

Appendix IV

Community Facilities

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Medical and Community-Based Services

Patrick County Health Department clinics in Stuart. Services provided by the clinics include immunization clinic; family planning; Medicaid screening; Bureau of Crippled Children's clinic; PKU testing; pre-school clinics; on-site sewage disposal permits; tuberculosis clinic; environmental health; communicable disease investigations; women, infants, and children nutrition program; developmental evaluation clinic; VD clinic; skin testing; pre-natal clinic; well-baby clinic; restaurant inspection; home health services; collection of vital statistics; dental services; rabies control; and nutrition counseling. The **Henry County-Martinsville Health Department** serves as the headquarters of the West Piedmont Health District, and encourages families and individuals to be prepared for emergencies, such as natural disasters, pandemic influenza, and more recently the dissemination of COVID-19 information as well as the administering of vaccines for this pandemic. The Health Department will work with County agencies and organizations to provide families and individuals with the information they need to begin their own emergency preparations. More information about COVID-19 planning can be obtained by contacting the Health Department or visiting their website at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/>.

The **Patrick County Pandemic Committee** was formed in 2007. More information is available through the Patrick County Emergency Coordinator's Office at (276) 694-4940.

Also located in Stuart is the **Patrick County Branch of Piedmont Community Services**, which helps with mental health problems of any severity, ranging from mild nervousness, to marriage and child discipline difficulties, to severe depression and suicidal fears.

The Health Department encourages families and individuals to be prepared for emergencies, such as natural disasters, pandemic influenza, and COVID-19 preparedness and vaccination. More information about COVID-19 planning can be obtained by contacting the Health Department or visiting their website at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/>.

Patrick County Family Practice serves as a primary care provider for the Town of Stuart and Patrick County. The Patrick County Family Practice functions as both a traditional family medical practice as well as an urgent care facility by providing preventative care, administering immunizations, as well as more advanced services including cancer screenings, laboratory tests, child-specific screenings, bone density screenings, on-site X-Ray services, and aesthetic treatments such as laser skin procedures. Dr. Richard Cole and Dr. Ralph Kramer are the two main health providers at the Family Practice, assisted by a number of nursing and other staff. Dr. Cole holds American Board of Family Medicine certification, while Dr. Kramer is a board-certified physician who has served the Practice for more than 20 years, according to the Patrick County Family Practice website. The Practice accepts patients based on a sliding income scale, meaning that services are provided based on an individual's ability to pay. Patrick County Family Practice operates facilities at 18877 Jeb Stuart Highway and at 835 Woodland Drive, in Stuart.

In early 2009, an initiative got underway to organize a Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) in the West Piedmont Health District that brings together professional and lay people to help during a crisis. The MRC is a statewide program and has 22 local units throughout the Commonwealth's health districts. Franklin, Henry, and Patrick Counties are part of the West Piedmont Health District. MRC not only deals with emergencies but also participates in health education and outreach programs to supplement other efforts. MRC has been instrumental with COVID-19 vaccination efforts throughout Virginia.

The **Patrick Multi-Discipline Child Abuse and Neglect Team** is also located in Stuart and provides community education and preventive programs in regards to child abuse and neglect as well as sponsoring a dental program for indigent children.

Southern Area Agency on Aging serves the Cities of Martinsville and Danville and the Counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania from its office in Martinsville. The agency promotes maximum independence for persons age 60 and older by providing services that will assist older persons live

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independently in their own homes. Some services are provided directly by the staff and others are provided through subcontracted agencies. Services include the Transportation; Case management (or service coordination); information, assistance and referral services; home-delivered meals; senior cafés; socialization/recreation; health promotion activities; home repairs; emergency financial assistance; legal assistance; in-home services including personal care and respite, chore services; Long-Term Care Ombudsman; Chronic Disease and Diabetes Self-Management; Matter of Balance Fall Prevention Program; Insurance Counseling; Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; Alzheimer's Support Groups; and Senior Employment Training Program. STEP is the subcontractor that provides senior transportation for Patrick County residents. Transportation is provided to senior cafés, medical appointments, shopping, and other destinations such as banks and the post office. SAAA's Mobility Management department provides out of town non-emergency medical trips through the Miles 4 Vets program and volunteer driver program.

