

2016

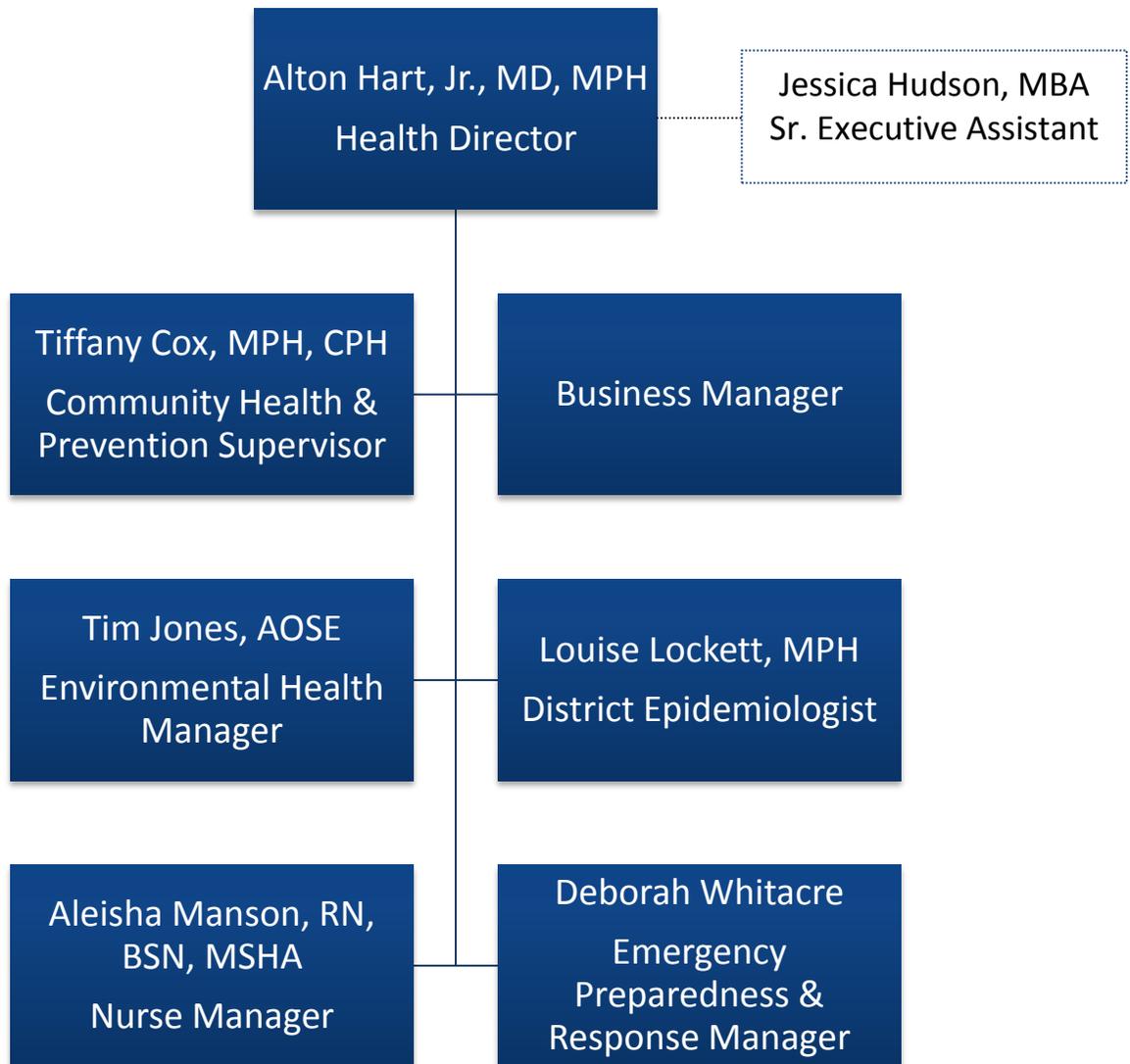
Crater District Health Departments

Dinwiddie • Emporia • Greensville •
Hopewell • Petersburg • Prince George •
Surry • Sussex

