



VALLEY ASSOCIATES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2022

MISSION STATEMENT:

*Promoting self-direction among people with disabilities
and
removing barriers to independence in the community.*

Achievements

**“I don’t know what lies around the bend,
but I’m going to believe that the best does.”**

L.M. Montgomery

One of the most gratifying parts of my job as Executive Director is seeing people succeed in achieving goals they have set for themselves so that they can be fully engaged in our community. Our staff have worked tirelessly to support over 400 individuals this fiscal year! Along with our more traditional, core services, VAIL was able to utilize grant funding to provide some additional services to allow individuals to remain in their homes or to return home from the more restrictive and costly facilities. Through these grant funds we were able to provide home modifications when other programs were closed due to the pandemic, purchase assistive technology, and address social determinants of health by decreasing isolation and increasing socialization.

VAIL continues to grow and change to meet the varied needs of our community, which also continues to grow and change. We are excited to share with you some of the growth VAIL experienced this year.

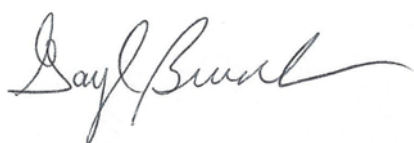
VAIL was given the opportunity to partner with Harrisonburg Cardinals wheelchair basketball team and we fully embraced this opportunity as a win-win for both VAIL and the Cardinals. VAIL has begun securing gym space for their weekly practices and are excited to see what upcoming tournaments this nationally ranked team will be able to participate in during the upcoming year. Watch for more about this program that expanded VAIL’s services to include a high quality, high performing, accessible sporting activity for individuals with permanent lower limb disabilities.

The City of Waynesboro has contracted with VAIL to provide ADA training and coordination. As a certified ADA Coordinator, I am able to assist them in handling the complexities of responding to concerns regarding accessibility and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

VAIL has been actively working on developing a mentoring program for youths to add to our services for individuals aged 14-24 as they transition from school to community life.

The Virginia General Assembly awarded centers for independent living additional funds to continue to support our growth. We are enormously grateful to Senator Hanger, Delegate Wilt, and Delegate Runion for supporting budget amendments that allow VAIL and the other 16 centers in the Commonwealth to provide much-needed services. We are excited to continue to grow our services and to see what lies around the bend!

With Sincere Gratitude,



Gayl Brunk
Executive Director



Annual Statistics

420 consumers served

8,792.75 hours of Individual Services

410 hours of Community and Systems Advocacy—a 71% increase

76.75 hours of Outreach to underserved areas—an 84% increase

1,106.25 hours of Community Education—a 70% increase

1,197.5 hours of Networking

23.5 hours of Technical Assistance

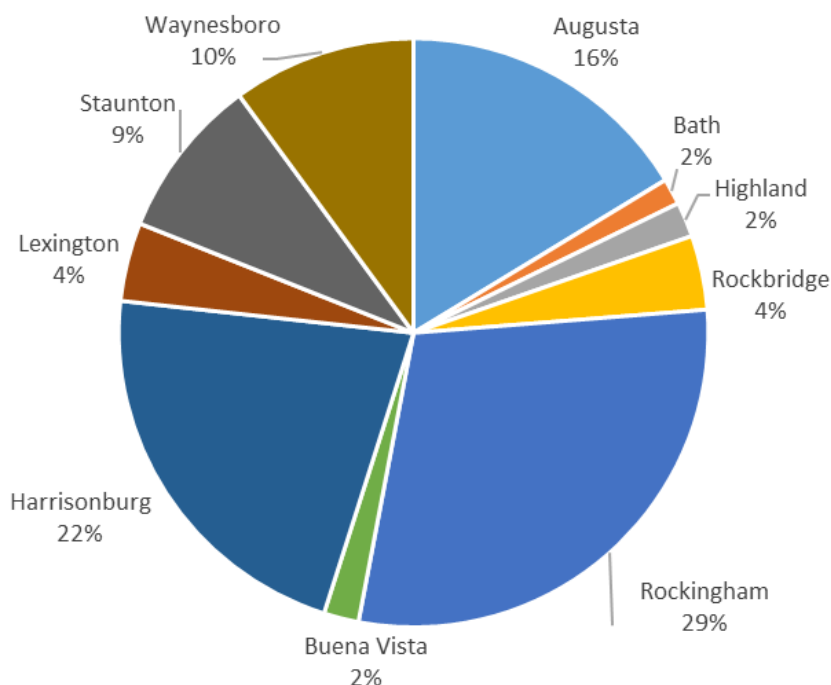
265.25 hours of Information & Referral calls

