AGENDA

IALR Board of Trustees
PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 27, 2026 - 9:00-10:30 am – IALR Conference Room 203

I.	**Convening of Meeting** A. Welcome B. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum C. Call for Changes to Agenda	Dr. Greg Hodges
II.	**Attendance of Committee Members by Electronic Communication Means** (Vote Required)	Dr. Greg Hodges
III.	**Approval of Minutes** (Vote Required) A. July 28, 2026	Dr. Greg Hodges
IV.	**Programs & Services / Advanced Learning Report**	Mr. Jake Taylor
V.	**Open Discussion of Concerns, Issues, and Observations**	Group
VI.	**Adjournment**	Dr. Greg Hodges

Reference material included: "Advanced Learning Updates"

Future Committee Meetings

Future Plenary Meetings
May 15, 2025

Programs & Services
Committee Members
Dr. Greg Hodges, *Chair*
Mr. Don Gibson
Mr. Mark Holland
Dr. Cornelius Johnson
Ms. Emma Kozlowski
Ms. Connie Nyholm

IALR Staff
Mr. Telly Tucker, President
Dr. John Hughes, EVP, Operations
Mr. Jake Taylor, Interim Director, GO TEC
Ms. Pam Patterson, BOT Secretary

IALR Board of Trustees (BOT)

PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes – July 28, 2026 – 9:00 a.m. – Conference Room 203

Board Members Present	**IALR Staff Present**
Dr. Greg Hodges, *Chair*	Mr. Telly Tucker, President, IALR
Mr. Don Gibson*, Ex Officio*	Dr. John Hughes, Executive Vice President of Operations
Mr. Mark Holland, *via Zoom*	Dr. Melanie Lewis, Vice President, Advanced Learning
Dr. Cornelius Johnson	
Ms. Emma Kozlowski, *via Zoom*	**Staff Unable to Attend**
Ms. Connie Nyholm, *via Zoom*	Ms. Pam Patterson, BOT Secretary
Unable to Attend	**Guests**
	None

Call to Order / Quorum / Changes to Agenda

Dr. Greg Hodges, Chair, called the meeting to order on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was present. There were no changes to the agenda.

Attendance of Committee Members by Electronic Communications Means

Dr. Hodges announced that Mr. Mark Holland, Ms. Emma Kozlowski, and Ms. Connie Nyholm would attend the meeting electronically. Mr. Holland attended via Zoom due to a conflict while out of town. Ms. Kozlowski and Ms. Nyholm attended via Zoom due to the distance. The committee voted to allow them to attend electronically.

- **Motion**: Mr. Don Gibson made a motion to allow Mr. Holland, Ms. Kozlowski, and Ms. Nyholm to participate in the meeting via Zoom. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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The results of the vote are shown below.

Committee Members Absent	-	0
Committee Votes For	-	3
Committee Votes Against	-	0
Committee Abstentions	-	0

Approval of Minutes

- **Motion:** Dr. Cornelius Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2025, August 7, 2025, October 30, 2025, January 29, 2026, and May 7, 2026, meetings. Mr. Don Gibson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Programs & Services / Advanced Learning Report

Dr. Lewis presented updates on the Advanced Learning Division's 4th-quarter 2026 activities highlighting the Advanced Learning Division activities, including GO TEC, STEM, Service & Lifelong Learning, REACH, and EmPOWER programs.

- GO TEC Program

  Dr. Lewis provided an update on the GO TEC program, reporting that the initiative had reached 42,724 students and trained 84 teachers, including 22 teachers during the current year. Despite the absence of state funding in the approved budget, program expansion continued with additional schools scheduled to launch in Regions 1, 2, and 9.

  Dr. Lewis reported that teacher training had been streamlined into a two-day program with year-round support and that the GO TEC curriculum had transitioned from the Google platform to Canvas. The transition provided participating teachers with full access to curriculum materials, lessons, modules, and assessments.

  The Committee also received an update on efforts to license the GO TEC program in its entirety, including the curriculum and brand name. Discussions continued regarding cost recovery and long-term sustainability models, particularly for Virginia school divisions.

  Dr. Lewis highlighted recent advocacy efforts with legislators, state agencies, and education stakeholders. Updates were also provided regarding a Tobacco Commission grant application intended to support statewide expansion of the technology and engineering endorsement model.

