

Working Together for a Healthier Richmond

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012



Richmond City Health District

Working together for a healthier Richmond



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Health Director

The Richmond Health District worked closely with community partners to improve the health and well-being of the entire Richmond community. Several strategic goals were met, including dramatic reductions in teen pregnancy and infant mortality rates. I am proud to lead our accomplished team of professionals as we continue our mission to promote healthy living, protect the environment, prevent diseases and prepare the community for disasters.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Resource Centers receive national recognition

The success of RCHD Resource Centers gained national recognition in 2011. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) presented the Richmond City Health District with its "Model Practice Award," recognizing the RCHD Resource Centers as a national model practice in public health. Also, in association with Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority, the Resource Centers won the 2011 National Award of Merit for the establishment of community-based Resource Centers from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). Resource Centers provide a variety of services including health screenings, checkups, connecting patients to a medical home, health education, parenting classes, and community resource information and assistance.

CDC grant awarded to reduce STIs in Richmond

The Richmond City Health District partnered with the City of Richmond to successfully compete for a \$1.2 million grant from the CDC aimed at decreasing Richmond STI rates through strategies with the Richmond STI Coalition. In year two of the grant, RCHD and its partners will focus on addressing social determinants of health to include substance abuse and mental health issues.

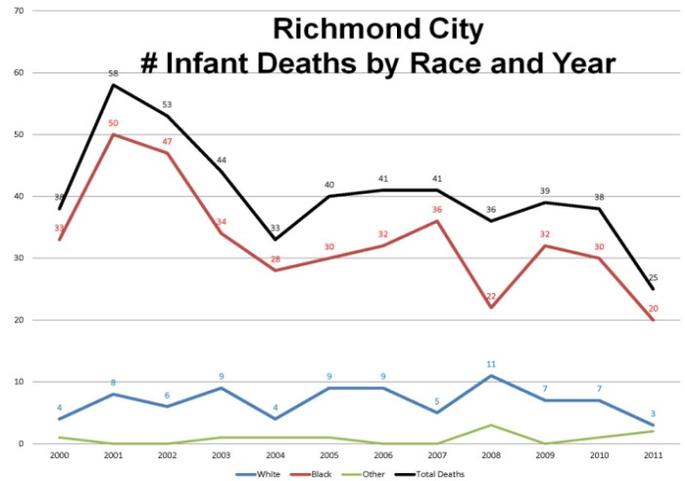


Infant mortality rate reduction

A 2011 infant mortality rate of 8.4, down from 12.8 in 2010 is a dramatic decrease, and is the lowest rate known of in Richmond history. Mayor Dwight Jones, Rose Stith-Singleton-Richmond Healthy Start Initiative Manager, VDH Commissioner Dr. Karen Remley and RCHD Director Dr. Donald Stern announced the good news at a press conference in June 2012, and acknowledged the work of the Richmond Healthy Start Initiative and the Healthy Start Consortium members, as well as efforts of the RCHD Resource Mothers Program and the RCHD Adolescent Health Program. RCHD programs that play a vital role in infant mortality reduction include WIC, Family Planning and Maternity Clinics, and Resource Centers. Acknowledgment was on the work to help women to be healthy before pregnancy, efforts to assure early and continuous quality prenatal care, and efforts to guard infant health, including the reduction of SIDS, and strengthening families.