The 190-bed **Blue Ridge Therapy Connection** in Stuart provides long-term care facilities for the elderly and disabled. Opening in 1996, the **Landmark Centers, Incorporated**, an assisted living facility, has been constructed on a 75-acre tract adjacent to Blue Ridge Nursing Home. The 50,000-square-foot facility, which will accommodate up to 75 residents, offers 24-hour nursing assistance to residents. It is designed to serve ambulatory persons who may need some help with daily activities but not the specialized medical care provided in a nursing facility.

The **Caring Hearts Free Clinic**, located in the lower level of the medical office building at 835 Woodland Drive in Stuart, is open each Tuesday and alternating Monday for scheduled appointments. The Clinic opened in 2007 and serves those with no insurance who are out of work, at 300 percent or below the Federal poverty level, or are students with no insurance.

Recognizing the need for additional physicians to provide medical care, several medical centers for doctors' offices have been constructed in the Planning District. One of two federally-funded medical centers within the region serves residents--the **Tri-Area Community Health** in Carroll County, which serves a three-county area including Patrick County and also operates a facility in Ferrum in Franklin County.

Piedmont Access to Health Services (PATHS) is a non-profit health organization whose mission is to provide health care to residents of South-Central Virginia regardless of an individual's ability to pay. The organization has its 2001 roots in the Dan River Region, originally named Project Access. Southside Virginia MEDAssist is a PATHS program which provides patients assistance with medication, and a Community HIV/AIDS Assistance Program is also operated by the organization. PATHS currently operates community medical facilities in Martinsville, Danville, and Chatham.

The **West Piedmont AIDS Task Force** serves the City of Martinsville and the Counties of Franklin, Henry, and Patrick. Its office in Martinsville provides community education and training, coordinates services for people with AIDS and their families, provides a buddy system for people with AIDS, and offers support groups for HIV-positive persons, families, or friends.

The **Patrick County Department of Social Services**, located in Stuart, provides numerous services to the residents in Patrick County. The following is a list of some of these services: Child Protective Services, Foster Care, Adoption, Day Care, Adult Protective Services, Adult Service Programs, Medicaid, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), State and Local Hospitalization (SLH), Heating and Cooling Assistance, Emergency Food and Shelter, and VIEW which is the employment service program for those individuals who receive TANF.

The **Patrick County Community Food Bank** distributes food boxes on the third Wednesday of each month at the site of the former Red Cross trailer located at 108 Commerce Street in Stuart. Food boxes are delivered by authorized volunteers to approved disabled or homebound individuals. More information is available through the Food Pantry.

Solutions That Empower People or "STEP" Inc. was established in 1966 and serves over 3,400 low-income area residents each year. Together with our collaborative network of partnership agencies, the organization employs holistic, sustainable strategies that address *both* the symptoms and root causes of poverty at significant milestones throughout each stage of life. STEP takes its Mission and relationships with its clients very personally as it works together to help each realize their fullest potential!

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The programs STEP administers are as follows:

- Education
- STEP Early Childhood education
- STEP Early Head Start
- STEP Head Start

STEP youth services include:

- LIFES Academy
- Project Delivery (PD)

STEP supportive services include:

- Virginia Homeless Solutions Program (VHSP)
- Re-Entry

STEP Housing and Weatherization services include:

- Weatherization/Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

STEP financial services include:

- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Responsible Rides

STEP senior services include:

- Home Delivered Meals
- Congregate Meals
- Transportation Program

A variety of mental health/intellectual disability services are available to County residents, some of which have been outlined previously in this section--"Public Services." The **Piedmont Regional Community Services Board** provides a program of mental health, intellectual disability, and substance abuse services to residents of Franklin, Henry, and Patrick Counties and the City of Martinsville. It is a private, non-profit organization which receives funds from federal, state, and local governments. The agency is based in Martinsville; however, satellite centers are located in other areas for a number of its programs. The following services are provided through the Board:

- **Piedmont Community Services**, based in Martinsville, has a satellite facility in Patrick Springs to provide mental health services to residents in Patrick County. These services include the assessment and treatment of personal, peer, and family difficulties on both an emergency and non-emergency basis; screening of all potential admissions to Virginia's psychiatric hospitals; court-ordered assessments of competency to stand trial and sanity; the provision of community education programs relating to mental health; and the training of psychology, psychiatric nursing, and social work students requiring a field placement for completion of their academic studies.