347 people received services that kept them out of institutions

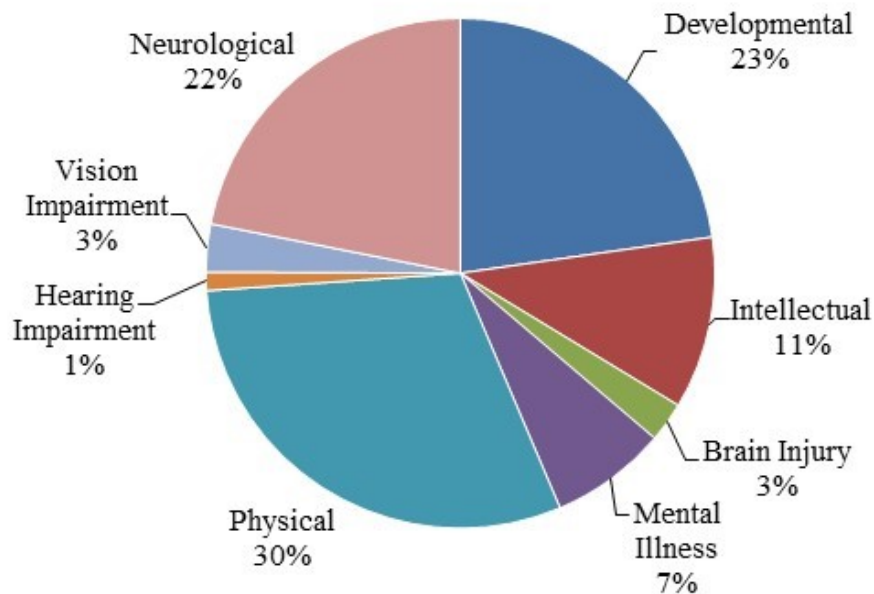
51,451 miles driven to perform services

It is significant to note that, while VAIL served fewer individuals this fiscal year, the number of hours of service provided increased. Further, the number of hours of community service increased substantially. VAIL's footprint continues to expand as we work to increase access to community services and information so that individuals can remain independent.

Individuals Served



Locality	Number of Individuals
Augusta County	68
Bath County	6
Highland County	8
Rockbridge County	17
Rockingham County	122
Buena Vista	8
Harrisonburg	91
Lexington	18
Staunton	37
Waynesboro	42
Out of area	1



Disability Type	Number of Individuals
Developmental	135
Intellectual	65
Brain Injury	15
Mental Illness	44
Hearing Impairment	7
Vision Impairment	18
Neurological	130
Physical	180

Ages Served

Age Range	Number of Individuals
Under 5	1
5 to 19	99
20 to 24	52
25 to 59	144
60 & Over	124

Ethnicities Served

Ethnicity	Number of Individuals
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	2
Asian	6
Black / African American	27
Hispanic / Latino	19
White	349
Two or More	15
Race and ethnicity unknown	2

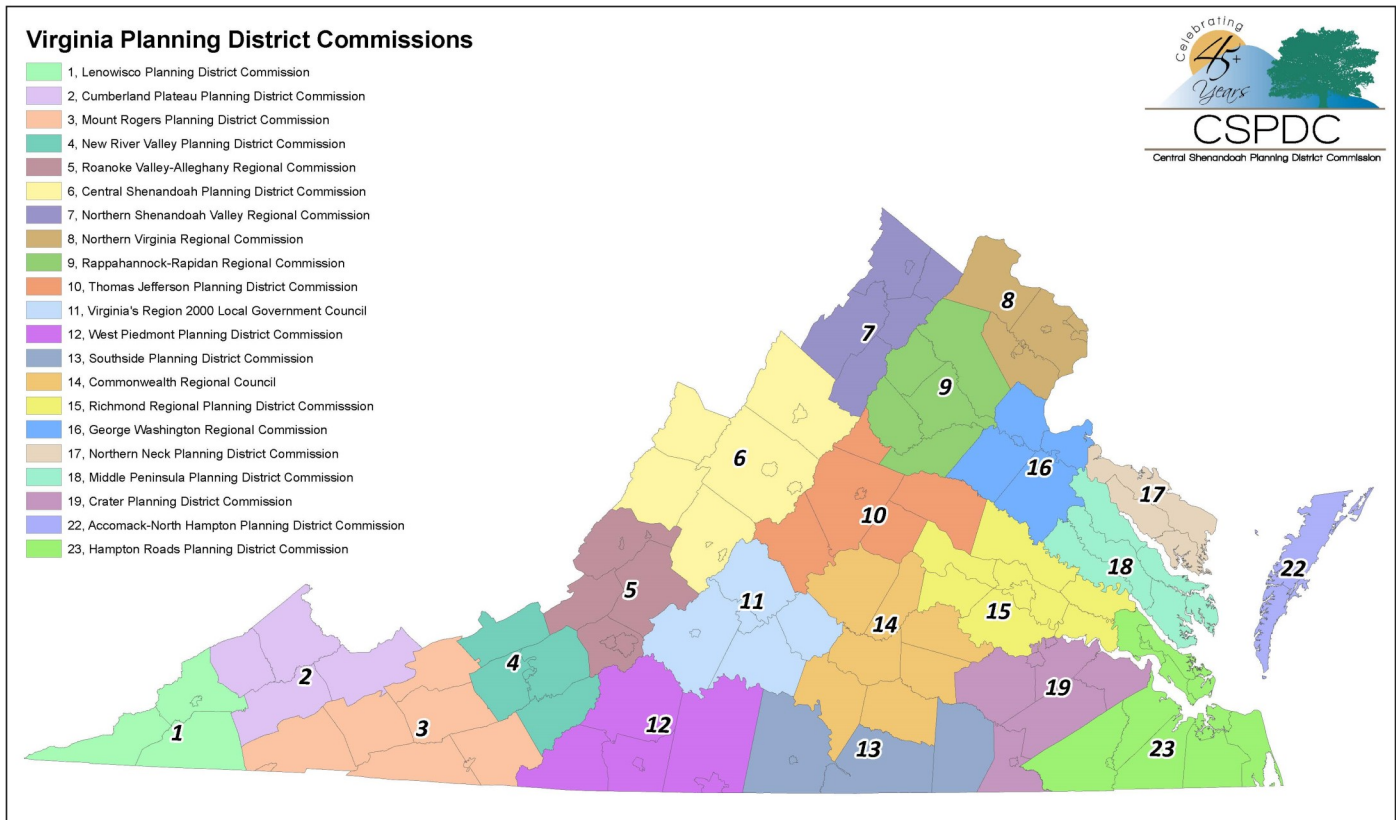
These numbers reflect individuals who completed intakes with VAIL.