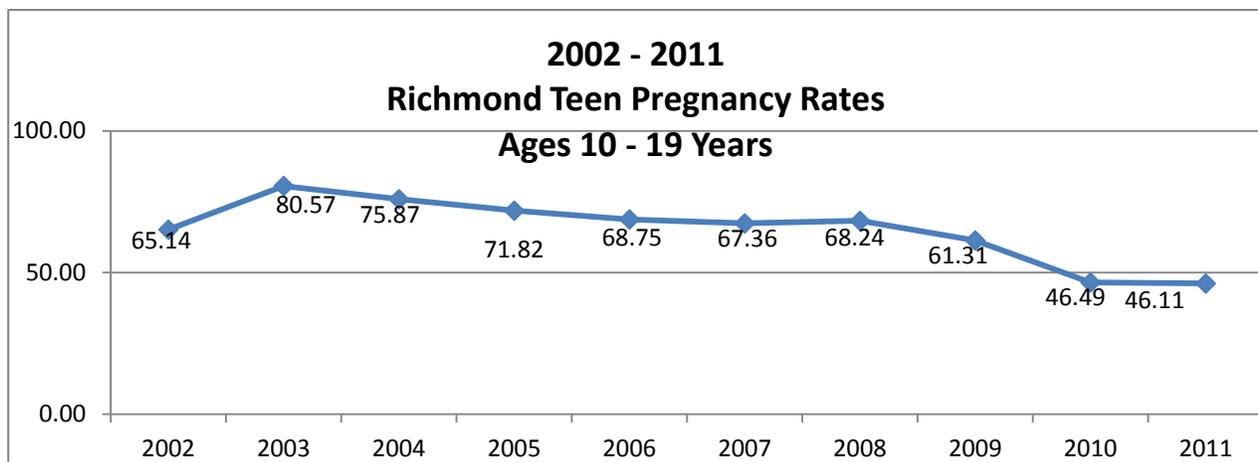
Mayor Dwight Jones, Rose Stith-Singleton, Dr. Karen Remley, Dr. Donald Stern at Pine Camp press conference



Teen Pregnancy rate reduction

The RCHD Adolescent Health Program celebrated National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (May 2012) by announcing a 31% reduction of Richmond teen pregnancies in a three-year period from 916 pregnancies in 2008 to 624 teen pregnancies in 2010.

The RCHD Adolescent Health Program attributes a great deal of the success in reducing teen pregnancy to significantly increasing the number of teen pregnancy prevention sessions offered by Adolescent Health Educators during elective classes at Richmond Public Schools.



Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Community of Caring

The Richmond Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (RCPTP) expanded its' flagship program – Community of Caring to the Martin Luther King Middle School (MLK) this year. The lead facilitators at the schools reported an increase in positive student interactions due to the promotion of the Community of Caring Initiative's five core values: Caring, Family, Respect, Responsibility and Trust.



Dr. Parker visited Martin Luther King Middle School to engage students in learning Community of Caring principles



The students at Martin Luther King Middle School participated in an assembly featuring Dr. David Parker, Centering for Community of Caring, the College of Utah. Community of Caring will expand to Armstrong High School in the 2012-2013 school year.

This effort is supported in part, by the Jenkins Foundation, Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, E.C. Robins Foundation, Greater Richmond Chamber Foundation, Richmond City Council and private donors.

Richmond Family and Fatherhood Initiative serves as model for strengthening families



Richmond Family & Fatherhood Initiative

The Richmond Family & Fatherhood Initiative (RFFI) was recognized by Casey Family Services as a promising national model for community engagement. In its 2012 annual report, Casey Family Services featured the Richmond Family & Fatherhood Initiative's community engagement model of focus groups and training institutes for its success in mobilizing faith and community-based partners.

In partnership with Casey Family Services, the Virginia Department of Social Services Strengthening Families Initiative is expanding the RFFI community engagement model to 15 additional cities across the Commonwealth. The RFFI community engagement model will be used to connect research and resources to faith and community-based partners around the goals of reducing non-marital births, connecting and reconnecting fathers with their children and promoting safe, stable, intact two-parent families.

Richmond City Health District Programs and services summary

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The goal of the *Family Planning Program* is to promote reproductive planning through community based and clinical services providing reproductive health services to women and men. Goals are to prevent unplanned pregnancies by providing counseling and birth control methods. Increasing the use of LARCs (Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives) has positively contributed to a decrease in teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancies in our city. A grant from the Community Foundation allows us to purchase and provide LARCs to eligible city residents. RCHD also makes Family Planning services accessible within the community through our Resource Centers and contracts with Capital Area Health Network, and Fan Free Clinic to improve access to these services.

The goal of the *Maternal Child Health Program* is to promote healthy pregnancy outcomes and decrease infant mortality by providing early access to quality prenatal care, and pregnancy education. The reproductive health team was awarded \$32,520 by the March of Dimes in February 2012 to implement a new model of prenatal care - Centering Pregnancy. This model of group care has been proven to reduce preterm births and improve birth weights, by enhancing health education and social support. To date, five groups have enrolled, totaling 32 patients, with a total number of 141 visits.



There were 3,167 prenatal patient visits to the Maternity Clinic during FY 2011-12, serving 360 pregnant women. All RCHD's maternity patients were educated on topics pertaining to their pregnancy, such as signs and symptoms of pre-term labor, nutritional counseling, benefits of breast-feeding, and post-partum contraception.

