



VCU

Community Engagement Grants 2007-2017

The Council for Community Engagement (CCE) administers a special fund of \$100,000, provided by the Offices of the Provost and the Vice President of Health Sciences. These funds encourage and support faculty engagement with community partners to address community-identified needs. The Grants and Gifts Committee of the CCE engages in a rigorous peer review process to award one-year grants for up to \$20,000 to interdisciplinary teams. These projects may incorporate community-based research, service-learning courses, and other mutually beneficial community engagement strategies. The expectation is that these projects will be sustained through external or internal funding sources and through ongoing research, teaching, and service activities.

Leverage and Impact

- As of January 2017, a total of **\$1,000,600** has been awarded to **69** projects since the grant program began in 2007.
- For every dollar of seed funding invested, the community engagement grants have generated **\$3.00** from external funding sources to sustain their projects and to support their partnerships.
- Grantees have demonstrated success in leveraging **\$2,706,134** in external funds.
- Community Engagement Grants have served as catalysts of **199** community-engaged scholarship products.
- Community engagement grants have provided a real-world context for research, teaching and service to over **1,350** students and **219** faculty.
- VCU won the prestigious **C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award** in 2014 for its Pharmacist Collaborative Care and Outreach in the Community program—a program that integrated several projects that received a Community Engagement grant.

Return on Partnership Investments

Grant Year Cycle	# Grants Awarded	Total \$ Awarded	# Faculty Involved	Quest Engagement Focus				# students involved	# of Scholarly Products	Leveraged External Funding
				Education	Health	Econ Dev	Sustainability			
2007-2008	9	\$99,985	40	6	0	1	2	45	9	\$175,000
2008-2009	8	\$100,000	21	5	2	0	1	307	21	\$3,000
2009-2010	8	\$100,000	34	2	5	0	1	129	43	\$89,000
2010-2011	7	\$100,000	19	2	3	0	2	185	40	\$86,600
2011-2012	6	\$100,000	28	2	4	0	0	126	9	\$4,000
2012-2013	7	\$100,495	30	2	3	1	1	260	19	\$1,956,134
2013-2014	6	\$99,969	14	2	4	0	0	110	16	\$63,000
2014-2015	6	\$100,006	14	4	1	0	1	59	20	\$159,200
2015-2016	6	\$99,868	19	3	5	1	1	129	22	\$170,200
2016-2017	6	\$100,277								
Total	69	\$1,000,600	219	28	27	3	9	1350	199	\$2,706,134
									*Leveraged per dollar invested=	\$3.00

*Please see Appendix 1 for ROI calculation method.

2016-2017 awarded funds were not included in calculation of return on investment.

Impact Storytelling: Middle of Broad + Storefront (mOb+s)

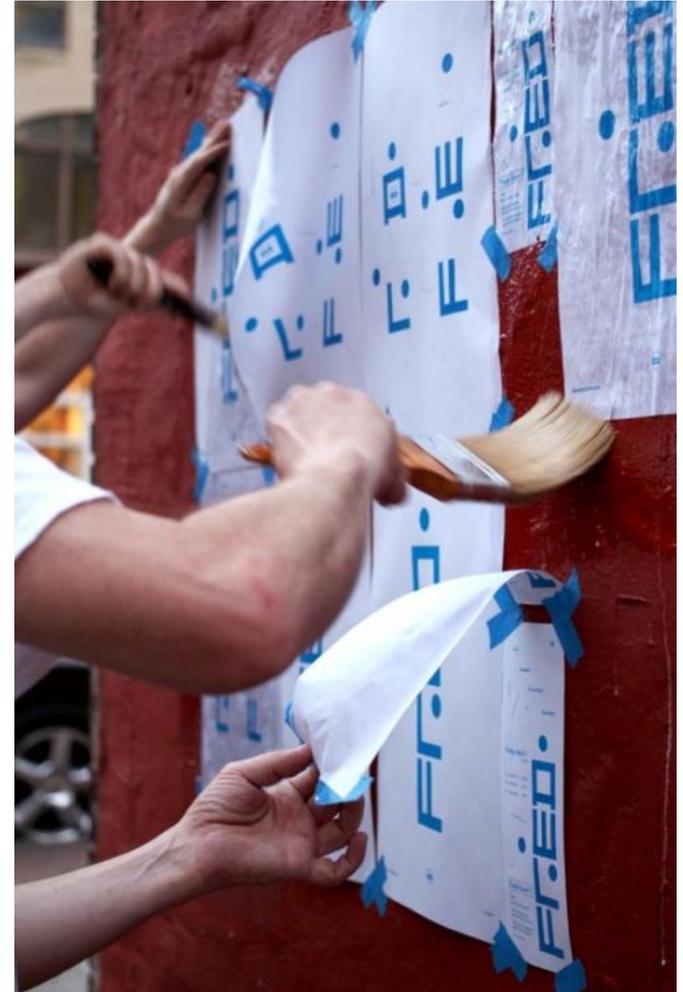
mOb+s is a collaboration of the School of the Arts and nonprofit partner Storefront for Community Design. The partnership received a community engagement grant in 2012 to empower traditionally marginalized residents, entrepreneurs and communities in the City of Richmond to participate fully in the design and development of their communities through increased access to design services, resources and education through both service-oriented design internships and participation in the MoB Experimental Design Studio.

