VCIC COMMENDED BY HOUSE OF DELEGATES

During the 2026 General Assembly session, the Virginia House of Delegates unanimously adopted House Resolution 394, recognizing the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities' 90th anniversary and commending our organization's longstanding "work to overcome prejudice and discrimination and uplift communities in Richmond and across the Commonwealth." It is notable that the resolution attracted a bipartisan group of co-patrons who represent rural, suburban, and urban districts across Virginia.

The Honorable Rae Cousins, who serves the 79th district in the House of Delegates, was Chief Patron of the resolution. Her connection with our organization is personal, as she was a VCIC high school student participant.

View the full resolution at:

Delegate Cousins presented the resolution to VCIC's State Board of Directors and staff leaders in the spring.

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

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SUMMER UPDATE 2026

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

VCIC State Board of Directors and staff leaders receiving a Commending Resolution from the Honorable Rae Cousins, who serves the 79th district in the House of Delegates.

MAINTAINING THE MISSION

During this period of division and uncertainty in our society, the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities remains steadfast in our commitment to help schools, businesses, and communities achieve success through inclusion. In the last fiscal year alone, VCIC conducted nearly 450 workshops, forums, dialogues, and events, bringing practical tools and meaningful dialogue to thousands of participants.

From K-12 classrooms and college campuses to corporate boardrooms, nonprofit organizations, and community groups, VCIC's evidence-based programs are helping individuals navigate differences, strengthen relationships, and create environments where everyone can contribute and succeed. The breadth of this work reflects the continued need for inclusion, as well as the positive track record and trusted reputation our organization has built across the Commonwealth. Thanks to the support of partners, clients, donors, and participants, VCIC is making a difference through a sustained commitment to build a more inclusive and successful Virginia.

Learn more about VCIC's work through our Inclusive Impact Spotlights: **www.inclusiveVA.org/spotlight**

ADVANCING BELONGING THROUGH EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Over the past year, the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities has deepened our support for educators, providing impactful professional development opportunities designed to help schools foster cultures of belonging where every student can thrive.

A major milestone was the launch of the Advancing Belonging Cohort Series (ABCs), a new professional learning experience for school district administrators. The series brought educational leaders together to explore strategies for strengthening school climate, supporting student success, and embedding belonging into policies, practices, and decision-making. In 2026, VCIC also brought back the Inclusive Educators Institute, a four-day, three-night immersive summer conference that convened teams of educators from five different schools. Through facilitated dialogue, collaborative learning, and action planning, participants deepened their understanding of inclusive educational practices and developed concrete plans to bring back to their schools.

Together, these and other VCIC initiatives are equipping thousands of educators with the tools, relationships, and knowledge needed to create welcoming learning environments.

VIRGINIA INCLUSION SUMMIT CONNECTS AND CATALYZES

The 2025 Virginia Inclusion Summit was a resounding success, bringing together nearly 250 workplace professionals, government employees, and higher education leaders for a day of learning and connecting. Participants overwhelmingly praised the experience, with 96% reporting they were highly satisfied or satisfied with the Summit. One participant shared, ***"So much learning! Being with other folks working towards similar goals is inspiring. Meeting other folks that are potential community partners is also invaluable."***

Building on that momentum, VCIC is excited to host the 8th annual Virginia Inclusion Summit on September 3, 2026. The program will feature role-specific Learning Labs, interactive Power Sessions, and a Closing Conversation featuring distinguished leaders from business, government, and higher education. As always, the Summit will provide opportunities to learn best practices, exchange ideas, and strengthen connections with colleagues committed to fostering inclusive communities throughout Virginia.

Learn more and register at **www.inclusiveVA.org/VIS**