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- Robotics Program
  Dr. Lewis reported on the recent GO TEC VEX Robotics Competition, which engaged more than 120 students representing 30 teams. She also noted leadership changes within the program, with Jake Taylor serving as Interim Director following Angela Brown's departure. Curriculum updates were underway, with a fully redesigned Level One curriculum scheduled for implementation in August.

- Lifelong Learning and Workforce Development
  Dr. Lewis provided updates on several lifelong learning initiatives, including AmeriCorps funding requests and STEM programming, which reached more than 427 learners during the quarter.

- Academy for Engineering & Technology (AET)
  The Committee reviewed AET outcomes and noted that 246 students completed the program, with 20 graduates pursuing engineering degrees.

  Mr. Telly Tucker discussed the ongoing partnership with Danville Community College and emphasized the importance of aligning the strategic direction of both the AET and Governor's School programs with regional educational and workforce needs. He noted that discussions with superintendents and other stakeholders would continue as part of the planning process.

- Empower Framework
  The Committee reviewed the progress under the Empower framework. The program served 53 registered apprentices, approaching the annual goal of 57 participants. Strong outcomes continued, including a 95% job retention rate for participants.

- REACH Program
  Dr. Lewis provided an update on the REACH program and its planned transition to "REACH 3.0". She reported that efforts were underway to develop a community-based healthcare hub model in collaboration with regional and state partners. While the current grant funding was scheduled to conclude in December, discussions continued regarding future sustainability and expanded service delivery. The team also highlighted improved data collection and healthcare outcomes tracking.

Discussion

Committee members discussed opportunities to increase employer participation in internship and apprenticeship programs. Board members expressed interest in leveraging their business relationships to identify organizations willing to host interns and support workforce development efforts.

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Staff emphasized the importance of clearly distinguishing between internship and apprenticeship models and indicated that they would develop informational materials to support Board outreach efforts.

Action Items

- Dr. Johnson and Mr. Tucker will continue discussion with superintendents and stakeholders about the future strategic direction of the AET and Governor's School programs.

Open Discussion of Concerns, Issues, and Observations

No concerns, issues, or observations were discussed.

Adjournment

Dr. Hodges asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

- **Motion**: Mr. Don Gibson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Johnson seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Minutes Recorded By:

Minutes Approved By:

_____ _____

Dr. John Hughes
EVP, Operations

Dr. Greg Hodges, Chair
Programs & Services Committee

_____ _____

Date

Date

Attachments Included as Official Part of These Minutes

Exhibit A - Advanced Learning Updates – Narrative – April, May, and June 2026
Exhibit B - Advanced Learning Quad Chart – April, May, and June 2026

Return to Agenda



Advanced Learning Division

STRATEGIC GOAL: Center of Excellence for Education & Workforce Development

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Populations Served



K-12

GO TEC

STEM Summer Camps & Field Trips

AmeriCorps-tutoring, youth mental health counselors

Youth Apprenticeships & Internships

AET & Governor's School

AspHIRE Mock Interview Day



Adults

AmeriCorps-Community Health Educators

Wonder Community

REACH

Apprenticeships & Internships

Teacher Externships (EXCITE)

