

**Radford Youth-Adult Partnership**  
**February 10, 2026**  
**Minutes**

Attending: Mike Wade (NRVCS), Pam Ray (VDH), Melanie Taylor (Carilion), Melissa McDaniel (RCPS), Tiesha Martin (RU), Jerry Holdaway (RCPD), Emily Hite (RCPD), Dylan Lohr (WRCNRV), Erika Slagel-Perry (NRVRC), Elizabeth Sensabaugh (Radford Public Library), Daniel Hill (RCPS), Vicky Collins (RCDSS), Amanda Hudgins (RU) and Christina Powell (RU).

- I. Welcome and Introductions- Mike Wade welcomed the group and introductions were made.
- II. Approval of Agenda- Pam Ray offered a motion for the approval of the agenda. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- III. Approval of Minutes- The November and December minutes were available. Pam Ray offered a motion to approve January 2026 minutes. Elizabeth Sensabaugh seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- IV. Presentation by Amanda Hudgins and Christina Powell from RU CARES (Community, Access, Resources, Education and Service). Their initiative is focused on building awareness and improving collaboration. The project was inspired by some common needs in our area, Provider shortages, workforce retention, access gaps, insurance barriers, transportation issues and community trust. RU CARES is guided by the belief that Community Health is Community Wealth and that healthy children become healthy adults. However, the data shows that children’s health is moving in the opposite direction. There is decreased well-being in children, as well as an increase in chronic conditions. Infant mortality rates are on the rise. There will be an Academic Mobile Health Clinic that will be staffed by student-powered care across multiple disciplines. The mission of the mobile clinic will be community centered. They want to be respectful of other programs that are already available and focus on collaboration not competition. They hope to have shared provider days. The benefits of this initiative will be additional workforce capacity, expanded service lines and access to technology and data tools. They hope to have tele-health capabilities. The launch of the initiative is intended to be as follows:
  - a. Winter/Spring 2026- Awareness and Education
  - b. Summer 2026- Pilot some pop-up events
  - c. Fall 2026- Soft Launch (1-2 days/week)
  - d. Spring 2027- Full launch (regular schedule)

V. Brief Coalition Member Updates

Melissa McDaniel was happy to have school children back on a regular school schedule.

Pam Ray shared that there is now a 4<sup>th</sup> case of Measles in Virginia. There is a widespread outbreak in South Carolina, so she believes more cases will find their way here.

Erika Slagel-Perry stated that the Regional Commission is still looking to fill a position around grant management and network facilitation.

Mike Wade encouraged everyone to listen to the latest Voices of Hope podcast. It features Chris Brown and the conversation centers around engaging active fathers.

VI. Youth Wellness Initiative- The first meeting took place prior to the regularly scheduled RYAP Meeting. Mike Wade reported that the feedback was good and they will be sharing more information about the initiative in the future.

VII. Areas of Focus 2026- Mike Wade suggested we discuss this agenda item at our next meeting.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Collins, Secretary.