



## Danville Regional Foundation Newsletter

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Issue: 3

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Greetings,

In late October, the Center for Survey Research at UVA released a DRF sponsored study of social capital in our region. Social capital is what binds us together; the more of it you have the more likely you and your family are to do well. You can see the report by [clicking here](#). DRF will use the survey, which we hope will be repeated every two years, to observe how our region is changing. We hope area nonprofits and units of government will use the information in planning, grant-requests and seeing the impact of their efforts.

The report is filled with rich and provocative information. The data most compelling to me was that approximately 75% of respondents see this as a good place to raise children (a good thing), but almost 70% of respondents think young adults must leave our region to succeed (a bad thing).

If we are to prosper as a region, we must create new living-wage jobs every year. Those jobs will attract young people, from the region and from elsewhere.

In mid-October, DRF sponsored another speaker in the on-going series of national voices in the region. Rich Karlgaard, publisher of *Forbes* magazine and nationally recognized business journalist, talked about the important role of regional approaches to economic development and the critical contributions entrepreneurs make to business development.

Karlgaard made it clear that regions that prosper attract young people and entrepreneurs. But to do that we need to have a region that is supportive of diverse backgrounds, cultures and worldviews. Now we are a "milltown without a mill." We must become, as the DRF interns taught us this past summer, "A Place where innovation meets opportunity."

How do we do that? DRF is looking for your ideas, even as we work with partners and develop our own.

The first annual report of Danville Regional Foundation (DRF) for the period from 2005 to 2008 is available for your review by [clicking here](#). In the report, you will find information about the work of DRF in these first years and about our plans to create a healthy and thriving region.

How do we transform our region so it is a place that works well for all? Please share your thoughts about the transformation with me at [kstauber@danvilleregionalfoundation.org](mailto:kstauber@danvilleregionalfoundation.org).

Sincerely,

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### DRF Establishes B.R. Ashby, M.D. Award for Outstanding Community Service

There is great work being done by nonprofits in the Dan River region. To recognize this work, DRF has created a new annual award. In recognition of the exemplary service and leadership of B. R. Ashby, M. D., a founding Board Member and first Chairman of the Danville Regional Foundation (DRF), the Board has established the B.R. Ashby, M.D. Award for Outstanding Community Service.

The award honors outstanding service in the region by a non-profit organization, based on its success in helping needy families and individuals overcome significant challenges. The B.R. Ashby, M.D. Award for Outstanding Community Service will be given to one exemplary nonprofit organization and includes a general operating grant of \$50,000.

The Danville Regional Foundation solicited nominations of worthy nonprofit organizations from within the Foundation's service area of Danville, Pittsylvania County, VA and Caswell County, NC. A number of nominated organizations that met the award criteria have been contacted and asked to submit a full application form. The full application deadline is October 30, 2009. From these applications, one nonprofit organization will be honored with a general operating grant of \$50,000. The award will be presented at an event in January.

More information about the Foundation and its grant opportunities can be found by [clicking here](#), or by telephone at (434) 799-2176.

### Nonprofit Leaders Earn Duke University Nonprofit Management Certificate



How do we increase the capacity of critical nonprofits in the Dan River Region? Nonprofits are critical to the well-being of thousands of residents of the area. The Danville Regional Foundation (DRF) sponsored, in cooperation with the Duke University Non-Profit Management Program, a customized Intensive Nonprofit Management Program for twenty-four (24) nonprofit senior management leaders, including the next generation of nonprofit leaders of the Dan River Region. Our goal is to nurture the development of "World Class" nonprofit leaders serving the people in the region.

This program has traditionally operated on Duke's campus for eight days; however, the DRF program was conducted over a two month period. Session one took place Monday through Thursday, June 22-25, 2009, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM and session two took place Monday through Thursday, August 17-20, 2009, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM at the Institute for Advance Learning and Research (IALR), 150 Slayton Avenue, Danville, VA.

These nonprofit leaders represented the entire service area of Danville Regional Foundation. The first Duke Nonprofit Management Certificate class participants were as follows:

***Denise Buckner - Free Clinic of Danville***

***Tim Case - God's Pit Crew***

***Felecia Cooke - Pittsylvania County Community Action***

***Gail Davis - Womack Foundation***

***David Eagle - City of Danville Fire Department***

***Debbie Flinn - Averett University***

***Sarah Folmar - Danville Family YMCA***

***Linda Hutson Green - Dan River Business Development Center***

***Lascelles James - Southside Business Technology***

**Center****Patrick Jinks - United Way of Danville-Pittsylvania Co.****Bob Jiranek - EQUUS, Inc****Jeff Liverman - Danville Science Center****Donald P. Nodtvedt - Boys & Girls Club of the Danville Area****Amanda Oakes - Danville-Pittsylvania Community Services****Donna Pointer - Caswell Senior Center****Richetta Robertson - Pittsylvania County Community Action****Lori Slayton - Chatham Cares, Inc.****Byron Taylor - Hope Harbor****Conchita Terry-McIvor - Hope Harbor****Elizabeth Townsend - Piedmont Community College Foundation****Deborah Vaughan - Danville-Pittsylvania Community Services****Marlin Yoder - Habitat for Humanity****Chad Younger - Pittsylvania County Community Action****Rhonda Zola - God's Pit Crew**