The *Resource Mothers Program* is a competitive grant-funded home visiting program for first-time pregnant teenagers. Goals are to reduce infant mortality, reduce incidence of low birth-weight babies, and to prevent repeat teen pregnancies. Services are provided to participants until their baby's first birthday. Home Visitors provide counseling, parenting education, ensure that program participants keep medical appointments, and promote staying in school. The program served 145 pregnant teens this fiscal year. Resource Mothers partners with numerous community-based organizations such as VCU, St. Mary's, CJW Medical Center, Richmond Healthy Start Initiative, Mt. Gilead Church, and SAMOM to provide additional services to teen participants, including breast feeding education, resume building, interview techniques, doula support, and free car seats to eligible city residents.

WIC - The purpose of the *Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)* is to provide nutritional supplements and nutritional education to pregnant women, post partum women and children up to the age of five. Goals are to improve pregnancy outcomes, prevent nutritional deficiencies and support optimal growth and development. Within the last year, the district caseload for WIC increased by 3%, serving over 6,500 participants. An average of 703 pregnant women are being served each month. The WIC program continues to collaborate with the RCHD Lead Poisoning Prevention Team for child blood-lead screening. The RCHD was recognized at the annual WIC Coordinator's meeting for having the lowest No-Show rate in the state. Currently, the state average for no-shows is 6.32% and RCHD's no-show rate is 4.82%. RCHD WIC has a strong Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program to help patients with breastfeeding. WIC services are provided at Richmond Community Hospital, Southside Plaza, RCHD 400 Cary Street Clinic, and MCV Hospitals to enroll clients closer to their homes. In July, the MCV site was closed while the Children's Pavilion is being renovated. Alternate opportunities for enrolling on the MCV campus are being considered.

RCHD Reproductive Health Services			
	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	Percent Change
Service & Programs	Number of visits	Number of visits	
Maternity	3,169	3,167	-0.1%
Family Planning	3,328	2,837	-8%
# Adolescents served	1,305	1,253	-4%
	Number served FY 2010-11	Number served FY 2011-12	Percent Change
Resource Mothers	139	145	4.3%
Avg. number visits per year	2,154	2,248	4.4%
	Avg. number of visits per month	Avg. number of visits per month	
WIC	6,488	6,500	1.3%

*To help ensure access to care, the RCHD contracts with community health clinics to provide family planning services at Capital Area Health Network and Fan Free Clinic. Services are also provided at RCHD Resource Centers

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SERVICES

The RCHD *Epidemiology Team* conducts surveillance and investigation to minimize effects of communicable disease outbreaks within the community. By ensuring thorough investigations of all reportable disease conditions, the RCHD Epidemiology Team works to prevent transmission of disease and to curtail disease outbreaks.

The *Immunization Program* promotes and provides childhood and adult immunizations to prevent disease outbreaks in Richmond. 4,753 immunizations were given to prevent multiple diseases last fiscal year. RCHD provides back to school events to promote up to date immunizations required for entry to school and worked with the Richmond Public School Health Program to provide T-dap vaccine to 406 rising 6th graders. Additionally, RCHD provided free T-dap to adults as a means to prevent childhood pertussis. Each fall, RCHD conducts a campaign to prevent influenza. In FY 2012, RCHD provided 325 flu vaccines to area safety net providers: Fan Free Clinic, Daily Planet, Cross Over Clinic, and Salvation Army, free of charge.

The *Tuberculosis Control Program* protects Richmond from transmission of tuberculosis by identification, assessment, monitoring, and treatment of individuals with tuberculosis disease. The TB Program staff also assesses those exposed to individuals with tuberculosis to offer testing and treatment. In addition to clinical treatment, RCHD outreach personnel provided directly observed therapy (DOT) assuring proper drug administration for all active TB cases in Richmond. 1,744 visits were made to the TB clinic this FY. Eight active TB cases were reported in the year, and eight completed treatment with an average of 6-months DOT. Innovations in the TB program include the successful implementation of a new test, T-SPOT@TB, which is a more accurate and reliable test than the traditional TB skin test. Using the new Latent TB infection treatment regimen of once-a-week for twelve-weeks, offers practical advantages for patients who are unlikely to complete the standard treatment regimen of daily treatment for nine months.