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GO TEC

GO TEC IS DELIVERING

42,724
Students Served

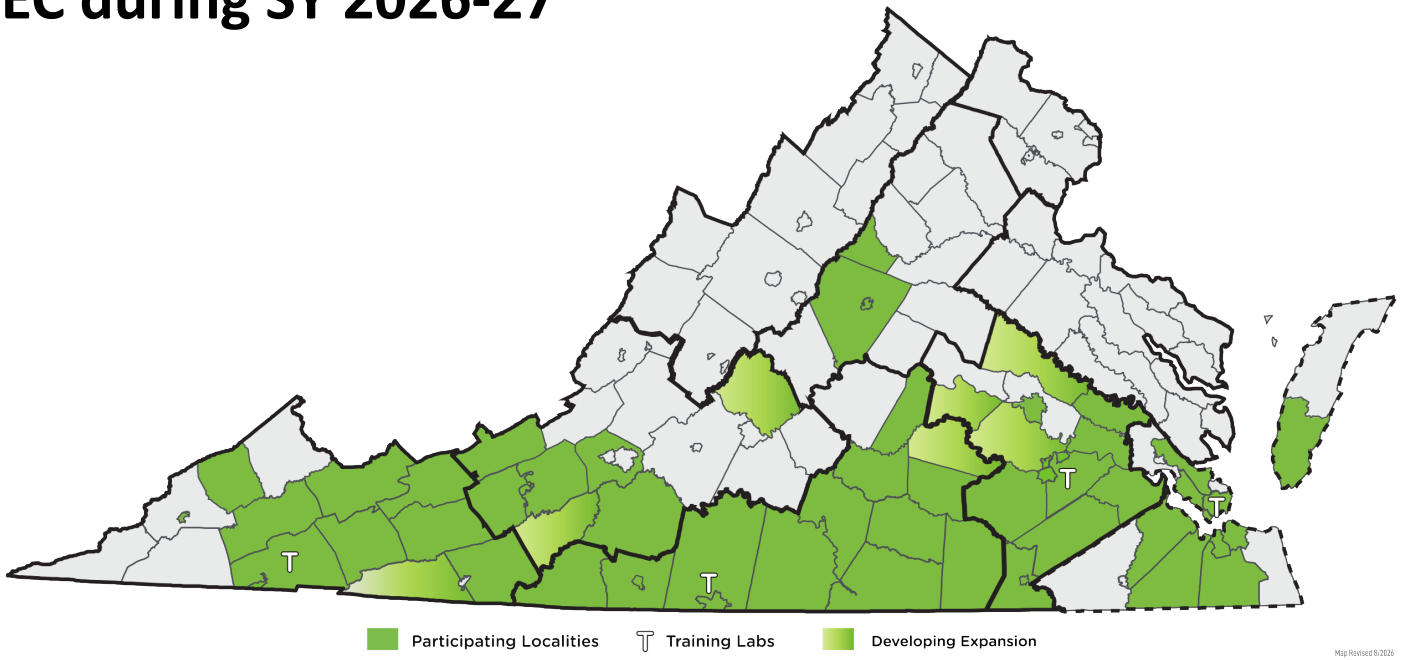
70+
Instructors Trained (July)

52
Participating Divisions

87
School Labs

✅ **7 new labs installed** in the Charlottesville Region 9 footprint

✅ **11 additional schools scheduled to join GO TEC during SY 2026-27**



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Communications Strategy Summary

- **INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**
  - GO TEC Staff (completed)
  - IALR Leadership – (completed)
  - IALR Executive Committee – (completed)
  - IALR Staff – (completed)

- **EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**
  - Updated web presence (short-term solution) – Completed
  - Podcast – Completed
  - Feature story and social media
  - School partner engagement
    - General letter
    - Virtual call
    - Individualized letters
    - 1:1 meetings
  - Lunch & Learn webinar – GO TEC's Impact & Future Op-ed in Cardinal News
  - New microsite--11/2/26

GO TEC

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Service, STEM & Lifelong Learning

STEM

- **170 Summer Campers** participated in multiple STEM camps delivered throughout the summer
  - **62% receiving scholarship support**
  - 10 camps offered including 3 service-learning camps

- New AmeriCorps Program Coordinator II, **Jessica Beebe**, joined the team

Summer Camp Participation & Scholarship Impact (2026)		
Scholarship Source	Students Supported	% of Scholarship Recipients
Service-Learning Camp Scholarships (Community Foundation)	39	36.8%
IALR Scholarships	29	27.4%
Daly Family Community Foundation	20	18.9%
Danville Church & Community Tutorial	18	17.0%
Total	106	100%

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Service, STEM & Lifelong Learning

70 AmeriCorps Members Funded

$658,845 awarded through AmeriCorps

Supporting three strategic focus areas:

