VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS®

Virginia Tourism Corporation (VTC) Destination Development Team

The VTC Partnership Marketing Destination Development Team, part of the VTC Partnership Marketing Division, provides guidance to needed resources, educational opportunities, planning, and technical assistance to municipalities, tourism organizations, and current and potential tourism businesses. The Destination Development Specialists focus on growing and promoting new tourism businesses and the development of community-based tourism products throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, with special emphasis on high-growth potential areas across Virginia. For more information the Destination on VTC Partnership Marketing Development Division programs, visit https://www.vatc.org/partnershipmarketing.

The mission of the VTC Partnership Marketing Division's Destination Development Management Team is to maximize the potential of economic development and job creation through tourism in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

> Our vision is to make sure every Virginia community has Realized their potential as a tourism destination.

VTC Partnership Marketing Destination Development Team Services:

Business Development

Assistance with entrepreneurial development including business plans, financial planning, regulations and other business-related issues for both new and existing tourism businesses. VTC is an active partner with other local, state, and federal assistance organizations. VTC Partnership Marketing also hosts the VTC Orientation Program which provides an overview of VTC programs to our industry partners.

Funding Assistance

Assistance with identifying funding sources, including grants and loans, for tourism-related businesses and programs. This includes making connections to local, state, and federal funding programs. Partnership Marketing administers the VTC Marketing Leverage Programs, the Virginia DMO Marketing Grant, the Virginia Special Events and Festival Program, and the Virginia Tourism Development Financing Program.

Tourism Product Development

Assistance with creating and launching tourism product and programs within a community. Planning assistance including resources for inventory, research, and organizational development through Tourism Assessment Plans. Partnership Marketing also assists with implementation of DRIVE Tourism 2.0 - Virginia's Statewide Tourism Plan. New tourism product is a critical component to grow Virginia's communities.

Industry Liaisons

Facilitation of relationships between Virginia tourism industry partners with the Virginia Tourism Corporation, as well as with existing tourism offices and related tourism organizations. The Partnership Marketing Development Team works to connect industry partners with other local, state, and federal agencies and programs helpful to Virginia's tourism industry.

VTC Partnership Marketing Destination Development Team Priorities and Projects

VTC Partnership Marketing Division is active in development projects across Virginia. Below is a partial listing of the Major Priorities and Projects which the VTC Tourism Destination Development Specialist Team facilitates or supports - either directly or in partnership - with other agencies and groups.

- Appomattox River Region Access Project
- Blue Ridge Plateau
- Brunswick Stew Trail
- Chesapeake Bay National Recreation Area Initiative
- Chincoteague Historic Firehouse Revitalization
- Clinch River Valley Initiative
- Coastal Virginia Downtowns/Main Street Initiatives
- Coastal Virginia Ecotourism Alliance
- Eastern Shore Rails to Trails
- Field of Gold/Bike the Valley Tour de Farm Program
- Hometowns of Mount Rogers
- Onancock School Revitalization
- Salty Southern Route
- Shenandoah Spirits Trail
- Shenandoah Valley Tourism Partnership
- Southern Virginia Racing Partnership

- Southern Virginia Wild Blueway
- Southwest Virginia Outdoors
- Spearhead Trails
- Tazewell/Buchanan Trails Initiative
- Tobacco Heritage Trail
- Farmville Downtown Development & Riverwalk Project
- Town of South Boston Downtown Development
- Virginia Oyster Trail Revitalization
- Virginia's Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail
- Virginia's Space Loop/Virginia is for Space Lovers
- Virginia DMO Marketing Grant
- Virginia Special Events and Festival Program
- Visit Lynchburg Sports Tourism
- VTC Marketing Leverage Programs
- VTC Orientation Programs

VTC Partnership Marketing Destination Development and Grants Team Contacts

Statewide

Becky Nave Destination Development Director 901 E. Cary St., Ste. 900 Richmond, VA 23219 CELL (276) 791-9172 bnave@virginia.org

bnave@virginia.org Shenandoah Valley Kelli Weaver Destination Development Manager PO Box 647 Broadway, VA 22815 CELL (540) 679-6697 kweaver@virginia.org

Statewide Staci Martin

Grants Director P.O. Box 61826 Virginia Beach, VA 23462 CELL (757) 390-7330 smartin@virginia.org Statewide Sarah Austen Holzgrefe Destination Development Specialist 901 E. Cary St., Ste. 900 Richmond, VA 23219 DESK (804) 545-5554 sholzgrefe@virginia.org

Coastal Virginia Laura Messer Destination Development Manager P.O. Box 2635 Newport News, VA 23609 CELL (804) 278-761 Imesser@virginia.org

Statewide Noah Salaah ad-Deen Grants Specialist 901 E. Cary St., Ste. 900 Richmond, VA 23219 TEL (804) 545-5518 nsaddeen@virginia.org SWVA Heart of Appalachia Michelle Workman Senior Destination Development Manager P.O. Box 30 Bluefield, VA 24605 CELL (276) 722-0238 mworkman@virginia.org

Central Virginia Vacant

Statewide

SWVA VA's Blue Ridge Kalen Hunter, MBA Senior Destination Development Manager P.O. Box 16394 Bristol, VA 24209 CELL (276) 213-0009 khunter@virginia.org VA Mountains

Katie Conner, MBA Senior Destination Development Manager P.O. Box 1113 Buchanan, VA 24066 CELL (540) 676-4953 kconner@virginia.org

Shruthi Manimaran Grants Coordinator 901 E. Cary St., Ste. 900 Richmond, VA 23219 TEL (804) 545-5577 smanimaran@virginia.org

Destination Development Mangers VTC Grant Program Information VTC Orientation Information

vatc.org/partnershipmarketing/tdmanagers vatc.org/grants vatc.org/partnershipmarketing/orientations