Sexually Transmitted Infections – Addressing the high rates of sexually transmitted infection (STI) continues to be a primary concern for the RCHD STI/HIV Program. Through the dedication and case investigation efforts performed by the RCHD Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) staff, RCHD saw a decrease of 14.6% in new syphilis cases reported for 2011. However, STIs overall continued to disproportionately affect the MSM (men who have sex with men) and young African-American populations. The RCHD STI/HIV and CDC grant teams took part in numerous outreach activities and screening events with the Richmond STI Coalition, including a “Get Yourself Tested” community event held at a local skating rink, and the “La Feria de Oportunidad” health fair.

The Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) has consistently ranked high nationally for rates of STIs. In 2010, Richmond ranked 8th overall for the rate of Chlamydia cases, 19th for Gonorrhea rates, and 13th for syphilis rates.

RCHD Director, Dr. Stern, continues to lead the Regional STI Group. This group is a collaboration of surrounding health districts, state STI Program staff and regional key stakeholders to assess the cause and transmission of STIs, and to evaluate regional efforts aimed at addressing STI/HIV issues to include resources for referral/linkages to mental health, substance abuse and HIV care, data sharing, and community engagement strategies.

The RCHD *Newcomer Refugee Program* provides initial health assessment and immunizations for refugees coming to Richmond. There were 196 refugee visits to RCHD in the fiscal year.

RCHD Communicable Disease Services			
	FY 2010-11	FY 2011-12	Percent change
Program/Service	Clinic Visits	Clinic Visits	Clinic Visits
STD Clinic	5,915	5,841	-1%
Outreach HIV Screening (field tests)	253	244	-3.5%
Immunization (children)	2,148	2,612	22%
Immunization (adults)	2,260	2,141	-5%
TB Clinic	1,744	1,716	-2%

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

RCHD partners with the Virginia Department of Health’s Low Income *Safety Seat Distribution and Education Program* to reduce the risks of motor vehicle injury and fatality for infants and young children. All trainers receive annual safety seat trainings to ensure that best-practices are employed. Prior to distributing the seats, our trainers ensure that education is provided to the parents and guardians of children in-need through classroom and hands-on instruction. RCHD has five distribution sites including Resource Centers at Fairfield, Creighton, Mosby and Whitcomb Courts as well as at RCHD headquarters at 400 E. Cary Street. Approximately 400 free safety seats were given to residents of Richmond City during FY 2011-12.

RCHD *Resource Centers* are operated in collaboration with Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority in the Creighton, Fairfield, Whitcomb, and Mosby public housing communities. The Resource Center model is a broad interagency partnership that increases access to basic health services and links community residents to a medical home. Funding sources and partnerships include the Bon Secours Health System, VCU-MCV School of Nursing, Virginia Health Care Foundation, Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, the Community Foundation, the Jenkins Foundation, Richmond Behavioral Health Authority, and Richmond Healthy Start Initiative.

The Lead Safe Richmond Program has successfully transitioned into the *Lead-Safe & Healthy Homes Initiative Program* (LSHHI). Healthy Homes Initiative services include 1.) Healthy Homes assessments; 2.) client education on cause and effect of unhealthy or unsafe conditions that can lead to or aggravate existing health problems or injury; 3.) community training on various components of Healthy Homes concepts. 4.) client-education on landlord and tenant responsibilities.

The program has gathered support and referral services from Family Lifeline, Rebuilding Together Richmond, Richmond Office on Aging and Disability, Bon Secours CARMA, Project Homes, Richmond City Healthy Family, and Richmond City Health District Resource Centers. Through shared goals and commitment to ensure healthy and safe housing, the LSHHI partnered with Better Housing Coalition and the Richmond Redevelopment Housing Authority in conducting Healthy Homes training such as “Healthy Homes intro,” “green cleaning,” “bedbug prevention,” and “housekeeping” to their tenants.

All together, the program has performed 78 Healthy-Homes assessments, with 55 of them from our referring partners. 316 vacant properties were inspected for lead paint hazard and 42 were cited for lead-paint violation; 6,276 Richmond City children under the age of six were tested for lead poisoning and 43 were found to be lead-poisoned. This represented a 0.7% prevalence rate as compared to the state prevalence level of 0.3%.

