



Enter this link if the video does not play when clicked. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kw-bjkwTlaQ>

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

As a member of the NAACP, you're making it your personal goal to ensure that our community thrives in every aspect including education, economics, health and wellbeing, and racial justice.

Each NAACP member has the ability to help us double our reach to drive culture and change in communities across the country. We need every member to encourage their network to join the fight.

How to join? [click here](#) for an overview on the process. It is simple and takes no time at all.

You will then receive a purchase receipt at the email address you submitted.

Please forward this message to or compose a new message to henriconaacpsecretary@gmail.com, so we may add you to our distribution list immediately.



THEN

VIRGINIA'S FIRST BLACK LEGISLATORS



Biographies of the 92 African American men who served in the General Assembly from 1869 to 1890 are now part of the Commonwealth's digital history on Encyclopedia Virginia. [Click here to view](#)

NOW

McClellan becomes the first Black Congresswoman from Virginia

While Congresswoman McClellan's legislative accomplishments are extensive there is more work to do. Click the links below to read more about the issues.



- [Revitalizing the Economy](#)
- [Climate Action and Environmental Justice](#)
- [Equity, Inclusivity and Racial Justice](#)
- [Gun Violence](#)
- [Health Care and Abortion Access](#)
- [Voting Rights](#)
- [Justice Reform](#)
- [Serving Virginia's Veterans and Active Duty Military Personnel](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Education and Child Care](#)

We have work to do! Stay connected with your legislative representatives. Want to help? Join our political action committee.



The 2023 CRATIs are NOT regionally based. Members are allowed to attend any of the four in-person sessions. There will be sessions for Adult & Youth Leaders. Registration will open soon!

ADVOCACY

Building Power and Wielding Power

Community Building

Thriving, diverse, equitable communities are possible through deep participation, particularly by communities commonly excluded from democratic voice & power. The stronger our local democracies, the more capacity we can unleash to address our toughest challenges, and the more capable we are of surviving and thriving through economic, ecological, and social crises. It is going to take all of us to adequately address the complex challenges our cities and regions are facing. It...
read more at [Facilitating Power](#)

Connecting with Leaders

Local community leaders and decision makers play an important role in setting priorities, providing overarching policy direction, and bringing stakeholders together.

What effect do we want our Advocacy to have?

- Change public consciousness
- add needed perspective to policy/political discourse
- create space for political/business leadership to do the right thing (support our priorities)
- create a cost if political/business leadership does not do the right thing

Showing and Telling

Build community trust by showing up! Engaging our community helps us to understand the needs of the residents.

Volunteer for community and branch opportunities that give you a chance to tell our story, to inspire others, to revive engagement in areas that have gone dormant.

How do you show up?



Name: Jerry E. Bennett
Office: HUD HQ, Office of Public Housing Investments
Title: HUD STEM Liaison
HUD Email address : jerryl.e.bennett@hud.gov



Jerry Bennett has 36 years of Federal Service. He began his career in public service in the US Army and his employment with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development commenced in 2000. He served in several capacities of increasing responsibilities with the US Army and HUD. As a Field Artillery Officer, he led soldiers of diverse backgrounds as a Platoon Leader, Company Commander, and Brigade S1 - Human Resource Officer. He started his HUD career in Richmond as a Community Builder and held positions in Multifamily and Public Housing, with the most recent position as Liaison, Federal Interagency STEM Initiatives in the Office of Public Housing Investments. Currently, Jerry's responsibilities span the country as he works with other federal agencies focused on reducing costs and leveraging corporate, local, state, and federal relationships to create/enhance both economic and social value for students and residents in Public Housing Agencies and surrounding communities. Working with early adopters and place-based Public/Affordable Housing communities, Jerry uses innovative partnerships focused on collective impact, accountability, and transparency to align traditional and creative resources to achieve HUD's mission and Secretarial Initiatives. Efforts focused on people and transformative housing occur in place-based locations including HUD EnVision Centers, Opportunity Zones, Jobs Plus communities, ConnectHome, ROSS-Education, My Brother's Keeper, STEM/STEAM Innovation and Re-Entry.

