To our Stakeholders and Investors:

It’s our pleasure to present the Virginia Early Childhood Foundation’s 2021 Annual Report on our progress as Virginia’s public-private partner in building a strategic and sustained focus on the healthy development and school readiness of our youngest children. As the attached report conveys, this past year has been unprecedented, as Virginia’s early childhood care and education (ECCE) system faced many challenges to keep children learning, families working, economies moving, and communities stable. In the midst of the disruption, struggle and chaos, VECF joined other ECCE leaders and stakeholders to set a vision for building a new and better system that works for everyone engaged in and benefiting from it, one with equity at the center. By challenging and moving beyond the status quo, VECF and its partners undertook groundbreaking new strategies needed for achieving the bold goal of ensuring that all Virginia families have access to quality child care by 2030. Although we recognize that there will be long lasting negative impacts from the pandemic (especially in learning disruptions, trauma, and job/financial stress for children and families), we are fully ready to harness the change, pivot when needed, and assertively move forward as champions for children, a responsibility and honor we take very seriously.

In FY21, VECF and partners garnered additional resources to our base appropriation by a ratio of 45:1. At the same time, we kept overhead low, intentionally directing resources into communities and the strategies that hold promise for children and families in Virginia. We invite you to visit www.vecf.org to learn more about our work over the past year.

Our solid track record is built on what we’ve always known to be true: the value of public-private partnerships, regionally- and family-driven solutions, and ultimately, the need for a statewide business plan for building an equitable, efficient, accountable, high quality early childhood system in Virginia. VECF is seizing the opportunity stemming from the pandemic disruption to advance early childhood systems building to the next level by launching Ready Regions, a comprehensive, regional model that serves children and families in every community.

Sixteen years ago, VECF was created by business and education leaders who recognized the impact that early childhood development plays in laying a foundation for Virginia’s youngest citizens. Today, we believe more than ever that a strong early childhood system is the cornerstone of Virginia’s economy and workforce success.

Thank you for your valued interest and support of this transformative work. Together, we will create a vastly improved early childhood system for Virginia’s bright future.

Ned W. Massee
Chairman

Kathy Glazer
President
FY21 Program Expenses
$33,773,892

VECF’s Financial Stewardship

Management & General 1.25%
Public Awareness/Engagement 1.5%
Fundraising .25%
Cash Grants & Resources for Community Networks Statewide 97%

FY21 Leveraged Funds for School Readiness in Virginia
$56,379,281
(45:1 RATIO FROM BASE APPROPRIATION)

Base Appropriation
$1,250,000

Other Funds Leveraged by VECF and Local Initiatives
$36,143,258

Additional Funds Leveraged by VECF for VA
$20,236,023

VECF’s Financial Stewardship

Management & General 1.25%
Public Awareness/Engagement 1.5%
Fundraising .25%
Cash Grants & Resources for Community Networks Statewide 97%

FY21 Leveraged Funds for School Readiness in Virginia
$56,379,281
(45:1 RATIO FROM BASE APPROPRIATION)
## Financial Information

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**As of June 30, 2021**

### ASSETS

**Current Assets**
- Cash & Cash Equivalents: $3,010,993
- Cash Held for Others: 4,385,593
- Accounts Receivable
  - Grants Receivable Net: 2,969,572
  - Contributions Receivable: 76,980
  - Other Receivables: 17,515
- Prepaid Expenses: 23,585
- Other Assets: 3,767
**Total Current Assets:** 10,488,005

**Property and Equipment**
- Furniture & Fixtures: 25,566
- Accumulated Depreciation: (21,799)
**Total Property & Equipment:** 3,767

**Total Assets:** $10,491,772

### LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

**Current Liabilities**
- Accounts Payable: 504,504
- Grants Payable: 2,489,843
- Amounts Held for Others: 4,385,593
- Accrued Expenses: 110,358
- Line of Credit: 730,000
**Total Current Liabilities:** 8,220,298

**Net Assets**
- Without Donor Restrictions: 816,276
- With Donor Restrictions: 1,455,198
**Total Net Assets:** 2,271,474