The *Chronic Disease Prevention Program* addresses environmental and policy changes to help citizens prevent chronic diseases such as obesity, cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease and conducts health awareness and educational activities. During the past year, the Chronic Disease Prevention Program was awarded three grants. The first grant, in the amount of \$98,214, was awarded from the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth, for tobacco use prevention and healthy life-choices through a “Positive Action” curriculum. In addition to this curriculum, a “Healthy Lifestyles” compendium is included to address healthy lifestyle choices related to obesity and physical activity in youth.

The second grant, in the amount of \$14,500, was awarded by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) to implement Healthy Checkout Aisles in eight (8) grocery stores throughout the City. Martin’s Grocery Stores agreed to be the pilot for this project.

The third grant, in the amount of \$14,500, was also awarded by VDH’s Tobacco Use Control Project to promote clean indoor air policies, build tobacco related coalitions, promote and implement the tobacco Quitline, and implementation of a Store Alert Program that will access local convenience stores placement and promotion of tobacco products.

The Chronic Disease Prevention Program partnered with Councilwoman’s Cynthia Newbille’s 7th District Health and Wellness Initiative to provide comprehensive physical fitness instructor workshops to the citizens of that district. Upon completion of the workshop, interested citizens will be able to provide group exercise instruction for the Rock! Richmond Fitness Program. In addition, the Chronic Disease Prevention staff conducts regularly scheduled health and wellness seminars for the citizens of the 7th district.

The Chronic Disease Prevention Program partnered with the city’s Day Care centers to provide health and wellness workshops for staff members. Also, Day Care teachers are being trained to provide “recess” activities for their students.

The *Rock! Richmond Fitness Program* is conducted by professional fitness instructors at community sites, churches, and Senior Centers throughout the City to encourage healthier lifestyles for over 1,100 citizens participating at 35 different sites. Rock! Richmond expanded its fitness classes to include Line Dancing, Zumba and Yoga. A partnership has been developed with The Have Heart Organization to provide professional fitness instructors to lead several of the Rock! Richmond fitness sites.

The RCHD continued its partnership with the Virginia Department of Health and Bon Secours Richmond Health System to operate the *Richmond Smiles Mobile Dental Program*. The program utilizes a 40 ft. commercial coach with a fully equipped dental operatory to offer dental care at weekly service sites. A new site and service included this year is in partnership with VCU Department of Pediatric Dentistry. The Pediatric Dental program collaborates with the dental team, once a month to provide services on a rotating basis within the Richmond public housing communities. This fiscal year, free dental services were provided to 1,578 uninsured residents.

The *Richmond Family & Fatherhood Initiative* (RFFI) is dedicated to the mission of “*Creating a Community Culture: Connecting Fathers to their Families.*” It is a city-wide initiative involving members of the Richmond community in efforts to encourage greater responsibility for fatherhood and to reduce births to single women in the City of Richmond. The Initiative focuses on teens, young adults, and men from different walks of life; connecting, equipping and empowering them with essentials for positive lifestyle choices leading to sexual responsibility, self-reliance, and family responsibility.

RFFI expanded its capacity to connect with the Richmond community with focus groups and the RFFI Training Institute which trained churches and individuals to equip them with skills to address manhood, fatherhood, healthy relationships and marriage, as well as re-entry from jail. This model has received national and state-level recognition and is being replicated within other Virginia cities in partnership with Casey Family Services and the Virginia Department of Social Services. RFFI also conducted a Resolution Project – a city-wide community engagement effort involving 25 faith and community-based organizations around the popular movie “Courageous.” Participating organizations hosted showings of the movie, facilitated sessions exploring the movie’s themes and organized a resolution signing ceremony which took place on Father’s Day, with over 300 men signing resolutions of commitment.

The RCHD *Adolescent Health Program* focuses on teenage pregnancy prevention by motivating young people to develop life skills to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices that will benefit them throughout their lives. Through the Helping Youth Prevent Pregnancy (HYPP) Program, educational services including a curriculum-based life skills and sexuality information program is provided to adolescents in Richmond Public Schools and within the community. This program is credited, in-part, for the substantial drop in teen pregnancies in the City of Richmond.

