



Developing a Diverse Economy in Southern and Southwest Virginia

Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission

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21 NEW JOBS COMING TO PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

Piedmont Access to Health Services, Inc. Expanding In Chatham

Chatham, VA – Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade for Rural Economic Development, Cassidy Rasnick announced today that Piedmont Access to Health Services, Inc. (PATHS) will relocate and expand in the Town of Chatham. The project will create 21 new full-time jobs and includes significant capital investment. The new facility will be located in the former Hampco

building. The Danville Regional Foundation provided a \$500,000 grant, the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission awarded a \$90,000 Tobacco Region Opportunity Fund (TROF) grant and Pittsylvania County/Town of Chatham awarded a \$15,750 Industrial Enhancement Grant to assist with this project.

“Ensuring all Virginians have access to quality, affordable health care is a top priority for Governor Northam, which is why we are proud to support the growth of PATHS in the Town of Chatham,” said Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade for Rural Economic Development Cassidy Rasnick. *“PATHS has provided invaluable health care services to the citizens of Southern Virginia for nearly 20 years, and this expansion will expand those services while creating new jobs in the region. We thank the organization for its significant contributions to the region’s healthcare, and congratulate them on this expansion.”*

PATHS is a non-profit 501c3 organization whose mission is to provide healthcare to all citizens in South Central Virginia regardless of their ability to pay. The vision of PATHS is to provide access to quality primary and specialty care, prescription medication, case management and other ancillary services to the citizens of Southern Virginia and surrounding areas. It is the core value of PATHS that everyone has the right to quality health care. PATHS provides a medical home for everyone, including the uninsured and underinsured, as well as a point of entry into established human service agencies and health care systems. PATHS currently operates 5 community health centers across Southern Virginia with locations in Chatham as well as Martinsville, Danville, South Boston and Boydton.

Kay C. Crane, Chief Executive Officer for PATHS, shared details of the Chatham project, including the unveiling of architectural drawings for the state-

of-the-art facility. *“This project represents a \$2.9 million investment in the Chatham/Pittsylvania County community”,* stated Crane. *“By renovating the former Hampco building PATHS will be increasing its footprint to 19,000 square which will allow for expansion of services. Besides primary medical care and pediatrics, there will be the addition of a pharmacy, dental clinic, and a women’s health clinic. It is anticipated that there will also be 21 additional high paying jobs over the next three years which will help boost the local economy. On behalf of PATHS, I would like to thank the Town of Chatham and Pittsylvania County for their support, and the Danville Regional Foundation, which awarded us a \$500,000 grant to directly assist with this valuable project. We look forward to continuing to provide excellent service to our patients and welcome them into our new facility.”*

Tobacco Commission member, Senator Bill Stanley said, *“Access to quality healthcare is incredibly important as we work to expand the economy of Southern Virginia. A healthy workforce is absolutely vital if we are to continue to attract top employers to our region. I am pleased that the Tobacco Commission is supporting this project and I thank PATHS for their continued commitment to the health and well-being of our region.”*

Delegate Les Adams added, *“It is a privilege to applaud PATHS on this next stage of their expansion in our community. The enhancement of medical services right here in Chatham is a welcome improvement for all our citizens.”*

Robert W. “Bob” Warren, Chairman of the Pittsylvania County Board of Supervisors, acknowledged the importance of this project to both Pittsylvania County and the Town of Chatham, and their residents. *“PATHS provides an extremely valuable service to many of our citizens”,* stated Warren, *“and Pittsylvania County is pleased that we could work with and help facilitate this organization’s expansion in the Town of Chatham. The Board firmly believes*

that the provision of quality health care to citizens is an important component of fostering a vibrant and sustainable community. We thank PATHS for their continued commitment to our citizens, and for the creation of good paying health care jobs.”

William A. “Will” Pace, Mayor of the Town of Chatham, shared the Town’s appreciation and said that *“PATHS is a valued resource for the citizens of Chatham and our region. Their decision to remain in the Town of Chatham and to move to a larger facility within the town limits is fantastic news for our community. This project not only increases PATHS capacity for providing services, but also creates jobs and will occupy a long vacant and visible building on our Main Street. The Town is pleased to partner with Pittsylvania County to assist PATHS with this project.”*

The Tobacco Commission is committed to developing a diverse economy in the areas we serve. The Commission knows that a healthy and able workforce is necessary to attract top employers to our region and access to quality care is an important factor in making Southern Virginia a great place to live and work. Supporting organizations, like PATHS, that make access to affordable, quality healthcare possible is a vital part of the Commission’s vision.

About The Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission

The Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission is a 28-member body created by the 1999 General Assembly. Its mission is the promotion of economic growth and development in tobacco-dependent communities, using proceeds of the national tobacco settlement. To date, the Commission has awarded over 2000 grants totaling more than \$1.1 billion across the tobacco region of the Commonwealth, and has provided \$309 million in indemnification payments to tobacco growers and quota holders.

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