- Academic Tutoring
- Community Health
- Youth Mental Health



✅ UVA added as grant partner

✅ 36 members enrolled currently and onboarded for the new service year

✅ Two VISTA members serving regionally at no cost to IALR

✅ Members completed a 9/11 Service Project supporting local first responders



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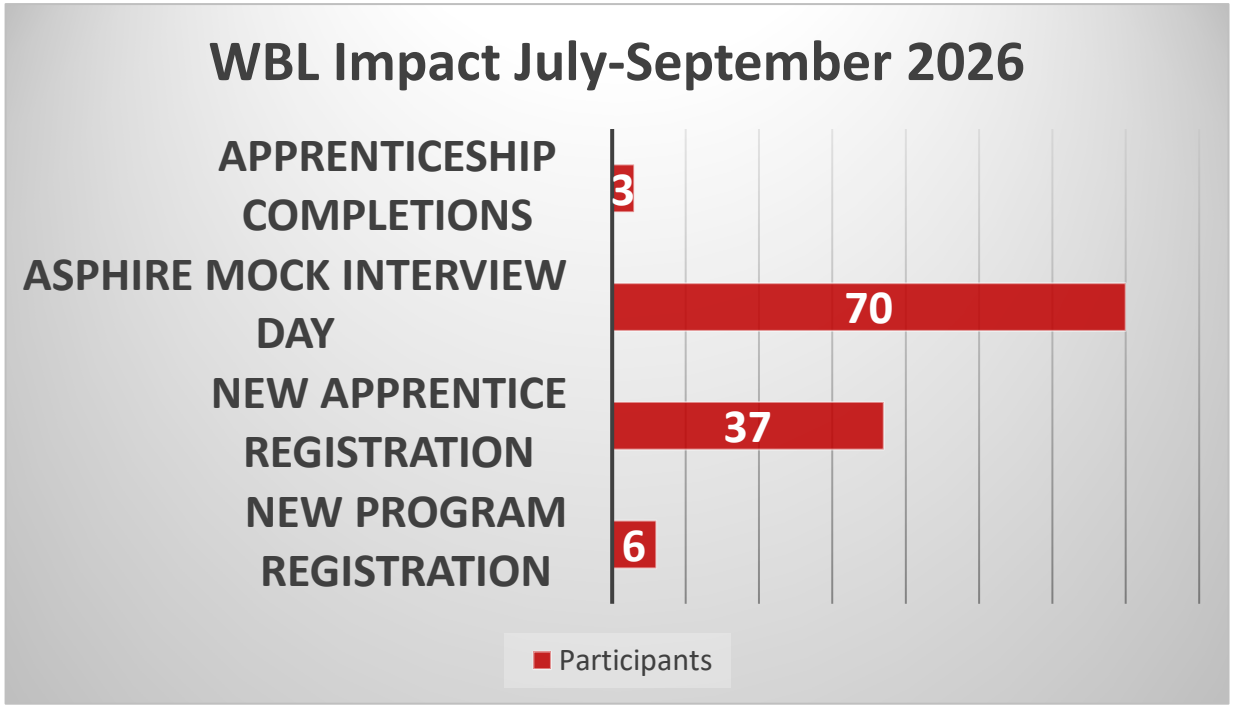
Internships

- IALR received recognition as a **2026 Top Virginia Employer of Interns**
- IALR received **InternshipsVA 2026 Inspiring Employers Award**
- **SRVA FAM Tour-** regional tour from Patrick to Mecklenburg County. Exploration of regional amenities and attractions housing and industrial development sites.
- Meredith Kreeger started as a Program Coordinator, Work-Based Learning on Aug. 3rd. -will be leading our Job Shadowing, EXCITE Teacher Externship, and Teamship programming.
- Dr. Dyamond Howell started in September as our second Work-based Learning Coordinator- will lead our Internship, AspHIRE, and Part-Time Jobs for Credit/Work Experience programs.



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Work-based Learning



- **IALR was selected as one of nine organizations nationwide to participate in the American Institute for Research's Strengthening Apprenticeship Intermediaries (SAI): Innovators Forum**

Progress to Apprenticeship Goal		
Grant	**Apprentice Registration Goal**	**Current (Progress to Goal)**
DRF Grant Year 1 (Jan. – Dec. 2026)	40	58 (145%)
TRRC Grant	108	Met (Exceeded)
TRRC Grant-Journeyworker Credential Completers	61	44 (72%) *Grant extended through December 2027

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REACH

Community Health Impact

- Community Health Workers (CHWs) actively supported patients across **18 of 20 service pathways**, addressing key needs such as healthcare referrals, social services, transportation assistance, and food security.
- Program milestone- **221 patients successfully completing and graduating from pathways to date**, demonstrating continued progress in helping individuals overcome barriers to health and well-being.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