Annual Report



Crater Health District Management Team



Health Director's Message

Greetings,

We are very pleased to present the Crater District Health Departments' 2015 Annual Report. The Annual Report reflects the committed and tireless efforts of our public health staff and dedicated community partners. Our Crater District communities experienced wonderful public health successes in 2014. For example, over 2000 people received immunization services by our public health nurses and office service specialists. I am also encouraged by our community partnerships. Over 70 outreach requests were submitted to the District in FY15. As a result of these requests, our staff attended over 70 community events and reached an estimate of 9,000 community members throughout the District. In addition, our environmental health services staff conducted over 4600 site visits, including 1045 food inspections. These successes are tremendous and truly worthy of acknowledgement and celebration. However, I recognize that more work remains and we must stay focused in our efforts to help build healthy communities in our Health District.

My vision for the Crater Health District is one that includes a public health system that actively engages community partners to help build healthy neighborhoods and communities. I believe excellent health starts where we live, learn, work, and play. A partner-focused public health system plays a vital role in helping to make this a reality for all members of our communities. Our current community partnerships include city and county governments, community-based organizations, faith communities, local businesses, private foundations, public school systems, etc. I strongly believe that through our committed collaborative efforts in the Crater Health District we can create existing and healthy places for our residents to live, learn, work, and play.

Alton Hart, Jr., MD, MPH
Director
Crater District Health Departments



Organizational Profile

The Crater Health District (CHD) encompasses approximately 1,800 square miles and serves a population of about 150,000 residents. The District includes the cities of Petersburg, Hopewell and Emporia and the counties of Prince George, Dinwiddie, Surry, Sussex and Greensville. CHD is a state-city/county cooperative health service agency. It employs over 100 full-time and 10 part-time workers and countless volunteers each year. The Health District operates seven local health departments in Dinwiddie, Emporia, Hopewell, Petersburg, Prince George, Surry and Sussex.

Administrative Profile

CHD's budget is supported by various funding sources which include: local, state, and federal government funding; fees for services; and grants or donations from non-profit organizations. For FY15 Crater generated \$782,473 in revenue through fees for services.

Crater Health District FY15 Revenue by Funding Source

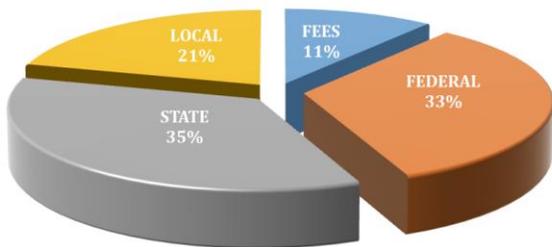


Figure 1: Crater FY15 Revenue by Funding Source

FEE REVENUE	TOTAL
Administrative (Refunds/Distribution)	\$247,068
Communicable Health Services	\$19,137
Environmental Health Services	\$131,522
Family Planning Services	\$92,004
Immunization Services	\$41,397
Maternal and Child Health Services	\$9,116
Nursing Home Screenings	\$108,993
Pharmacy Services	\$13,319
Internal Administrative Fees	\$6,592
Vital Statistics	\$103,684
Other Fees- Direct and Non-direct Services	\$9,637

Table 1: Crater FY15 Fee Revenue

CHD's FY15 expenditures for services totaled \$7,382,752. The COOP expenditures, which are composed of local and state funds combined, totaled \$4,931,777; and the Non-COOP expenditures, which are composed of state funds only, totaled \$2,450,975.