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- **PARC Workshop (Patrick Association for Retarded Citizens)** was founded in 1973 for the development of persons having intellectual disabilities. This sheltered workshop provides training and activities for its clients, many of whom also have physical disabilities. PARC Workshop, located in Stuart, is funded by federal, state, and local sources as well as internal income from the sale of its manufactured products.
- **CONTACT** is a 24-hour crisis intervention and counseling helpline with an office in Martinsville. Services include friendly listening; crisis counseling; suicide prevention counseling; community information and referral; security check calls to elderly residents living alone; and after-hours access to and screening services for local drug, alcohol, and mental health professionals.
- Piedmont Community Services administers an **Infant and Toddler Connection of the Piedmont** --a prevention/early intervention program serving children birth to three years of age, diagnosed as handicapped or at risk for development delay. In addition to these services, County residents receive education, counseling, and general support services to parents of handicapped children.
- The **Patrick Henry Drug and Alcohol Council, Incorporated**, provides individual and group counseling for drug clients as well as crisis intervention, information, and referral services.

The **Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute**, located in Danville, is a regional facility of the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health Developmental Services that serves member localities, including Patrick County, within the Central Virginia, Southside, and West Piedmont Planning Districts. This 100-bed hospital, built in 1976 on a 15-acre tract near the Danville Community College campus, provides short-term hospital services. Upon release, patients are referred to their local mental health carrier for continued treatment.

The **Virginia Department of Rehabilitative Services**, based in Martinsville, provides the following services to individuals with handicaps or disabilities which would prevent or interfere with their employment: medical and psychological work-up, job counseling, and guidance and placement. In addition, the Department provides the following services, based on financial need of particular individuals: physical restoration, training, braces, aides, appliances, and medical treatment. The Department also promotes Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS), which comprises technological and assistive technologies to enable individuals to more fully participate in society; independent living; as well as services pertaining to personal assistance (Source: Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services).

The **West Piedmont Disability Services Board** was established in 1993 with Patrick County as a charter member. The Board is intended to provide input to the State Disabilities Council on the needs of sensory handicapped persons in the County and Planning District 12 as well as to develop a plan for meeting the needs of the handicapped. The Board maintains a Regional Needs Assessment for its service area. A part-time satellite Center for Independent Living is located at Patrick & Henry Community College.

The **Patrick County Developmental Center** is a private, non-profit organization for disabled persons 18 and over. The organization offers a variety of services including transportation, day treatment programs, and instruction of individual living skills.

Established in 2004, the **West Piedmont Better Housing Coalition (WPBHC)** serves Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania counties and the cities of Danville and Martinsville in southwest Virginia. This rural region sees exceptionally high rates of unemployment and poverty and an inadequate and aging housing stock, all contributing directly to homelessness. As a result, the full continuum of housing services is in high demand.

The **WPBHC** is an association of more than a dozen agencies that provide coordinated, community-based services designed to address the needs of those who are homeless (or are in danger of becoming homeless). These programs and activities include community outreach, a centralized assessment and entry system, targeted homeless prevention, emergency shelter operations, rapid re-housing for those who are homeless, and strategic planning activities related to ending homelessness. The WPBHC receives approximately \$350,000 annually from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

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Safetyrope, Inc. is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to those residents of Patrick County whose needs cannot or are not being met from other sources. Safetyrope assists those who do not qualify for government assistance and strive to support themselves, but have difficulty in obtaining the necessary comforts, such as basic needs and adequate medical and educational services in particular.

