



**Virginia Rural Leadership Institute**  
PRESENTED BY THE VIRGINIA RURAL CENTER

**VIRGINIA RURAL CENTER'S**

**VIRGINIA RURAL  
LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
INFORMATIONAL PACKET**

**2022**

# Background

The Rural Leadership Institute (RLI) is a rural leadership program that develops and supports highly-skilled, highly-motivated leaders who are committed revitalizing their communities across the Commonwealth. RLI addresses the need for high-quality, professional leadership and economic development training that equips community leaders with the skills they need to lead long-term economic advancement in their community and region. The program also seeks to increase cooperation, collaboration, and coordination across a broad array of organizations and sectors. Each training session will accept up to 30 applicants.

RLI provides opportunities for participants to hear from economic development and leadership experts, engage with and learn from peers, apply knowledge through classroom exercises, and learn about community successes. RLI Cohort Members will:

- Increase understanding of leadership, data, and issue trends in Virginia
- Increase understanding of community & economic development
- Teach skills in effective collaboration at the local, regional, and state level
- Increase knowledge of resources available to their community and how to access them
- Build a regional network of community leaders to encourage peer learning, resource sharing and collaboration
- Become part of the Center's leadership alumni network, which will provide annual professional development, mentoring, and peer networking.



# 2022 Program

## When:

The Virginia Rural Center is hosting its Inaugural Rural Leadership Institute in 2022. The Cohort will be selected in April of 2022 and the first session will be Mid May.

The 4 Sessions will occur **one weekend a month** on a Thursday (half day), Friday, and Saturday (half day) during the months of **May, July, September, and November**. The Sessions will be located in **SouthWest Virginia, The Valley, Southside, and The Middle Peninsula/Northern Neck**

## Who Should Apply:

Participants include elected officials, government staff, nonprofit and faith-based leaders, business leaders, economic development professionals and other community-minded people in rural Virginia.

## How to Apply:

The registration form will be on the [www.cfrv.org](http://www.cfrv.org) website and the Institute fee is \$2,500 which includes training, materials, lodging, and meals. Applications for the 2022 Cohort are due by March 15, 2022.

By completing an application, you are committing to attending all Sessions.

# Financial Aid

## Tuition

Tuition for the 2022 RLI Cohort is due in full by July 1, 2022. Acceptance to RLI is need-blind, meaning that the people who evaluate applications to participate in the program differ from those who review financial aid applications.

Requests for financial aid or scholarships will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Advisory Committee of the Rural Leadership Institute, once the selection process is completed. Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses, but meals, lodging, and program materials are covered by the tuition.

## Financial Aid Process

Financial aid requests are managed after applicants are accepted to programs. The financial aid process usually consists of filling out a short application describing a participant's financial needs and planned contribution toward their program fees.

## Financial Assistance Payment Plan

As a form of financial assistance, accepted applicants may choose our payment plan. The payment plan for the 2022 RLI Cohort is a \$833.33 payment due on June 1, August 1, and October 1.

## Fundraising

In many instances, participants may find it necessary to fundraise to pay the program deposit and/or supplement their financial aid awards. We are happy to provide guidance and advice based on successful efforts by previous program participants in locating financial support, but the responsibility of any necessary fundraising lies solely on the participant.



# Our Story

The VRC is the established voice for rural localities throughout the Commonwealth and recognizes the demonstrated lack of mechanisms specifically focused on rural Virginia. VRC has long recognized the need for this opportunity and plans to address this with the creation and implementation of the Virginia Rural Leadership Institute.

## Our Team



**Kristie Proctor**

Executive Director, Virginia Rural Center



**Chris Atkins**

Program Director, Rural Leadership Institute



**Delegate Roslyn Tyler**

Chair, Center for Rural Virginia



**Senator Frank Ruff**

Vice - Chair, Center for Rural Virginia



**Bryan David**

Chair, Council for Rural Virginia



**Dr. Edwin Jones**

Vice - Chair, Council for Rural Virginia