Public Health Programs			
Program	FY 2010-2011	FY 2011-12	% change
Rock Richmond Fitness Program			
Classes	2,000	1,872	-6.4%
Participants (average per month)	1,200	1,100	-8.33%
Resource Centers			
Patients served	1499	2329	55.4%
Richmond Smiles Dental Program			
Patients served	1,515	1,578	4.1%
Adolescent Health/Teen Pregnancy Prevention			
Sessions held	668	693	4%
Adolescents serviced	2,441	3,330	36%

Community Partnering (*working together for a healthier Richmond*)

VCU School of Nursing faculty celebrated National Nurses Week with RCHD

In May, 2012, RCHD Nurse Manager Sherry Shrader hosted an “Afternoon Tea” for members of the Nursing team. Guest speakers were Dr. Joanne Wakeham, Director of Nursing for the Virginia Department of Health, Dr. Stephanie Ferguson, Director of the Community of Nursing Organization for VCU School of Nursing, and Dr. Nancy Langston, Dean of the VCU School of Nursing. The theme of the Tea was *Leaving a Legacy*, and the speakers affirmed nursing as advocates, care-givers and leaders. RCHD enjoys a collaborative relationship with the VCU School of Nursing and provides clinical experiences for student nurses each semester.



From left: Sherry Shrader, Dr. Joanne Wakeham, Dr. Stephanie Ferguson, Dr. Nancy Langston

The RCHD strengthened partnerships, established new relationships, and participated in various organizations, committees and task forces. Memberships and community partnerships included association with:

- | | |
|---|---|
| American Cancer Society | Mayor's Youth Academy |
| Bon Secours Richmond Health System | Mayor's Breastfeeding Commission |
| Capital Area Health Network | Richmond Ambulance Authority |
| City of Richmond | Richmond Behavioral Health Authority |
| The Community Foundation | Richmond Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy |
| Community Planning and Management Team for City CSA Office (CPMT) | Richmond Healthy Start Executive Committee |
| Cross Over Ministry | Richmond Memorial Health Foundation |
| The Daily Planet | Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority |
| Emergency Response representation (MMRC, CRI, Pandemic Flu Plan) | School Health Services Partnership |
| Family Life Committee | Senior Connections |
| Fan Free Clinic | Tobacco Use Control Project |
| Friends of Prevention Coalition | Virginia Heart Disease and Stroke Alliance |
| Head Start Medical Advisory Group | Virginia Diabetes Council |
| Health Promotions for People with Disabilities | VCU School of Public Health |
| Healthy Start Consortium | VCU School of Nursing |
| Jenkins Foundation | VCU Health System |
| Lead Poison Task Force | VDH Family Planning Advisory Committee |

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health Specialists inspect all City food establishments and food vendors to ensure compliance with service and sanitation according to State Food Regulations. Complaints and cases of food borne illness are investigated to determine and eliminate causes. Environmental Health specialists provide training for food handlers, issue temporary health permits, and inspect street food-vendors. Environmental Health specialists inspect the local dairy plant under federal guidelines and State statutory authority. Fewer restaurant inspections were conducted the FY due to a reduction in the number of inspectors on staff. The specialists also inspect public swimming pools and marinas, conduct animal bite/rabies investigations, West Nile Virus education, and investigate complaints of rodent infestation.

RCHD Environmental Health Services			
Activity/Service	FY 2010 -11	FY 2011-12	% change
	Service numbers	Service numbers	
Number of restaurant inspections	3,003	3,417	3.5%
Total number of food service inspections	5,027	4,983	-0.87%
Food permits issued	109	107	-1.8%
Animal bite/rabies investigation	337	300	-10.9%
Positive rabies in animals	7	2	-71%
Hotel/motel inspections	97	75	-24.7%
Swimming pool inspections	92	72	-24.7%
Environmental complaint investigations	165	163	-1.2%
Training classes conducted	19	27	42%
Food handlers trained	534	496	-7.2%



Dr. Donald Stern presented the Food Safety Award to Champ's Stony Point Restaurant, August 2011

The RCHD presented two **Food Safety STAR Awards** this fiscal year. The bi-annual award recognizes food service establishments that demonstrate the highest degree of food safety and sanitation as well as compliance with food service regulations of the Virginia Board of Health. Nominees for the award qualify by having no critical violations upon inspection in the previous months. Winners are determined by a committee of inspectors. The top-honors recipient is acknowledged in a formal presentation of the award by the Health Director. Dr. Stern presented awards to Champ's restaurant at Stony Point in August, 2011 and the Empress Restaurant in February, 2012.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

The goal of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Program (EP&R) is to enhance Richmond City Health District's ability to respond to public health emergencies and to create resilient communities. In that effort, the District serves as the lead for coordinating all public health and medical services in the City during times of emergency/disaster. This coordination of efforts occurs within the City's Emergency Support Function-8 group as outlined in the City's Emergency Operations Plan. In collaboration with all public and private health entities in the City, the City of Richmond Office of Emergency Management, and many other organizations, RCHD has taken the lead in planning for all hazards as they relate to public health and medical needs.