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets:** $10,491,772

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### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

**Year Ended June 30, 2021**

### PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

**PUBLIC SUPPORT**
- Contributions
  - Individuals & Board Contributions: $83,868
  - Corporations: 214,256
  - Foundations & Organizations: 351,000
**Total Public Support:** 649,124

**Revenue**
- Government Grants: 31,577,111
- Payroll Protection Program Forgiveness: 211,765
- Interest Revenue: 1,149
**Total Revenue:** 31,790,025

**Total Support & Revenue:** $32,439,149

### EXPENSES

- Program Services: $33,528,769
- Fundraising: 63,510
- Lobbying: 14,000
- Management & General: 167,613
**Total Expenses:** 33,773,892

**Change in Net Assets:** (1,334,743)

**Net Assets, Beginning:** 3,606,217

**Net Assets, Ending:** $2,271,474
2021 Donors

The Virginia Early Childhood Foundation is able to provide the vision and leadership essential to ensuring early childhood success because of the generosity and commitment of its funding partners. VECF proudly thanks and recognizes the following donors for their contributions between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

**STAKEHOLDERS ($1 MILLION +)**
US Administration for Children and Families through the Virginia Department of Social Services:
- CARES Act
- Child Care Development Fund
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
US Administration for Children and Families through the Virginia Department of Education:
- Preschool Development Grant Birth-Five
US Department of Education through the Virginia Department of Education:
- CARES Act
- Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund
Virginia General Assembly through the Virginia Department of Education

**INVESTOR ($100,000-$500,000)**
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the Nemours Foundation:
- Healthy Kids Healthy Future
Dominion Energy
Robins Foundation
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
US Health Resources and Services Administration through the Virginia Department of Health:
- Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

**CAPACITY ($50,000-$99,999)**
Huntington Ingalls Industries
Bob and Anna Lou Schaberg Foundation

**INNOVATOR ($25,000-$49,999)**
Alliance for Early Success
Community Foundation for a greater Richmond

**QUALITY CHAMPION ($10,000-$24,999)**
Thomas and Nancy J. Chewning Fund of the Community Foundation for a greater Richmond
Ben and Betty Davenport
PNC Foundation
Truist Foundation
Wells Fargo

**CONVENER ($5,000-$9,999)**
Bank of America
Mike and Mary Chinn
Bill and Karie Ermatinger

**PARTNER ($2,500-$4,999)**
Cathy’s Foundation, Bowman T. Bowles, Jr., Trustees
Kevin Curtis
Jim and Bobbie Ukrop
US Department of Agriculture through the Virginia Department of Social Services:
- Food and Nutrition Services

**PATRON ($1000-$2,499)**
Kartik Athreya
Alexandra Brisky Cunningham
Dr. Deborah M. DiCroce
Robert H. Dugger
Mrs. Juanita T. Elumquist
Kathy Glazer
Megan Healy and David Hallock
The Haltom Family
Hunton Andrews Kurth, LLP
Ned W. Massee
Stephen and Heather Moret
Petters Family Foundation
William “Biff” Rees, MD, MBA
Camille and Mike Royster
Gary and Janice Thomson
Troutman Pepper
Mary Washington Healthcare

**BENEFACtor ($250-$999)**
Danny Avula
Darla Edwards
Robin Grossman
Robert Hurt
Ken and Lauren Hutcheson
Dr. Deborah Jonas
Dr. Thomas R. Morris
Todd Norris
Gale and Bill Roberts
Cynthia C. Romero, MD
Shannon L. Rudisill
Simple Thread
Dietra Y. Trent
VECF Board Member
Terri and Chris Ziegler

**FRIEND ($1-$249)**
Anonymous (3)
Peter Blake and Mary Blanchard
Karin and Churchill Bowles
Sharon and Rob Brager
Mollie Brooks
Ellen Burgwyn
Richard and Evelyn Bynum
Art Bykomen
Sandra L. Chung, MD
The Honorable James Dyke
Amy Hatheway
Morgan Janke
Emily Keenum
James and Sarah Lane
Daniel and Laura McGregor
Lucy Wagner Mitzner
Angela Rice
Alyson Williams
Jamelle S. Wilson, Ph.D.
Catherine Worrell

