

SEDC 2016 CEDA Award Winners

Population less than 5,000

Rocky Mountain, Virginia

Rocky Mount's Harvester Performance Center



- The Harvester aggressively schedules music, comedy and stage performances, putting on upward of 170 shows annually
- On November 21, 2011, the trio (Bobby Cundiff, Bobby Moyer & Assistant Town Manager Matthew Hankins) attended the auction and secured the property for \$246,500, less than the Town's spending cap and less than half of its taxable value.
- Since opening in April 2014, the Harvester has attracted ticket buyers from 39 states and two territories and from nine foreign countries, including multiple buyers from Great Britain, Germany and Australia.

Population between 5,001 and 15,000 Residents

Petal, Mississippi

The Backyard Bus

- **The Backyard Bus** is specially designed, interactive discovery center with a staff and many local volunteers that make learning FUN!
- Upon the launch of the bus on March 25, 2015 through the last visit of the summer session on July 30, 2015, 206 parents and 387 children attended **The Backyard Bus** activities.
- It is projected at least 600+ different children will benefit from the offerings of **The Backyard Bus** throughout the year.

- Games, manipulatives, books, and activities are planned, constructed, and utilized to build skills that connect listening, speaking, writing and reading.

Population between 15,001 and 40,000 Residents

Gretna, Louisiana

Expressway Revitalization Program

- The City administration has focused on revitalizing the West Bank Expressway commercial corridor as a starting point for city wide economic development.
- One of the primary components leading the resurgence of the West Bank Expressway corridor has been development of a 15-acre site the City annexed from Jefferson Parish and supported with the creation of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district.
- Since fiscal year 2013-2014, the City has attracted more than \$70 million in new construction and redevelopment projects in the target area, contributing to a more vibrant local economy and improved fiscal health

Population between 40,001 and 100,000 Residents

Greenwood County, South Carolina

The Greenwood Promise

- The Greenwood Promise will provide postsecondary tuition assistance for all high school graduates in Greenwood County. These scholarships are designed to ensure that all willing students can attain at least an associate's degree.
- Because Greenwood Promise financial assistance is based on the number of years residing in the county, it is also hoped that this initiative will serve to attract young families to the community.

- Those who continue on to graduate from a four-year program earn an average of \$27,000 more annually than those with only a high school degree.

Over 100,000 Residents

Virginia Beach, Virginia

YesOceana.com

- The program has become so successful that the cities of Hampton and Chesapeake, VA, are in the process of establishing programs modeled after YesOceana
- Through fiscal year 2015, 53 non-conforming commercial properties have been eliminated, and the city has committed a total of \$2.4 million to 31 businesses to promote compatible uses within the district.
- By providing financial encouragement, the city is able to spur economic development in a way that is compatible with the mission of the base.
- Mayor William D. Sessoms was named the 2012 Elected Official of the Year by the Association of Defense Communities (ADC).