On August 28th 2011, Hurricane Irene made landfall in Virginia. The City of Richmond activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and requested RCHD assistance. RCHD assisted with shelter operations with staff at both shelter sites and continued EOC operations for several days. Environmental Health Inspectors hit the streets making sure that restaurants were adhering to food safety regulations.

In October 2011, RCHD conducted a Mass Dispensing Functional Exercise (FE) at George Wythe High School; which is a Point of Dispensing site for RCHD. The purpose of the FE was to practice implementing and evaluate the overall mass dispensing/medical countermeasures operation plan. This was the first FE RCHD has planned and participated in since 2007. This exercise would not have been possible without participation of staff from the Central Region team including RCHD, Chesterfield, and Henrico Health Districts and MRC volunteers. As a result RCHD continues to redefine our mass dispensing operations plan to ensure an efficient response time should an actual emergency take place.

RCHD continues its community outreach capabilities with the creation of the new booklet and companion handout titled "Are You Prepared?" These publications focus on the need of the community to prepare themselves and their families by creating a personal preparedness plan. The team has also begun outreach to older Americans by partnering with Senior Connections. As one of the most vulnerable populations in Richmond it will be essential to create and sustain new partnership to reach this community.

The *Richmond City Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)*, housed under the EP&R program, is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to responding to public health emergencies. Members of the MRC are given opportunities to be trained in emergency preparedness and also assist with community outreach events. In FY 2011-12 the MRC has grown from 315 volunteers to almost 415. Volunteers have freely participated in over 20 events, with their volunteer hours valued at over \$8,500. The MRC is continuing to expand its capacities by participating in monthly statewide training sessions with topics ranging from Shelter Operations to Mass Fatality Response. Should an emergency befall us, the MRC will be ready to support the effort of RCHD.



The entire RCHD workforce took part in an emergency preparedness exercise held at George Wythe High School

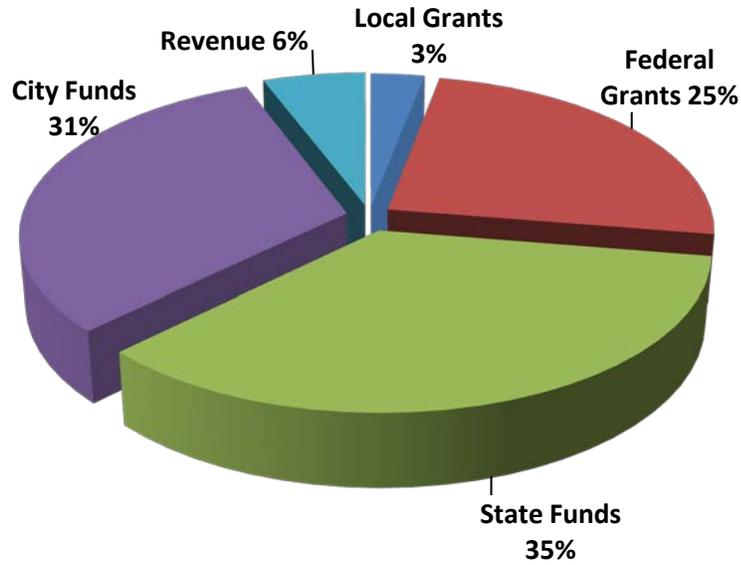
VITAL RECORDS

The RCHD *Office of Vital Records* maintains a record of all deaths that occur in the City of Richmond; the office issued 15,875 death certificate copies in fiscal year 2011-12.

FUNDING & OPERATIONS

The Richmond City Health District FY 2011-12 was budgeted at \$10,496,737, which is comprised of several funding sources.

RCHD Funding Sources FY2012



The Chart below, shows how these funds were expended

RCHD Expenditures - FY2012