**GIFTS IN MEMORY**
IN MEMORY OF SENATOR JOHN MILLER
Charles G. and Carol E. Ellis

**GIFTS IN HONOR**
IN HONOR OF THE TALENTED VECF STAFF TEAM
Kathy Glazer
In the early months of 2020 prior to the pandemic unfolding, VECF was completing a months-long strategic planning and evaluation process of its systems-building efforts. The conclusions from the evaluator, SRI Education International, could not have been more apropos to what lay ahead: “These challenges will not be solved simply or quickly. Although we must have the patience to develop long-term remedies, we must also recognize the urgency of supporting the current generation of Virginia’s youngest residents during the most sensitive period in their development. It is incumbent upon VECF to advocate assertively to disrupt inequitable systems and rebuild equitable and durable systems for the good of the communities.” This report is an effort to document VECF’s responses to this historic moment; but more importantly, it is an affirmation of our commitment to chart a better path forward.
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A Year of Rapid Change and Action .................... 10
Overview: Baseline 2019

The early childhood care and education (ECCE) system in Virginia mirrors its peers across the country in its strengths and challenges. Teachers and providers bring skill and dedication to the children and families they serve, advocates drive toward the vision for every child to have opportunities to learn and thrive, and families strive to give their child a solid foundation while gaining an important work/life support. Yet, the system remains beleaguered by inequities and inadequacies. Affordability and access are significant challenges, complicated by financing conundrums. For example, families face staggering prices for ECCE services (the average price for infant care is $14,500 annually in VA) though often providers charge families less than the actual cost, and teacher salaries (average $22,797 annually in VA) are well below the Federal Poverty Level, which results in high turnover costs for the industry already beset by thin margins. The industry is largely run by women and disproportionately, women of color, and like most in our nation, the ECCE system is characterized by embedded systemic racism and sexism resulting in these populations experiencing the greatest burdens of its shortcomings. Despite decades of incremental course correction efforts, shy of large-scale investments and system-wide overhaul, these issues persist.

For over fifteen years, VECF has been a driver and partner in the goal to deliver an equitable and durable ECCE system for Virginia. In 2019, VECF’s Annual Report stated its role in striving for strong durable structures is to:

- Shed light to reveal and harness untapped potential in Virginia’s school readiness efforts
- Test innovation to discern promising new approaches
- Drive solutions to deliver better results

COVID-19 Pandemic 2020

In March 2020 as the Coronavirus pandemic emerged, VECF issued a statement doubling down on their commitment to the field of early childhood education as a whole. In this letter, VECF pledged to facilitate Virginia’s successful rapid response, recovery, and transformation of childcare solutions. Months later, in the wake of the murders of several Black Americans, VECF made an additional pledge to redouble their efforts to listen, learn, and act with intentionality to dispel racial injustice and economic disparity, internally and in all aspects of our work building equitable and durable early childhood systems.

Over the course of 16 months (March 2020 – July 2021) and concurrent national and international crises, four areas of need, function, and insight emerged. Through this retrospective report, VECF reflects on and documents learnings from this historic era, including the role the organization was uniquely prepared to serve; the value of its many partnerships in making strides toward relief, recovery, and reimagination; and what this bodes for VECF’s future directions.
By The Numbers...