DRF's goal is to be a catalyst for change through innovative and bold leadership from the nonprofit community. We look forward to an enhanced competitive advantage for Danville area nonprofits as a result of this learning opportunity.

What's ahead for nonprofits in the Dan River region? DRF, Duke University and the Harvest Foundation in Martinsville - Henry County are having conversations about sponsoring eight training opportunities throughout 2010. This partnership, along with the New College Institute plans to offer the Duke Intensive Nonprofit Management Certificate program in the Spring of 2010. DRF will provide news alerts on upcoming learning opportunities for nonprofits throughout the Southern Virginia region in 2010.

### A Successful Summer for DRF Interns



How do we attract talented young people back and to our region? This summer DRF provided a dynamic experience for ten interns with various backgrounds and interests in our focus areas of economic development, education, health and wellness, and community engagement. Interns received hands-on experience working in the field of philanthropy and with community partners. In order to view a video that captures the 2009 intern experience click on the link below: <http://www.danilleregionalfoundation.org/interns/index.php>

During the 2009 summer internship, interns worked on major projects to help further DRF initiatives. Each project was a team effort with a designated project leader. To learn more about some of the listed projects below [click here](#):

1. Creative Walking Tours
2. Obesity Reduction
3. Mapping the Education System
4. Green Jobs
5. Kennedy Service Grant
6. Regional Report Card
7. Danville Competes
8. Local Food
9. Marketing:Knight Foundation Grant
10. DRF Evaluation
11. Recruiting and Retaining Young people

DRF is in the planning stages for our 2010 Intern Program. In the upcoming year, DRF will expand this program and create opportunities for internships in Spring, Summer and Fall of 2010 to assist staff in our focus areas.

DRF Partner News...The Dan River Region Collaborative

### **WORKFORCE COLLABORATIVE AWARDS \$97,000 TO TRAIN RESIDENTIAL ENERGY AUDITORS**

The Dan River Region Collaborative announced its first grant of \$97,000 to provide local green jobs training. Eight regional organizations have formed the Residential Energy Services Network's (RESNET) Training Partnership to provide residential energy auditor training for 45 incumbent and unemployed workers. Partner organizations include: the City of Danville, the City of Martinsville, Danville Community College, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR), Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative, Patrick Henry Community College, Pittsylvania County Community Action, Inc. and the West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board.

Training will be offered at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (lead partner agency) in Danville and will begin in October with a second session scheduled for February 2010. The class is a six-day training program, meeting the national standard for training and certification for energy raters as adopted by RESNET. The RESNET standards are recognized by the federal government for verification of building energy performance for such programs as federal tax incentives, the Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program and the U.S. Department of Energy's Building America Program. Ratings are also used by the U.S. mortgage industry for capitalizing a building's energy performance in the mortgage loan and certification of "White Tags" or energy

saving certificates for private financial investors.

The training will prepare individuals to become certified Home Energy Rating Standard (HERS) Raters. Class instruction includes how to evaluate the energy performance and comfort of a house through whole-house diagnostic procedures. Based on audit findings, homes are assigned a rating which represents relative energy use. The higher the number, the more net purchased energy required. A certified rater can then make recommendations for cost-effective improvements that will increase the home's energy efficiency.

As a RESNET Training Partnership member, the City of Danville plans to send ten of its employees through the energy auditor training. According to Joe King, Deputy City Manager, "The RESNET training will give us the ability to help our customers cut their utility costs through smart energy efficiency investments. We're a publicly-owned municipal utility concerned about our impact on customers' household budget. The less they have to pay for utilities, the happier we are!"

"Our residents and employers who have been stung by the recession will have more access to education and opportunities due to this unique partnership. We are preparing our community for the jobs of the future," stressed Kim Adkins, Executive Director of the West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board.

Dr. Liam Leightley, IALR Executive Director, states "It is exciting that the IALR will receive this grant on behalf of the partnership since it illustrates the Institute's vision of enabling economic and community transformation in Southern Virginia. Our efforts have brought eight organizations together to offer training that will enable skill development in the Green Economy which is emerging in Southern Virginia."