The Disability Rights and Resources Center (DRRC), based in Rocky Mount, is a non-residential based facility serving disabled individuals in Franklin, Patrick, Pittsylvania, and Henry Counties, as well as Danville and Martinsville. DRRC provides the core services of advocacy, peer counseling, information and referrals, skills training for independent living, and transition services. In addition to Rocky Mount, DRRC operates facilities in Martinsville, and Danville. (Source: Disability Rights and Resources Center)

The **Patrick County Branch of the Blue Ridge Regional Library** System, which was completed in 1991, offers Patrick County residents an opportunity for self-education at their leisure. With its services and variety of programs, County residents can broaden their minds in areas of their own interests as well as improve their literacy skills. Within the Library, numerous volumes of books, music, and movies are housed and services offered include a bookmobile as well as special programs for preschoolers and an outreach program for the local nursing home. Additionally, online databases containing information on a variety of topics including government, health, test preparation, and education are also available. Located in the facility but operated separately is the **Patrick County History Museum** which offers exhibits of artifacts related to Patrick County history as well as genealogy materials. These are discussed further in the Cultural/Historic Resources section of this Comprehensive Plan.

Colleges/Workforce Training

The **Patrick County Education Foundation** is a 501(c)(3) organization created in 2001 as an economic development initiative to increase the County's educational attainment levels to rank among the top five rural counties in Virginia and, simultaneously, to attract the interest of businesses wishing to locate in a rural area of Virginia. The Foundation has committed to take the steps needed to raise the educational attainment levels of the County's citizens to rank among the top five rural counties in Virginia by 2011. The Foundation has developed a three-phased initiative to: increase the percentage of high school seniors who enroll in college; reduce by half the number of adults without a high school diploma; and expand and enhance the workforce training and skills and employment opportunities of the County's adult population.

The **Student Services Division** exists to help meet the needs of students. Services offered include admissions, financial aid, individual student assessment, orientation, counseling, a career center, faculty advising, Upward Bound, the MHC After 3 program, transfer preparation, student activities, and advising.¹

The Fab Lab in Uptown Martinsville is a collaborative effort of Patrick & Henry Community College, New College Institute, and the Martinsville Henry County Economic Development Corporation. The digital fabrication laboratory comprises computers that operate design software, production machinery with laser-powered cutters and etchers, and a printer that produces 3-dimensional plastic parts, among other functions. The lab enables entrepreneurs and others to develop product prototypes. In 2016, the Thomas P. Dalton IDEA Center opened, serving as an entrepreneurial hub, with the expanded Fab Lab serving as the anchor. The three-story, 20,520-SF facility is located on Fayette Street in Martinsville. The IDEA (Innovate, Design, Engineer, Accelerate) Center promotes entrepreneurship, technology, and innovation-based economic development opportunities. A Selective Laser Sinter (SLS) machine which plays an important role in the Polymers Processing Initiative is part of the Fab Lab. SLS applications are virtually unlimited.

Startup America, a nationwide program through public-private partnerships, is helping P&HCC promote entrepreneurship. The program provides valuable resources and connections to help new companies grow and boost the local economy. Mentoring, access to funding sources, and marketing assistance are a few of the services provided.

¹ "Student Services." Patrick & Henry Community College. 2019.
<http://catalog.patrickhenry.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=194>.

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Patrick & Henry Community College also promotes general workforce training by offering the FastForward program, which comprises vocational training over a time frame of four to 28 weeks, and serving as a valuable resource to the community.

Old Dominion University's Distance Learning on the campuses of Danville Community College and Patrick Henry & Community College enables students to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from a fully- accredited university without leaving their area by completing the first two years through the local community college or other accredited institution and receiving the bachelor's or master's degrees from ODU.

Patrick County participates in the **West Piedmont Workforce Development Board (WPWIB)**-along with the Cities of Danville and Martinsville and the Counties of Henry and Pittsylvania.

Ferrum College, a private, coeducational liberal arts four-year institution in neighboring Franklin County, offers an Associate in Arts and Sciences, a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Social Work. The college offers areas of study ranging from business and environmental science to teacher education and criminal justice.

On September 22, 2006, the **New College Institute (NCI)** opened in the renovated space at the former Shumate & Jessie building in Uptown Martinsville. The College provides bachelor's degree completion and master's degrees from various partner universities.

Patrick County is also distinguished by being recognized as an **ACT Certified Work Ready Community**, through the nationally-recognized ACT WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate. When a community becomes certified, as Patrick County had been in March 2019, this certification articulates to employers that the community is home to a minimum number of residents that possess certain skills which are valuable to day-to-day business operations.