- **7,600** stakeholders and providers attended 28 informational briefings

- **$180M** supported 4,500 providers with federal CARES child care stabilization grants

- **4,500 new, safe learning spaces for children ages 3-12** served by Ready Regions

- **$5M** in teacher recognition grants for approximately 2,500 early educators

- **$1.3M** in bonus incentives to 2,200 school age care teachers

- **$800,000** in Pathfinders scholarships for 1,100 early educators

- **5x expansion to 1,250 slots in VECF Mixed Delivery** for 3- and 4-year-olds served in 2021-22 school year

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- **5x expansion to 1,250 slots in VECF Mixed Delivery** for 3- and 4-year-olds served in 2021-22 school year

- **30 organizations and Promise Makers participating in Virginia Promise Partnership coalition**

- **465 Virginia localities will be served by Ready Regions**

- Of participating children:
  - **66%** are BIPOC
  - **20%** have identified disabilities
  - **66%** are from households at or under 130% FPL

A Disruptive Era Calls for Rapid Response, Recovery, and System-Wide Transformation
A Disruptive Era Calls for Rapid Response, Recovery, and System-Wide Transformation

Rapid Response: Information is Power

**Needs/Issues:** As the pandemic emerged and spurred rapidly changing perceptions and guidance for child care providers, the need for a singular, trusted information hub became quickly apparent. Providers faced difficult decisions regarding operating vs. closing, staff and child safety and risks, child and family livelihood, essential workforce needs, and business/financial sustainability. Amid the chaos and uncertainty, making the best decision for a provider’s unique circumstances was daunting, if not impossible. VECF stepped up in multiple ways to support providers and communities in navigating paths forward and making connections to critical information, resources, and practical guidance to serve families and children safely.

**A. Position Statements and Advocacy**

On March 25, 2020, in the initial throes of the pandemic, VECF released a position statement urging special accommodations and precautions for child care providers and early educators, and quickly became a centering and unifying voice in advocating for them as essential personnel themselves, enabling other front-line workers and parents to return to work.

**B. Briefings for ECCE Stakeholders and Providers**

Within days of the shutdown, on March 18th VECF led an informational briefing to help providers and other members of the ECCE system understand how Virginia's mandated shutdown impacted the child care industry. Over the next 11 months, in response to an eager audience, VECF produced a total of [28 virtual briefings](#), staying in step with rapidly emerging issues. Notably, seven of these briefings were held within the first month of shutdown when access to and the change rate of information was dizzying. All were recorded and posted on [VECF's website](#) throughout the pandemic.

**C. Guides and Toolkits for ECCE Providers**

In response to provider needs, VECF created and widely distributed [detailed navigation tools](#) to extend one-stop, comprehensive and trusted support through clear, calming, steady guidance. The first tool, [A Guide for Virginia Child Care Providers to Navigate the COVID-19 Crisis](#), posted April 20, 2020 summarized current knowledge regarding COVID-19 health and safety; offered a risk/benefit analysis and flow chart for providers in evaluating when, how, and if to reopen; and provided user-friendly guidance for accessing emergency funding. Based on its effectiveness for Virginia, several other states adapted it for use. Additional tools widened language access (Spanish/English) and practical navigation assistance for accessing essential operating, stabilizing, and staff and family well-being resources.

**Insights:**

A trusted, central voice to elevate needs and solutions within and across communities and sectors is a valuable resource, especially given the diverse composition and varied representation of the ECCE/child care industry with different program types each with its own associations and advocates but no single unifying voice.

VECF widened opportunities and communications platforms for more ECCE stakeholders to engage and share struggles/triumphs, design cross-systems solutions, ask questions and contribute resources that kept services available for children and families, and informed recovery and rebuilding with greater insight into every part of the ECCE system.
Rapid Response: Partnership Solves Problems

**Needs/Issues:** Early in the pandemic, in order to keep staff and families safe and because of financial devastation, many child care providers closed their doors. As weeks continued, parents able to keep their children home did so, while care demands for essential personnel and out-of-home working families grew dire. With schools closed and then shifting to virtual or hybrid learning, families became more and more desperate for school-aged child care. Meanwhile, providers experienced enormous strain in remaining open or re-opening. Expedited locally-tailored solutions were needed both to intervene in the growing crisis and best deploy emergency funding to meet family and provider needs. VECF appealed to the Governor and superintendents statewide to provide more regionally-based structure, collaborative decision-making, and supports as every community struggled to discern appropriate paths. At the same time, VECF escalated supports to local-level collaboratives and leveraged on-the-ground leaders to problem-solve each region’s specific and unique needs for child care supply and demand. Communities saw just how powerful – and essential – this approach can be.