These numbers do not include information & referral, advocacy, or community education, outreach, or networking services provided this fiscal year.



VAIL staff and board participated in the City of Harrisonburg's listening tour, providing input into the utilization of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Additionally, VAIL sent comments regarding the use of these funds to every locality in our service area.

VAIL provides services to Planning District 6, which encompasses the five counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge, & Rockingham as well as the five cities of Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, & Waynesboro.

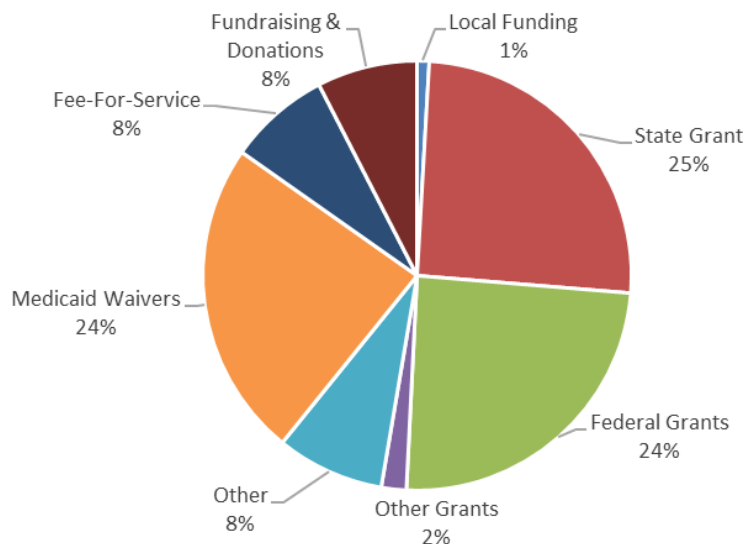


VAIL is incredibly excited to have begun adaptive recreation as a new program. The Harrisonburg Cardinals wheelchair basketball team has merged with VAIL as our first venture. The team competes in the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. The team offers an opportunity for individuals in the area with spinal cord injuries or other permanent lower limb disabilities to have a competitive, recreational outlet. The team consists of individuals from the Harrisonburg, Rockingham and Augusta areas.



This program is a joint effort between (VAIL) and the Mid-Atlantic Wheelchair Athletic Association. We look forward to watching this team compete for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic and hope that they make it to national competitions again!