"The Dan River Region Collaborative was thrilled with the response we received to our first request for proposals in the area of green skills," commented Laurie S. Moran, CCE, President of the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce which is the lead organization for the DRR Collaborative. "Through the funding of innovative workforce partnerships, such as the RESNET Training Partnership, we believe our region will become a hub for talent development that drives a vibrant, 21st century economy."

The DRR Collaborative is a new regional funding entity that is supported by the National Fund for Workforce Solutions. The National Fund was created to improve employment, training, and labor market outcomes for low-income individuals. The Fund's vision is that its support will improve both the quality of jobs and the capacity of workers. The Fund's key strategy

is the creation of a new national funding intermediary to increase the number of successful local and regional workforce partnerships, and expand the scale of existing partnerships. The DRR Collaborative is one of only twenty-one regional sites throughout the country.

Key funding partners of the DRR Collaborative include Community Foundation of the Dan River Region, Danville Regional Foundation, Harvest Foundation, the Virginia Tobacco Commission, and West Piedmont Workforce Investment Board. These investors, along with the National Fund for Workforce Solutions, seek to improve employment, training, and labor market outcomes for the region from Henry County to Halifax County, including the cities of Danville and Martinsville. Steering and advisory committee members include representatives from education, Chambers of Commerce, economic development, workforce development and industry throughout the region. The DRR Collaborative selected Green Skills job training as a first focus area for grantmaking. A Request for Proposals was announced in July with special attention given to regional partnerships that sought to increase the level of green skills in the region. The DRR Collaborative anticipates a second round of green skills funding in the next year, as well as funding for other strategic areas of workforce training.

For more information about the DRR Collaborative, contact the Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce at (434) 836-6990 or at [www.dpchamber.org](http://www.dpchamber.org). If you are interested in RESNET training, please contact Dr. Julie Brown at (434)766-6711 or [Julie.Brown@ialr.org](mailto:Julie.Brown@ialr.org).

## DRF Sponsors Speakers Series

### **Community Breakfast Features *Forbes* Publisher**

Rich Karlgaard, publisher of *Forbes*, was the featured speaker at a Community Breakfast sponsored by the Danville Regional Foundation on Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. at the Institute for Advanced Learning & Research. As part of the Danville Regional Foundation's efforts to bring some of America's top thinkers to the region, DRF will be sponsoring a series of speakers over the next few months. In addition to Karlgaard, Dr. Ian Smith will be speaking on January 21, 2010 on Obesity and Health. Sir Ken Robinson, Ph.D. will be speaking March 16, 2010 on Creativity and Innovation.

Our next two featured speakers are nationally and internationally known in their respective fields of health and innovation/creativity. Dr. Ian Smith is currently the medical/diet expert on VH1's highly-rated "*Celebrity Fit Club*," and the creator and founder of *The 50 Million Pound Challenge*. Dr. Smith is also the host of his own nationally syndicated radio show *HealthWatch* on American Urban Radio

Networks. The final speaker in the series is Sir Ken Robinson, Ph.D. an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation and human resources. He works with governments in Europe, Asia and the USA, with international agencies, Fortune 500 companies, and some of the world's leading cultural organizations. *All Our Futures: Creativity, Culture and Education* (The Robinson Report) was published to wide acclaim in 1999.

The first speaker in the series, Rich Karlgaard, also is the author of the book, *Life 2.0 How People Across America Are Transforming Their Lives by Finding the Where of Their Happiness*, which was an Amazon and *Wall Street Journal* business best seller. Some excerpts from Karlgaard speech as reported by the Danville Register & Bee can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

There was no cost for the breakfast, which was sponsored by the Danville Regional Foundation. Our partner organization, Danville Pittsylvania County Chamber of Commerce is a business organization with more than 720 members in the Danville/Pittsylvania County region. The Chamber works to energize the region by creating business growth and profitability in a vibrant, customer-centered culture.

### Opportunities for Nonprofits...

#### **National Scaling Initiative & Business Plan Competition**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Growth Philanthropy Network and Duke University are announcing two new initiatives for nonprofits working to affect major social change. The Social Impact Exchange and Social Impact Business Plan Competition are being launched by this collaborative to take nonprofit organizations to the next level. To learn more about this initiative [click here](#).

#### **New Census Data Available**

The U.S. Census Bureau has released its American Community Survey 3-year estimates for the Danville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which includes Pittsylvania County, and Caswell County, NC. [Click here](#) for census data about Danville MSA and [click here](#) to learn about Caswell County, NC.

The Danville Regional Foundation is a catalyst for innovation and an agent for transformation. Understanding that significant community change takes time, the Foundation invests for the long term in efforts that promise sustained positive impact for the Dan River Region. The Foundation is committed to activities, programs, and organizations that address the health, education, and well-being of residents of

Danville, Pittsylvania County, and Caswell County.

Tell us what else you would like to see in these e-newsletters.

Sincerely,

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