A. Smart Beginnings Peer Collaborations for COVID Child Care

In late March 2020, VECF convened a peer group of community collaboratives, each led by a Smart Beginnings partner, to share information, data, and ideas across regions and with state leaders to develop early childhood-related responses to the pandemic. Communities were able to share best practices generated to solve pandemic-related needs and connect with state leaders and national experts to collectively meet emerging needs within communities.

B. Building the Supply of Emergency School-Aged Child Care

During the November 2020 special legislative session, the General Assembly recognized the needs of struggling families and providers by appropriating both state and federal funding to address child health and well-being and parent ability to work. With $16.6 million in funding through VDSS, VECF was tasked with building the supply of safe learning spaces for children ages 3 through 12 years. Building from existing Smart Beginnings within these communities, VECF and partners created 4,500 safe learning “slots” for families with school-age children who direly needed access to affordable child care (December 2020 through June 2021). An additional $3.27 million was later allocated to extend access through the summer months (July-September 2021).

C. Vaccine Navigation and Prioritization

During vaccine rollout, it became apparent that child care providers were not being included in vaccination events at the same level as K-12 personnel, though they were prioritized in the same category. To support access to vaccination for all interested providers, VECF advocated for and joined forces with the Governor’s Office, VDH, local health departments, Smart Beginnings and other local partners to conduct intensive, culturally-sensitive education and outreach about COVID vaccination and provide a #ChildCareStrong Navigator in every locality to coordinate with health officials to ensure access to timely vaccinations for child care personnel.

**Insights:**

Collective efforts of both public and private sectors were required to fulfill the complex task of keeping the supply of ECCE open and safe while ensuring responsiveness to evolving family preferences and needs.

VECF mobilized in multiple ways to support communities’ capacity to tap their unique local resources and relationships and to quickly leverage federal and state emergency funds necessary to meet rapidly evolving needs.
Recovery: Capacity to Adapt Saves the Day

**Needs/Issues:** The pandemic caught the world unprepared, and those engaged with early childhood systems were no exception. In particular, the amount of nimble flexibility and adaptiveness needed to navigate consistently changing conditions was well beyond the capacity of most public-sector response and relief organizations and systems. In many states, public agencies turned to sturdy non-profit organizations like VECF for ready capacity to nimbly serve intermediary and supportive functions when government could not.

A. Nimble Intermediary Services

While federal emergency funding came to Virginia for its child care sector, state agency leaders were frustrated by clunky legacy automated systems, which jeopardized their ability to get the stabilization relief cash to providers. Providers struggled with not only delayed payments, but also with sluggish response periods to understand the status of their applications for the funds. VECF was able to quickly build capacity to serve as third party payor and assisted with issuing CARES checks each quarter. In total, VECF issued more than 13,000 checks totaling nearly $180 million in federal CARES funds to 4,500 child care providers.

B. Expanding Mixed Delivery Preschool Services

By shifting to a financing model based on enrollment (vs. attendance) in response to the COVID-exacerbated attendance fluctuations, the Mixed Delivery program was able to support and stabilize child care programs to remain open and serve an increasing number of children in person. In the 2020-21 school year, Mixed Delivery served 250 3- and 4-year-olds in a time of family financial strain, trauma, and shifts to virtual learning of school-based programs. The success of the model led to significant expansion in resources for 2021, increasing five-fold to nearly 1,250 slots for the 2021-22 school year to extend quality and choice to more low-income families across the Commonwealth.

C. Ready Networks

In fall of 2020, in response to rising family demand for smaller care and educational settings for their children, VECF launched an initiative to support access to home-based and small-center options for families, including coordinators to support providers in accessing tools and supports for business operations, quality improvement, and streamlined marketing and communications with families. Beginning in three regions - Hampton Roads, Greater Richmond, and Southwest Virginia - Ready Networks aim to partner with providers and provide access to the professional web-based platform, Wonderschool, to streamline business operations of marketing, billing, and enrollment.

