

Virginia Executive Institute

VEI Fall 2024 Leadership Challenge Topics

1. Enhancing Student Well-being: Recommendations for improving access and visibility of student mental health

There is a lack of mental health care resources and awareness for public high school students in a time of increasing need for those resources. This presentation will evaluate the causes of the care shortage and recommend solutions to improve high school students' well-being.

*Scott Booker: APA Vickie Carter: DSS Donna Cox: DBVI Brookie Crawford: VDH Richard Doucette: DEQ
Corie Tillman Wolf: DHP*

2. Cyberbullying and the Additional Dangers of Artificial Intelligence

Our VEI topic is going to focus on the prevention and education of cyberbullying. As we enter a new age of artificial intelligence, not only will targeting become easier with access to information on individuals, but other means of manipulation are also becoming readily available. The ability to seamlessly augment photos and voice clips to create compromising situations for a targeted individual creates a new layer of danger. To help mitigate the potential, we feel the school systems, government agencies, and other government-run programs need a specific curriculum to educate Virginians on the ever-present dangers, help them navigate through false information by verifying with multiple sources, and ensure there is an understanding of the potential criminal outcomes of cyberbullying. Initial research has revealed there are present regulations in the Virginia Code that we can leverage and build upon, and we plan to use these as well as additional information we can find to formulate an effective plan for addressing the topic.

*Bill Cuttler: VDOT Guy Dinkins: DVS Michelle Franco: DSS Mike Jones: DMAS Todd Spruill: RVA
Nate Warfield: Lottery*

3. Improving Awareness and Effectiveness of Recycling & Waste Reduction Programs

Virginia Executive Order 17 recognizes the value of recycling and establishes policy to increase awareness of the importance of recycling. The Department of General Services' most recent progress report on this effort identified room for improvement towards increasing recycling knowledge, practices, and resources. We will identify potential resource gaps and explore opportunities increase visibility and participation in Agency recycling programs.

*Greg Henion: VDOT Ashley Herring: DSS Jessica Kilgo: VA250 Keven Patchett: SCC
Shakema Sanders: DHCD*

4. Enhancing Interest and Retention for Entry Level State Government Roles

Research, develop, and propose a pilot program, which could be a fellowship or association, whereby state agencies would work collectively to recruit and train individuals for key agency positions that are either hard to fill, or where the essential required skills for those positions are not taught at most universities.

*Neisha Brown: VSU Mike Davis: VDOT Beth Levermore: VITA Robert Mason: DSJC Brian Pratt: SCC
Maria Pruner: Virginia Housing*

