, campus meals, and/or grocery gift cards.

GoalAnnual sustainability - minimum of \$17,000 of funding





Michelle Johnson

Community Impact Project

Market five will create an eclectic destination on the Virginia Capital Trail in Charles City County.

GoalEnhance quality of life for citizens and tourists.





Lisa Jordan

Community Impact Project

Workforce/Instruction Reentry Department (WIRED) The project will build a sustainable pathway for accelerating Clean Energy skills and credential attainment for incarcerated adults who are preparing for reentry, providing a new pool of workers for a regionally high-need industry.

Goal

WIRED's work will restructure SVCC's current carceral program, situating it as a department within SVCC's academic and institutional infrastructure, a systems change that will increase the number of students it can serve each academic year, opening more opportunities to the historically excluded Target Population.





Zachary King

Community Impact Project

Connecting companies in the Shenandoah Valley with local colleges and universities to increase retention of young talent.

GoalPlace five students in internships or full-time jobs.





Lachanda Lee

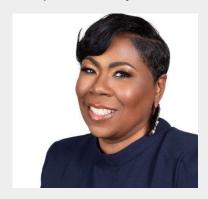
Community Impact Project

My impact project focuses on addressing food insecurity, which describes the lack of food or limited access of food, specifically impacting school-age children (k-12).

Goal

Expanding/increasing the number of schools receiving backpacks from the backpack program. Forming a team to collaborate and establish farm to school program. Establishing a school garden and/or identifying and including menu items that we would like to transition to local products by Fall 2023.





Maggie Beal Longest, Joseph Mengedoth, & Logan Ryan

Community Impact Project

Increasing support for diverse and nontraditional entrepreneurs within the Ashland-Hanover Community.

Goal

This would start with listening sessions and end with creating programs or info sources to respond to the needs identified in those sessions.



John Matthews

Community Impact Project

The Wytheville Regional Housing Summit will convene developers, builders, investors, local government, and property owners to create solutions for Southwest Virginia's housing needs.

Goal

Determine the current needs and create a 5-year plan for housing in the region





Allison Moore

Community Impact Project

To properly engage the communities served by the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in its mission of economic transformation by holding an annual "Community Days" event, which will inform the public on the role, resources, capabilities, programs and services of IALR through hands-on activities.

Goal

To expose 500 members of the general public to IALR's mission, resources and opportunities for engagement by attracting them to attend a "Community Days" event by December 31, 2023.





Hope Mothershead

Community Impact Project

As many localities are observing volunteerism as a thing of the past, I'll be planning events throughout the year to engage firefighters and community members in a continued volunteer effort in the fire service field.

Goal

A goal for this project will be retention and long-standing interest with the current firefighters and recruitment of new members following four planned events/programs.





Julia Pilipenko

Community Impact Project

My project aims to help my community get ahead in sustainability by incorporating electric vehicle charging stations and renewable energy technologies into our parks.

Goal
Installing 2 charging stations at a park in my community





French Price

Community Impact Project

By forming a Food and Farm Work Group for the Shenandoah Valley, the community will have a place and space to build connections and solve problems for greater social, environmental and economic resilience.

Goal

Engage 20 stakeholders to attend bimonthly meetings starting in June 2023.





Billie Roberts

Community Impact Project

Develop and implement a business-to-business mentorship program for the Appalachian Council of Business Leaders and provided education and assistance to ACBL members resulting in a clear understanding of the GO TEC Region 1 initiative so that they can leverage their business networks and demonstrate enthusiastic adoption of GO TEC in the Tazewell/Buchanan K-12 system to ensure adoption of the program by deciding leaders in the counties.

Goal

Complete 3 Mentor Sessions and reach the mentee's goals. ACBL would like to continue with the program with the goal of completing one mentorship program every quarter in 2023 with a total of 5 mentee "graduates" between September 2022 and December 2023.





Joy Rumley

Community Impact Project

The development of an implementation strategy for the creation of an regional outdoor recreation plan to guide investments and improvements toward enhancing the outdoor recreation economy of the New River Valley.

Goal

Goal will be realized when I have gathered regional buy-in and support through stakeholder engagement and secured funding to develop the NRV Outdoor Recreation Plan.





Lauren Stuhldreher

Community Impact Project

Development of an EDA Grants Toolkit.

Goal

Stakeholder feedback indicating the EDA grant process/procedures are easier to understand as well as streamlined communication regarding potential grant opportunities.





Wendy Welch

Community Impact Project

Change the future of medical education by taking medical students to a housing project for monthly interaction

GoalReopen the community center or establish an alternate location.





James Werth

Community Impact Project

I plan on collaborating with residents of the Town of Fries on a community and economic development project.

Goal

The specific Project plans are still being developed, but I anticipate collaborating on at least two grant proposals for a total of at least \$50,000 to support the plan.