**Insights:**

Adaptive and innovative leadership is needed and valued during challenging times.

As a sturdy public-private partner, VECF listened to the voices of those most impacted, challenged the status quo, modified and adapted practices to meet changing needs, and maintained a solution-focused mindset.
Transformation: From Disruption to Opportunity

**Needs/Issues:** Every aspect of the ECCE system frailties became magnified as a result of the pandemic. While exacerbated, these issues were not new. Amid the chaos, understanding the system’s long-standing shortfalls, and seeing what was unfolding, VECF’s President and other ECCE leaders across the country began a new conversation — setting the vision for a complete system overhaul. These conversations aimed to build a new system that worked for everyone engaged in and benefiting from it - one with equity at the center, not in the margins. To get there, it became crystal clear we must act now, engage more inclusively, invest deeply, and challenge our every assumption and established structure.

**A. Back to Work Task Force**

VECF’s President, supported by VECF’s Board Chair, initiated Back to Work Virginia, a blue-ribbon task force charged with creating an assertive strategic plan with recommendations for structural shifts and improved policies and practices to re-envision Virginia’s child care industry as we return to work and rebuild our economy. Between May-October 2020, the task force engaged in six informative sessions exploring workforce, child care policy, and promising practices. From these sessions, the task force formed a shared commitment to build back better and to make a bold promise of quality child care for all Virginia families by 2030 with this assertion: “It is time to rebuild, from the ground up, how we will support a more resilient child care sector, seizing on the lessons of this crisis to re-conceptualize delivery of this essential public and private good.”

**B. Virginia Promise Partnership**

In December 2020, the Back to Work Task Force announced the formation of the Virginia Promise Partnership, a coalition of thirty leading organizations committed to working together to accomplish the 2030 access goal by developing a policy roadmap and cost estimate that ensures all Virginia families have access to quality child care by 2030 and building a statewide grassroots advocacy effort to bring focus and attention to make it happen. Right out of the gate, the Virginia Promise Partnership successfully advocated during the 2021 General Assembly for legislation that supports common-sense business practices for child care providers such as background check portability and contracts based on enrollment; temporary expansion of eligibility for child care subsidy; and a dedicated revenue stream to expand public-private, at-risk preschool services.

**C. Ready Regions**

While the capacity and strengths of the Smart Beginnings network were needed and accessed gratefully during this era, gaps in the network became all the more evident. Seventeen Smart Beginnings initiatives cover more than 2/3 of Virginia jurisdictions, but the pandemic exposed grave need for equitable access to early childhood opportunities for children and families in all 133 Virginia communities. VECF is seizing the opportunity stemming from the pandemic disruption to lead a competitive process to identify and create a next-generation network of regional hubs, called Ready Regions, with strengthened capacity to support early childhood success in every region of the Commonwealth.

**Insights:**

Though often uncomfortable, it is essential to challenge the status quo when evidence indicates there are gaps, inequities, and disparities. It is equally important to offer a vision for a better path forward and partnership to collaboratively develop solutions.

From reaching every community to advocating for a transformed child care system, VECF is committed to leading with humility - listening, learning, and acting in partnership with diverse stakeholders across the Commonwealth.
Conclusion

Throughout an unprecedented era with events still unfolding, Virginia’s ECCE system faced many challenges and availed significant resources to keep children learning, families working, economies moving, and communities stable. VECF thanks our funders, partners, colleagues, front-line early childhood providers and educators, families, and community leaders for their extraordinary efforts, courage, and impacts over the past 16 months. We exit this historic era with many lessons learned and much healing to do. Many uncertainties remain, and many in our Commonwealth are struggling to recover. As a system largely sustained by women and disproportionately women of color, recovery and rebuilding will take time as historic numbers of women have left the workforce, child care providers report permanent closures, ECCE teachers exit the field for higher paying jobs, and children face gaps from trauma and learning interruptions.

As VECF reflects on this time, we take heart in the ability to leverage what we have learned in joining our partners to create a vastly improved ECCE system for Virginia’s children, families, communities, and futures.

