Virginia LISC staff and Local Advisory Committee celebrated Virginia LISC's 25th anniversary with more than 200 people from the private, philanthropic, neighborhood and political sectors this past Thursday. Despite the dreary weather, guests came as far as Petersburg, Washington D.C. and New York. U.S. Senator Tim Kaine made a surprise appearance, catching a train from Washington D.C. to Richmond's Hippodrome Theater for the festivities.

Virginia LISC honored The Cameron Foundation, Capital One and Better Housing Coalition for their longstanding partnership. Awards were accepted on behalf of these organizations by Todd Graham, President, John Finneran, Corporate Secretary and General Counsel, and Lynn McAteer, Vice President Planning, respectively.

The program also included remarks from Richmond Mayor Dwight C. Jones and Richmond Councilwoman Dr. Cynthia Newbille, as well as...
by Oramenta Newsome, Program Vice President, LISC, and Ryan Rinn, Executive Director for Storefront for Community Design.

In Rinn's speech he poked fun of LISC's complex acronym, offering other creative suggestions, "LISC - Local Initiative Support Corporation or Lasting Impact Serving Communities or Longstanding Investment Supporting Culture or Leveraging Ideas Strengthening Creativity or Leading Involvement Seeding Change."

As we move into the next 25 years, Virginia LISC will continue to strive to fulfill all of those acronyms—help neighbors build strong communities.

Special thanks to our Lead Sponsor Virginia Housing Development Authority and to all of our sponsors and partners for making this event such a success!

Check out the event video