- Exploring potential partnerships with key community organizations, Danville Dept. of Social Services, City of Danville, & United Way



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REACH

Strategic Growth

- New DRF grant proposal developed
- Sustainability planning underway
- Community Care Hub exploration

Hub Development Progress

- 7 national organizations engaged
- RFP and evaluation process completed
- USAging & Collaborative Consulting selected
- DRF approval secured
- Extension granted through Feb. 2027

Community Health Workers for a healthy Virginia

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Advanced Learning (AL) Updates
July/August/September 2026

Populations Served in Advanced Learning Division

- K-12 Populations
  - GO TEC
  - STEM Summer Camps & Field Trips
  - AmeriCorps-tutoring, youth mental health counselors
  - Youth Apprenticeships & Internships
  - AET & Governor's School
  - AspHIRE Mock Interview Day
- Adult Population
  - AmeriCorps-Community Health Educators
  - Wonder Community
  - REACH
  - Apprenticeships & Internships
  - Teacher Externships (EXCITE)

GO TEC (Great Opportunities in Technology and Engineering Careers)

- To Date:
  - 42,724 students served
  - 52 participating school divisions
  - 87 labs in 84 schools
  - 70+ instructors trained in July
  - 120+ unique instructors trained
- 7 new labs installed in GO VA Region 9 around the Charlottesville area
- 11 additional schools scheduled to join GO TEC during the 26-27 school year using local funds and grants
- Region 6 & 8 interested in joining GO TEC in 27-28 school year, currently securing funding
- 30+ schools waiting to join GO TEC
- 3–5-year Proforma- completed by Tom Loher help us develop prices for the cost sharing model using three different scenarios, Region 3, State, and National
- Bridge funding-submitted proposal to be included in Governor's Budget Amendment, requested funding for IALR,
- Tobacco Commission Grant- received $96,000 for the Train the Trainer Praxis Bootcamp to help teachers get the Technology and Engineering endorsement
- Approved from the state to license GO TEC, retain name, must report to DHCD organizations that want to join GO TEC, DHCD has 30days to deny the interested party from joining
- Beginning in August, fully transitioned from Google platform to Canvas Learning Management System, being used statewide
- Curriculum modernization- Level 1 is completed and currently being used, rest of curriculum will be completed by end of school year
- Worked with Marketing & Communications team to develop an internal and external communication strategy to release information about the new cost sharing model

Service, STEM, & Lifelong Learning

- 170 Summer Campers participated in multiple STEM camps delivered throughout the summer

    - 62% receiving scholarship support from the following organizations:
        - Community Foundation
        - IALR Scholarships
        - Daly Family Community Foundation
        - Danville Church & Community Tutorial
    - 10 camps offered including 3 service-learning camps
- New AmeriCorps Program Coordinator II, Jessica Beebe, joined the team to focus on AmeriCorps onboarding and Compliance
- 70 AmeriCorps Members Funded with $658,845 grant awarded through AmeriCorps
    - Additional $645,413 will come from IALR, Danville Regional Foundation, Claude Moore Opportunities, and UVA to support the grant
    - The grant will support three strategic focus areas:
        - Academic Tutoring
        - Community Health
        - Youth Mental Health
- UVA added as grant partner-will have 11 youth mental health counselor positions
- GMU will continue to have 11 youth mental health counselor positions
- To date: 36 AmeriCorps members have been enrolled and onboarded for the new service year-rest of members will be onboarded for the summer session
- Two VISTA AmeriCorps members serving regionally at no cost to IALR- (1 at IALR assisting with camps/transportation research, 1 at Danville Science Center)
- Members completed a 9/11 Service Project supporting local first responders

