

DHCD is hard at work across the commonwealth encouraging and supporting regional community and economic development efforts. Find out more about these efforts and how you can participate.

[Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation](#)

The Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation has taken the lead in developing a creative economy in Southwest Virginia. A multifaceted plan identifies the cultural and natural assets of the region; coordinates initiatives, organizations and venues engaged in cultural and natural heritage toward more efficient operations for all partner organizations; and develops a comprehensive strategy and capital improvements plan to maximize the impact of state investments in this significant restructuring effort.

Key undertakings include:

- [Heartwood: Southwest Virginia's Artisan Gateway](#)
- [The Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail](#)
- ['Round The Mountain, Southwest Virginia's Artisan Network](#)

[Virginia's Growth Alliance](#)

Efforts are now underway to initiate a regional conversation, focusing on how to capitalize on the area's opportunities for innovation, investment and place. Community support and participation has been strong, but more participation is always needed. The process of creating an asset inventory and initial discussions of strategy around historical assets, outdoor recreation and natural beauty, and arts and cultural events are taking shape.

[Fields of Gold](#)

Fields of Gold is a regional agritourism initiative that seeks to promote the abundance of agricultural resources in the Shenandoah Valley. This initiative showcases educational and recreational activities for visitors while sustaining local farms and creating jobs.

