

March 20, 2017

Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce

919 E Main St #1700,

Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Mark Weiss Awards Nomination

Dear Fatima Caldas,

I’d like to nominate Richweb for the Mark Weiss awards this year. They have been partnering with Randolph Macon and the area Public Schools to develop a stand-alone server training program that can be incorporated in to the school’s curriculum to help expose and develop students into becoming network engineers. In addition to donating equipment and working with Randolph Macon to create a program they are very involved in training student interns.

They have hired/hosted about 20 High School or College/University Interns since 1996. Four from Deep Run High school since 2016 two of which coming on board with them this summer. These high school Interns have been focusing on "real world" network engineering.  They learn to how to log into enterprise or data center caliber Cisco switches and routers. They learn about the operating systems and configurations used by these devices to control, protect (firewalls) and manage data in a business network / environment.

Their partnership with Deep Run High School is the first program I have seen function so adeptly with the local high school system. What they are doing to incorporate hands on training in local schools will exceed the small impact CodeRVA will have on the area and developing quality IT professionals locally once it is implemented.

Sincerely,

Christen Ingram

Existing Business Manager