



CENTRAL REGION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board announced Wednesday that 10 employers were approved to receive Rapid Response funding through the United States Department of Labor's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I program, to help support small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Altavista Instruments and Controls Inc., Blue Ridge Overland Gear, Helping Hands Medical Transport, Innerspec Technologies Inc., Litesheet Solutions, Peakview Counseling, Simplimatic Automation, Valtim Marketing Solutions, Whitt Mechanical, and Women's Health Services of Central VA Inc. were each selected to receive a share of \$42,000 in funding allocated to assist businesses with 250 employees or less in the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, and Campbell, along with the city of Lynchburg.

Governor Ralph Northam authorized the deployment of Rapid Response funding in each of Virginia's 15 Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs) in March, in an effort to help employers remain open during the COVID-19 emergency. The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board received funding requests through an application process that was open March 30 through April 4. Applications were reviewed and scored by members of the board, including economic development directors in each of the board's participating localities.

"I am delighted that several of our City of Lynchburg businesses applied and received Rapid Response funding," said Marjette Upshur, director of economic development and tourism for the city of Lynchburg. "The funds were awarded expeditiously to meet the immediate needs of these small businesses as they navigate the challenges presented by this pandemic."

"I'm glad to see that Altavista Instruments and Controls will receive assistance from the Rapid Response funding from the Central Virginia Workforce Board," said Mike Davidson, director of economic development for Campbell County. "Assisting Altavista Instrument and Controls, and their employees, during this crisis is vital to keeping the health of Campbell County's economy going strong."

Funding for selected business will be made available on a reimbursement basis to cover allowable costs incurred between March 1 and August 31, 2020. The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board hopes to receive additional funding in the near future, to continue assisting our local business community as we navigate the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

**ABOUT THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

*The Central Virginia Workforce Development Board (WDB) is the designated regional convener and administrative entity that coordinates workforce training and career services through federal funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). We are charged with overseeing and implementing workforce development initiatives and activities throughout the Virginia Career Works – Central Region. Activities of Virginia Career Works - Central Region are supported in part with funds the from U. S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) award (#: AA-32183-18-55-A-51) awarded to the City of Lynchburg on behalf of the Central Virginia Workforce Development Board.*