



For Immediate Release

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Enrollment Increases by 5.2% at BridgeValley

Montgomery & South Charleston, WV - It was a combination of teamwork and an exciting new opportunity for free tuition that Interim Vice President for Student Affairs Roy Simmons credits with BridgeValley Community & Technical College's impressive increase in enrollment.

WV Invests, a grant program that offers tuition-free enrollment to community and technical colleges in West Virginia, motivated many students to pursue the more cost-effective education route. Statewide enrollment numbers reflected a drop in West Virginia's public four-year colleges, while there was a rise for community and technical colleges; and BridgeValley led the pack.

Year-over-year, BridgeValley boosted its class of first-time freshmen by 38.3 percent, increasing from 379 in 2018 to 524 in 2019. Overall enrollment increased by 5.2 percent, including both recruitment and retention efforts.

Simmons explains that he led his team to focus on recruiting students who would most benefit from WV Invests, instead of pushing particular programs.

"I would attribute the rise in enrollment to our increased visibility and renewed focus," said Simmons. "We equipped every member of the Student Affairs department to be a recruiter, essentially boosting our team from 3 to 30."

For more information, contact Roy Simmons at roy.simmons@bridgevalley.edu.
For more information about BridgeValley Community & Technical College, visit www.bridgevalley.edu.

About BridgeValley Community and Technical College

BridgeValley Community and Technical College promotes student success, prepares a skilled workforce, and builds tomorrow's leaders by providing access to quality higher education. BridgeValley Community and Technical College will be the college of opportunity for a diverse learner population, offering leading-edge technology, innovative ideas, and dynamic service to our students and our communities.

BridgeValley Community and Technical College serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley Community and Technical College is a public institution of higher education independently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges and a member of the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia.

For more information about BridgeValley Community and Technical College financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education and events, call (304) 205-6600 or; or check the College's website:

<http://www.bridgevalley.edu>