

NEWS ADVISORY

J. Sargeant Reynolds
Community College



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JSRCC raises \$15 million in state's largest community college campaign *~New opportunities for Richmonders provided through Campaign for Reynolds~*

RICHMOND, Va. (December 10, 2009) – The J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College Educational Foundation has reached a \$15 million milestone through the *Campaign for Reynolds* to increase access to education and provide the next generation of skilled workers for businesses in Richmond. Reynolds made a public promise in November 2007 that as a College it was ready to deepen its impact and broaden its role in the community.

“We asked people to rise to the challenge and contribute to our first-ever Major Gifts Campaign to remove barriers to college education and help provide a trained workforce for Richmond. We could not have reached this milestone without the remarkable support from individuals, businesses, and generous community partners,” said Patrick W. Farrell, Reynolds campaign chair and CEO of Henrico Doctors’ Hospital.

To date, nearly \$16 million has been raised—the largest Campaign in Virginia community college history.

“As community colleges continue to play a role in our region’s economic recovery completing the *Campaign for Reynolds* is a worthy moment of celebration not only for the College but for Virginia,” said Gary L. Rhodes, JSRCC president.

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The following educational initiatives show community impact in Richmond, as a result of the *Campaign*, and a return on investment for more than 1,000 contributors:

▶ **Increased access to scholarships by raising \$3.6 million for individuals**, with an average award of \$1,300, to level the playing field for students limited by financial circumstance. Research shows that students who receive scholarships at Reynolds are more likely to stay in class and graduate.

▶ **Over \$2.75 million in support is helping to build a Workforce Training Center on Parham Road Campus** and allow Reynolds to continue serving the economic development and workforce needs of Greater Richmond through the Community College Workforce Alliance. CCWA serves more than 23,000 individuals who represent over 1,100 employers in Central Virginia.

▶ **More than \$2 million is raising the standard of living for local at-risk youth through Reynolds' Middle College Program.** This means former high school dropouts now have a second chance at obtaining a high school degree, preparing for college-level classes, and advancing beyond a minimum-wage job. Tuition for their first college class is also free.

▶ Another **\$1.5 million** will expand the nursing and allied healthcare programs at the College to meet the community's pressing need for **more allied health workers on whom Richmonders can depend to provide care for their families.**

▶ Nearly **\$500,000** helped create an **Urban Teachers Institute** at Reynolds, in partnership with Virginia Commonwealth University. The Institute equips City teachers with the latest tools and techniques to increase the educational aspirations of Richmond's at-risk youth.

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► Reynolds is one of two community colleges nationally selected to receive a **\$720,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy** to develop an Advanced Electric Drive Vehicle Career Studies Certificate. This allows the College to train students to repair electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and fuel cell electric vehicles. These funds are helping Reynolds become a leader in an ever-growing green initiative that is creating a culture of environmental responsibility across the state.

► Reynolds is also one of two community colleges in Virginia selected by the Department of Education's Fund for Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) to receive a three-year grant totaling **\$400,602**. These funds will improve Reynolds' online classes; a special focus includes **using distance education as a tool for displaced workers in Virginia, and adult learners, who seek training through online classes in career pathway programs.**

► **The College is growing its endowment to ensure resources for future generations; more than \$1.5 million was designated for this as a result of the Campaign.** The JSRCC Educational Foundation is working towards securing the financial stability necessary for Virginians to count on Reynolds tomorrow and beyond.

Serving over 19,000 students annually, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College is the youngest and third largest of 23 community colleges in Virginia. The College operates three campuses serving residents in the City of Richmond and the counties of Henrico, Hanover, Goochland, Powhatan and Louisa. For more information about the Campaign for Reynolds visit: www.reynolds.edu/campaign.

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