“Community Engagement Grant funds gave our partnership the leverage we needed to pilot mOb+Storefront,” said primary investigator Kristin Caskey, MFA., associate professor in the Department of Fashion Design and Merchandising. “This partnership has put students into direct meaningful community service with 15,120 hours served in the first two years and over \$96,865 worth of design work generated for our community in our first three semesters and we are still going strong!”

Websites: www.middleofbroad.tumblr.com
www.storefrontrichmond.org

Amount of funds External: \$104,000
leveraged*: Internal: \$76,000

of Scholarly Products 16 papers, actions, and
Produced presentations



*Please see Appendix 1 for calculation methods.

Impact Storytelling: Open Minds

Open Minds is a collaboration of the Departments of English, Religious Studies, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies in the College of Humanities and Sciences, School of the Arts, ASPIRE, and the Richmond City Justice Center, which received a grant in 2011 that enables VCU students and inmates to learn from each other in service-learning courses. By incorporating critical reflection about crime and incarceration into the coursework, Open Minds collapses the distinction between who serves and who is served. All participants serve one another by sharing their unique and diverse struggles and insights about life.

"This seed grant helped transform my previous solo effort teaching life writing at the jail into a collective movement to mobilize the humanities for the cause of social change," said David Coogan, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of English and primary investigator for the project. In 2014, Liz Canfield, Ph.D., won a \$25,000 Quest for Distinction grant designed to create an arts-based reentry program, Sanctuary, for Open Minds graduates and others coming home from prison.

Websites: www.openminds.vcu.edu
<https://www.facebook.com/sanctuaryRVA/>

Amount of funds External: \$6,000
leveraged: Internal: \$25,000

of Scholarly Products 5 total including:
Produced [Writing Our Way Out: Memoirs from Jail Through a Prison / University Partnership](#)



Impact Storytelling: Health Sciences Academy (HSA)

Health Sciences Academy (HAS) is a collaboration of the Division of Health Sciences Diversity, Kinesiology and Health Sciences, and the Division of Community Engagement. The project received grants in 2007 and 2008. HSA helps local high school students make informed choices about the health professions they wish to pursue while providing resources to pursue their chosen careers. More than 25 percent of the graduates who complete the course choose to attend VCU for their undergraduate studies. Participants also report that the curriculum has a dramatic impact on their career choices and makes them feel prepared for the academic rigor of the college experience.

“The monetary awards provided the seed money to start the project, but even more importantly the awards acknowledged the significance of the Health Sciences Academy, giving us the ability to sustain and grow the project over the past seven years,” said primary investigator Seth Leibowitz, Ed.D., executive director of health sciences programs and advising. “Our budget now is in excess of \$200,000 and it’s great to see how HSA has grown from a small startup.”

Websites: www.dhsd.vcu.edu/pipeline-programs/high-school/health-sciences-academy/

Amount of funds leveraged: External: \$570,000
Internal: \$1,030,000

of Scholarly Products Produced 4 national conference presentations



Impact Storytelling: Richmond Health & Wellness Program (RHWP)

Richmond Health and Wellness Program (RHWP) is an interprofessional collaborative practice & education model developed in 2012. RHWP provides health clinic for older adults and adults with disabilities and offers care coordination, blood pressure and glucose monitoring, and wellness education to augment residents' existing health care services. Interdisciplinary teams of students and faculty supervisors from the VCU Schools of Nursing, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Social Work staff the clinic during its weekly hours.

RHWP received a community engagement grant in 2012. "The grant funding provided the foundation for our work, establishing evidence of the University's internal support of the program as we moved forward to acquire larger funding," said Pamela L. Parsons PhD, RHWP Director. RHWP has expanded its clinic sites from one to five clinical sites and continues to provide a rich educational setting for students from four professions.

Amount of funds leveraged: External: \$1,903,434
Internal: \$16,000

of Scholarly Products Produced 1 national conference presentations



Appendix 1

Calculating the Return on Investment: Methodology

The return on investment (ROI) is calculated using the amount of funds that were leveraged by grantees and the total amount of funds allocated to grantees during the grant years 2007-2016. 2016-2017 awarded funds were not included in calculation of return on investment.

The data sources for calculating leveraged funds (2007-2016) and ROI include:

- **Source A.** End of year evaluation reports: Grantees are required to complete a final evaluation after their grant year ends and self-report the amount of external funds leveraged from the seed funds. This information is used to calculate the baseline of the ROI.
- **Source B.** Impact study 2007-2012: In 2012, additional information was collected to capture long-term impact of seed funds and additional funds that were leveraged since initial report. This information is added to Source A.
- **Source C.** 2016 ROI study. In 2016, additional information was collected by the DCE Grants Administrator via email to calculate additional funds that were leveraged since the 2012 study. This information was added to Source A + B.
- **ROI=** \$2,706,134 (Source A+B+C) / \$900,323(Total funds invested) = \$3.00

This calculation may underestimate the ROI since some funds were under review or pending and therefore not included in calculation. Outcomes of obtaining these grants will be updated in 2017.

Calculating Number of Scholarship Products

Grantees are required to complete a final evaluation after their grant year ends and self-report the number of scholarship products produced. This information is used to calculate the baseline of the number of scholarship products. Additional follow-up evaluations were conducted in 2012 and 2016 to calculate additional products.

This calculation may underestimate the number of scholarship products since some may be under review or pending and therefore not included in calculation. Updates will be made in 2017.