From insights learned from our efforts over the last 16 months, VECF has clarity of vision for these strategic directions and commits to:

- Establishing a statewide network of high-capacity regional hubs supporting and empowering community-driven solutions through Ready Regions
- Championing assertive and unified advocacy for equitable opportunities for early childhood success through the Virginia Promise Partnership
- Maintaining core and nimble intermediary capacity to nurture public-private partnership and foster innovation
- Shaping polices and promoting investment informed by the voices and choices of families
## A Year of Rapid Change and Action

### Current Events and Indicators of Need prompt Action by VECF and Partners during Governor’s State of Emergency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>Governor Northam declares State of Emergency; Orders shutdown.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VA closure of public and private K-12 and Pre-K in school settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VA Dept. of Social Services (VDSS)/VA Department of Health (VDH) issues Interim Guidance for Child Care Providers limiting capacity to 10 children per space, offering COVID safety protocols, urging child care access for essential workers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Governor Northam extends order for school closure through end of 2020-21 school year; urges child care to prioritize children of essential workers. Joint guidance from VDSS and VA Dept of Education (VDOE) identifies early childhood care educators as essential workers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/20</td>
<td>VDSS and VDOE project reduction of at least 200,000 childcare slots due to provider closures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With federal CARES Funds, Virginia announces $70M to expand and widen eligibility and access to family subsidies, emergency care for essential workers, provider business continuity funds for those open as of April 30, 2020; urges schools to act as emergency childcare centers, eliminates parent co-pays for subsidy program, incentivizes providers to open or to be able to reopen post-crisis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/20</td>
<td>Murders of several Black Americans prompt public outrage and urgency of addressing racial injustice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20</td>
<td>Virginia announces 45% of child care centers, 83% of Family Day Homes open. Estimates “2,300 centers remain closed – reduction of 180,000 childcare slots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20</td>
<td>VA House Joint Resolution Number 537 declares racism a public health crisis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>Governor and General Assembly appropriate $33.2M to emergency child care for school-aged children of essential personnel and at-risk households.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>Estimated 30% of VA child care lost in pandemic; unknown how many may reopen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>VA House Joint Resolution Number 537 declares racism a public health crisis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/20</td>
<td>American Rescue Plan passed; Virginia to receive “$800 million for Child Care Relief Funding; historic one-time investment in early child care system to address family affordability, childcare workforce recovery, and systemic improvements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>VDSS states that “remain closed/reduced capacity” is at 43,000 slots.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/21</td>
<td>Governor Northam lifts state of emergency order in effect since March 2020.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### VECF's Responses and Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>VECF's Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/20</td>
<td>VECF holds first briefing to bring State leaders and Providers together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/20</td>
<td>VECF issues statement pledging support of rapid response, recovery and transformation across ECCE system; creates and distributes decision-making matrix for providers for assessing considerations for opening, operating in accordance with CDC and VDSS guidelines, personnel resources, and applying for emergency funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/20</td>
<td>VECF convenes first meeting of Back to Work Virginia Task Force.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20</td>
<td>VECF begins to issue 991 CARES I stabilization checks to assist VDSS totaling $9,848,050.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20</td>
<td>VECF issues 3,014 CARES II checks totaling $30,145,300.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>VECF launches Ready Network in three regions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20</td>
<td>VECF issues 4,337 CARES III checks totaling $49,732,920.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>VECF begins administration of Emergency School Age Child Care initiative in eight Smart Beginnings regions. Back to Work Task Force releases recommendations; Virginia Promise Partnership is launched.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/21</td>
<td>VECF Briefing: VA General Assembly Session highlights promising advances toward enrollment-based reimbursement, portable background checks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/21</td>
<td>VECF issues 4,626 CARES IV checks totaling $89,506,896.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/21</td>
<td>VECF partners with Governor’s Office, VDH, local health departments, Smart Beginnings and other local partners to support communications and access to vaccinations for child care providers through #ChildCareStrong initiative.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>