EmPOWER

- Internships
    - IALR received recognition as a 2026 Top Virginia Employer of Interns
    - IALR received InternshipsVA 2026 Inspiring Employers Award
    - Hosting the IGNITE Summer Internship Breakfast, bringing together 68 participants, including students, employers, and community partners.
    - Conducted the annual IALR Internship Luncheon and Presentations, attended by 42 interns, supervisors, mentors, and guests.
    - Participating in Virginia Intern Day activities in Richmond where IALR intern Savannah Callahan was recognized as one of Virginia's Top 50 Interns.
    - SVRA FAM Tour- two-day event (July 15-16), organized by the SVRA team included a regional tour from Patrick to Mecklenburg County. Activities included highlights of regional amenities and attractions (Fairy Stone State Park and Go-karting at Virginia International Raceway), housing and industrial development sites.
        - 22 interns participated. 14 from IALR and the others from the City of Danville-Economic Development Office and Dewberry.
    - A regional networking and career development event, "How I Got Here: Real Career Journeys," brought together 33 attendees from 11 organizations, providing interns direct exposure to professionals across various industries and career pathways.
    - Meredith Kreeger started as a Program Coordinator, Work-Based Learning on Aug. 3rd. -will be leading our Job Shadowing, EXCITE Teacher Externship, and Teamship programming.

- Dr. Dyamond Howell started in September as our second Work-based Learning Coordinator- will lead our Internship, AspHIRE, and Part-Time Jobs for Credit/Work Experience programs.
- Apprenticeship Completions- Journeyworker Credentials (3): Danville Life Saving Crew- EMTs
- AspHIRE Mock Interview Day- hosted by Henry County with support from IALR, required pre-requisite for all Henry County students that will be completing internships during the upcoming academic year, 70 participants
- 37 New Apprentice Registrations- at following companies:
    - Blackwell Automotive:
    - Strategic Heating & Air:
    - Kegerreis Digital Marketing:
    - Canady Landscaping & Erection:
    - Ace Avant Concrete:
    - Carolina Drilling:
    - Danville Life Saving Crew
    - Newton Welding
- 6 New Program Registrations at companies such as:
    - Canady Landscaping & Erection
    - Carolina Drilling
    - Ace Avant Concrete
    - Bisbee Honda: Autobody Technician
    - Southside Tech Services LLC: IT Generalist AND Software Developer

- Progress to Apprenticeship Goal:
    - DRF Grant Apprenticeship Year 1 Goal (Jan. – Dec. 2026) is 40 Apprentice Registrations; currently at 58 (145% progress to goal)
    - TRRC Grant Apprenticeship Goals
        - Registered Apprentice Goal of 108- MET (Exceeded)
        - Goal of 61 Journeyworker Credential Completers- 44 to date (72%). Grant through Dec. 2027 (extension).
    - IALR ExTRA Breakfast featured In 2026 USDOL National Apprenticeship Week Report
- IALR was selected as one of nine organizations nationwide to participate in the American Institute for Research's Strengthening Apprenticeship Intermediaries (SAI): Innovators Forum
    - American Institutes for Research (AIR) with support from Ascendium Education Group, the forum brings together leading apprenticeship intermediaries from across the country to share best practices on how to address challenges related to expanding Registered Apprenticeship opportunities.
    - IALR was selected in recognition of its leadership as an apprenticeship intermediary through its Expanding Talent through Registered Apprenticeship (ExTRA) program. Through ExTRA, IALR helps employers design, launch and sustain Registered Apprenticeship programs by connecting businesses with education providers, workforce partners and other resources needed to develop talent pipelines.

REACH (Regional Engagement to Advance Community Health)

- Community Health Workers (CHWs) actively supported patients across 18 of 20 service pathways, addressing key needs such as healthcare referrals, social services, transportation assistance, and food security.

- Program milestone- 221 patients successfully completing and graduating from pathways to date, demonstrating continued progress in helping individuals overcome barriers to health and well-being.
- Exploring potential partnerships with key community organizations, Danville Dept. of Social Services, City of Danville, & United Way
- Development of a new Danville Regional Foundation (DRF) grant proposal to support the future growth and sustainability of the program.
- Actively investigating developing a Community Care Hub to streamline health services in the area. DRF is allowing IALR to use Innovation Funds from the REACH grant to hire a consulting company to develop a business and sustainability plan for the hub model
- Conducted meetings with seven national organizations and consulting firms as part of the RFP and evaluation process for Community Care Hub development, including Nascate, Avalere, USAging, Camden Coalition, Transform Health, Collaborative Consulting, and Aurrera Health.
- US Aging and Collaborative Consulting with background and expertise in community care hub development was selected. Have developed hubs all across the US.
- DRF granted REACH a no-cost extension through February 2027 to allow the Hub development work to be completed so it can be included in the grant submission and continuation of Community Health Workers