Jerry Bennett is a graduate of Choate Rosemary Hall, a New England preparatory school, and the United States Military Academy at West Point. Jerry was also the Academy's first African American quarterback and a football record breaker. Community volunteerism is one of several pastimes for the native Texan. Bennett's affiliations include: lifetime membership in the National Black MBA Association, where he developed and launched of the *Leaders of Tomorrow* program for the Richmond chapter; a lifetime member of the West Point Society of Richmond and lifetime member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity – where he devotes a great deal of time leading and participating in community outreach initiatives; and has been recently named to serve as STEM Cluster co-chair for the White House Initiative on HBCUs.

Impacting social change and improving the quality of life for under-served groups through innovative and effective programming is a top priority for Bennett. To this end, he recently led a highly successful team - HUD Veterans STEM Innovation Networks - that was recognized by HUD for winning a prestigious Federal Gears of Government Award designed to sustain wholesome and interactive environments where fathers can create stronger bonds with their children living in Public Housing using STEM hands-on activities. His greatest leadership role to date is parenting and mentoring his children.

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."
~ Martin Luther King Jr



Learn About the 2023 HIRE Vets Medallion Award

Would you like to be recognized for your efforts to be a veteran-ready employer? If your business has implemented veteran-inclusive hiring policies and veteran assistance programs, you can apply for the HIRE Vets Medallion Award!

The application deadline for the 2023 Medallion Award is April 30. Employers can apply for the Gold or Platinum award, with each recognizing different and admirable levels of commitment.

To help employers, we've created a list of [frequently asked questions](#) about award eligibility and the application process, such as:

- Which award level can I apply for?
- How do I start a new application?
- How can I spread the word about the HIRE Vets Medallion Program?

Visit [HIREVets.gov](https://hirevets.gov) today to log in to your account and begin your application. But don't wait – the deadline to apply is April 30!

[Apply Today.](#)

The Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2017 (HIRE Vets Act or the Act), requires the Secretary of Labor to establish a program, by rule, that recognizes employer efforts to recruit, employ, and retain veterans. Employer-applicants meeting criteria established in the rule will receive a "HIRE Vets Medallion Award."



Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training

Presented via Zoom

April 11 & 12, 2023 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (both days)
PEATC is pleased to offer a 2-day training presented by speaker Pete Wright, Esq.!

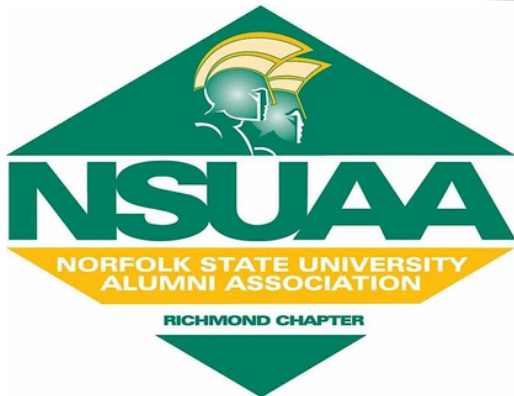
Training topics will include:

- Special education law, rights, and responsibilities
- Tests and measurements for progress and regression
- Smart IEPs
- Introduction to strategies for effective advocacy
- And more!

Training will take place on zoom and will not be recorded.

****SAVE \$40! REGISTER EARLY!**** Early Bird Price: \$125 (by March 1st) Regular Price \$165 (after March 1st) Registration closes March 31st. Hurry so you can reserve your spot!

Registration fee includes 3 required textbooks (printed and PDF versions) valued at \$104 and 6 hours of training.



Spartan Scholarship Bike Blessing & Ride
Join NSU's Richmond Alumni Chapter and STEMulating Youth, Inc., to ride on two wheels for a great cause!!!!