Finances



Income Type	Amount
Fee-For-Service	\$67,742.55
Medicaid Waivers	\$211,085.76
Federal Grants	\$216,229.87
State Grant	\$224,099.00
Other Grants	\$16,640.00
Local Funding	\$8,000.00
Fundraising & Donations	\$66,840.41
Other	\$71,907.11
TOTAL	\$882,544.70

Donors

Trailblazers (\$2,500 +)

Beachy Arehart PLLC
Larson Wealth Management
LD&B Insurance & Financial Advisors
Myers Ford
Railside Industries

Champions (\$1,000—\$2,499)

A-Able Plumbing, Inc.
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield
Chris & Becky Grandle
Harrisonburg Honda
Houff Charitable Foundation
JustGiving
Dennis & Mary Witt, II
You Can't Take It With You Fund of The
Community Foundation of Harrisonburg-
Rockingham

Pacesetters (\$500—\$999)

Blue Ridge Bank
Compass Counseling Services of VA
Hollister, Inc.
Interchange Group, Inc.
James River Equipment
Christopher Kempton
John & Linda Neff Charitable Fund of the
Community Foundation of Harrisonburg/
Rockingham
Rockingham Cooperative
Shalom Mennonite Congregation
Steve Sill
Sun Communities
Vision Technology Group

Advocates (\$250 - \$499)

Nathaniel & Susan Adamson
Michael Alexiou
Bernard Brown
Ken & Gayl Brunk
Compass Counseling Services of VA
Dept. of Aging & Rehabilitative Services
Marcia DuBois
E.A. Breeden, Inc.
Brian & Beth Friesen

*thank you to
our donors*

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 M.I.T.S. of VA
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 Weaver's Flooring America
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 Thomas Vandever
 Brenda Gale Vest
 Linwood & Radella Vrolijk
 West Rockingham Ruritan Club
 Connie Whetzel
 Nancy White
 Terri Yoder



Survey Results

An annual survey was sent to recipients of VAIL's services this fiscal year to ensure that VAIL is providing quality services that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities in our community.

- ◆ 100% of respondents stated that they would recommend VAIL to family or friends and that they were glad they had received services from VAIL.
- ◆ 100% of respondents agreed that they were treated with respect.
- ◆ 99% of respondents stated that the services they received increased their ability to be independent / remain in their home.
- ◆ 99% of respondents agreed that VAIL services improved their quality of life.

"Overall . . . Doing great—but if there is ever a problem, I know exactly where to turn, and that is very comforting to know."

"We have been so pleased with our VAIL service! We are sure I would not be able to stay in my home without this service! Thank you!"

When asked which type of service received from VAIL was the most helpful, the top 4 responses were:

- ⇒ They helped me use personal care, respite, or companion care so I could stay in my home
- ⇒ They put me in touch with other agencies or people who could help me
- ⇒ They assisted me in standing up for myself or they stood up for me.

Survey recipients were asked to identify the 5 biggest needs of people with disabilities in our area. The top five responses were:

Need	% Response
Transportation	55%
Personal Assistance Caregivers	45%
Affordable Housing	43%
Support for family or caregivers	38%
Respite Care	31%
Personal Assistance Care—Funding	31%

"We want to give VAIL 5 stars for all the great work you have done for many individuals and will continue to do for many more. Thank you!"

Transportation remains the highest rated need in our community. Affordable housing and respite care also remain in the top five needs. VAIL continues to advocate for improvements in these areas not only on a local level, but throughout the entire Commonwealth of Virginia. Peer support was rated as the 6th highest need in this year's survey. VAIL has already begun working with the Division of Rehabilitative Services to implement a peer support program directed at youth.

Get Involved



Donate via PayPal or Venmo: <https://govail.org/support-vail/>
or designate VAIL and shop with [Amazon Smile](#)



Participate in our fundraisers

Arctic Dip: the 3rd Saturday of February

The Great Community Give – an initiative of The Community
Foundation of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County



Write/call your legislators

Advocate for disability issues

Tell them about the great work VAIL does



Like our Facebook pages

www.facebook.com/valleyassociatesforindependentliving

<https://www.facebook.com/HburgCardinals>



Follow us on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/valleyassociatesil/>



Learn about our services on our YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/user/govail>



venmo

"VAIL has been invaluable
providing information, structure,
goals and suggestions for
resources. It is a blessing to
have such a fine organization
available in the area."

~ Survey respondent



Our Staff

Gayl Brunk: Executive Director
Holly Prochaska: Finance, Operations, & Compliance Director
Andrea King: Community Services Director
Chelsea Skelton: Community Living Specialist Supervisor
Richard “Mat Magruder: Service Coordinator
Svetlana Adamson: Community Living Specialist
Amy Jones: Community Living Specialist
Olesya Emolenko: Community Living Specialist
Taylor Hinkle: Community Living Specialist / Options Counselor
Tessa Atkins: Independent Living Specialist/Options Counselor/Service Coordinator
Jesse Compagnari: Independent Living Specialist
Inger Knicely: Program Support Specialist
Roger Southerly: Custodial Assistant

Board of Directors

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Debra York: Vice President	Chris Grandle
Jeremy Spilman: Treasurer	Joseph Martin
Paul McFarland: Secretary	Bonnie McLarty
	Kristian Moore
	Retha Reed
	Beth Sellers
	James Ward

Contact Information

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