The Richmond Chapter of Norfolk State University Alumni Association in partnership with STEMulating Youth, Inc., is proud to host our inaugural Spartan Bike Blessing and Scholarship Ride.

Registration is \$25.00 per biker and/or cyclist. For those that wish to donate to this amazing cause, any amount will do. Kickstands are up at 9:00am on March 25, 2023 at Dorey Park.

7 ON 7
Minutes of Prayer

Join the Virginia NAACP Religious Affairs Committee for Seven Minutes of Prayer on the 7th of each month at 7 am.

Join via the zoom link below:
<https://naacpva.us/SevenMinutesofPrayer>

NAACP Virginia STATE CONFERENCE

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®
Rho Eta Omega Chapter

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2023

- ANNIE HENDERSON WOOD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
- MARGIE CHRICHLOW SMITH SCHOLARSHIP



Deadline:
March 31, 2023

KEY NOTES:

- Over \$15,000 in Scholarships Available
- Chesterfield, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent and Richmond High School Seniors

FOR MORE INFO

- www.reoaka.org/scholarship
- scholarship@reoaka.org



For more information navigate to www.reoaka.org/scholarship or email us at scholarship@reoaka.org



Teen Summit RVA

OUR VOICES



Free Event

Students from Chesterfield, Henrico and Richmond will be invited

Hosted by Micah "Bam Bam" White

March 18, 2023

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Richmond Convention Center
403 N 3rd St, Richmond, VA 23219

Transportation provided by each school district.
Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Teen Summit RVA

is the first of its kind leadership summit designed by and for teens to amplify their voices about the topics that matter to them. Teens will exchange ideas to bring about positive change in the Richmond region.

Teen Summit RVA

is an opportunity for youth ages 14-19 from Chesterfield, Henrico, and Richmond to engage in interactive **EXPERIENCES** that address social issues that are impacting youth today - mixed with the arts and entertainment. These **EXPERIENCES** range from thought provoking conversations led by experts in their field to art and spoken word as a means of expression. In addition, teens will explore summer job opportunities in the InspireYouth@Work Career and Resource Fair. There is something for everyone at **Teen Summit RVA!**

Some of the Topics Include:

- ◆ Keeping Schools Safe
- ◆ LGBTQIA2+ - Allyship to Advocacy
- ◆ "The Culture"
- ◆ Art and Impact
- ◆ Mental Health Matters
- ◆ Big Dreams/Road Map to Life
- ◆ Wellness and much more



Henrico, Chesterfield, and the City of Richmond have partnered to present Teen Summit RVA to support students between the ages of 14- 19 in the Richmond region. Teen Summit RVA is the first of its kind leadership summit designed by and for teens to amplify their voices about the things that matter to them. Teen Summit RVA will take place on Saturday, March 18 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center from 9:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

Teens will exchange ideas to bring about positive change in the Richmond region. Teen Summit RVA is an opportunity for high school students from Chesterfield, Henrico, and Richmond to engage in interactive experiences that address social issues that are impacting youth today - mixed with the arts and entertainment.

These experiences range from thought provoking conversations led by experts in their field to art and spoken word as a means of expression. In addition to the mix of art and entertainment experiences, teens will be able to explore various vendors in the InspireYouth@Work Regional Summer Opportunity Fair presented by Virginia Career Works."

Join the Henrico Too Smart 2 Start Coalition is supporting Teen Summit RVA. Visit <https://www.handsonrva.org/teensummit>

to check out the various volunteer roles and shifts. Note: Volunteers will get a t-shirt and lunch. See you there!

NAACP
Virginia
STATE CONFERENCE

General Assembly Wrap Up

The Political Action Committee held the General Assembly Wrap Up on Sunday, March 5, 2023 at 7 pm To register to attend, please visit <https://naacpva.us/2023GeneralAssemblyWrapUp>

BRANCH CALENDAR (CLICK HERE)