Crater Health District FY15 Expenditures by Category

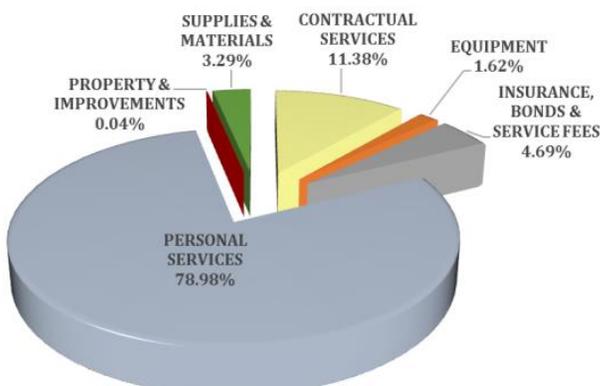


Figure 3: Crater FY15 Expenditures by Category

Crater Health District FY15 Expenditures by Program Services

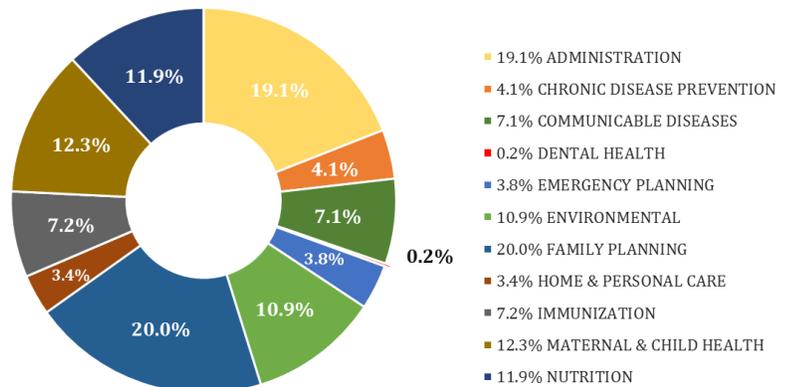


Figure 2: Crater FY15 Expenditures by Program



Reproductive Health and Nursing Services

CHD offers a number of reproductive health and nursing services to Crater residents. These programs are focused on improving birth outcomes, and promoting sexual and overall health at all ages. Program areas include teen pregnancy prevention, family planning, maternity care, family support through home visiting services, nutritional health and nursing home pre-admission screenings.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

The teen pregnancy rates (age 10-19) for CHD tend to be higher than the state. Table 2 below shows CHD teen pregnancy rates for 2012 and 2013.¹ There has been a decrease for Dinwiddie, Hopewell and Prince George; and an increase for Emporia, Greensville, Petersburg, Surry and Sussex. The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program implements activities and health education in schools and the community to prevent teen pregnancy. In addition, the program operates the HealthSpace Teen Clinic in both the Petersburg and Hopewell health departments. In the HealthSpace Teen Clinic, health educators and nurses counsel teens below 19 years of age about sexual health, hygiene and healthy relationships. Additionally, this program includes clinical services, providing contraception methods, pregnancy testing, referrals for pregnancies, STD treatment, and sports physicals.

For FY15, the HealthSpace Teen Clinic served 428 teens in Petersburg; and 149 teens in Hopewell for a total of 577 teens. Support for the CHD Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program is a collaboration between the District, The Cameron Foundation, The John Randolph Foundation and the Southside United Way.

Crater Teen Pregnancy Rates (per 1,000)	VA	CHD	Dinwiddie	Emporia	Greensville	Hopewell	Petersburg	PG	Surry	Sussex
2013	14.4	31.4	12.6	42.8	33.0	41.1	73.8	10.3	12.9	34.7
2012	16.7	31.9	15.3	18.2	29.0	52.4	66.7	15.8	7.3	25.9

Table 2: Crater FY15 Teen Pregnancy Rates

Men's Sexual Health

CHD operates the Men's Sexual Health Clinic at the Petersburg Health Department. It is a collaboration between the CHD and the Minority Health Consortium. This program is a direct effort to reduce sexually transmitted infection (STI) rates in the City of Petersburg. The clinic offers a convenient and confidential place where men can be tested for sexually transmitted infections and HIV after normal business hours. The clinic operates the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Petersburg Health Department. Services are available to males ages 18 and up and include the following: STI testing and treatment, HIV testing, immunizations, and education and counseling on HIV and STIs. All testing and treatment provided is at no cost and confidential.

Family Planning

The CHD Family Planning Program assists women and men with the decision to have children and if so, how many and how far apart they want to space them. Federally funded through the Title X program, CHD provides confidential family planning birth control methods and services in each of the District's seven local health departments. Services are provided at low or no cost based on income eligibility. Spanish language interpreters are provided at each visit for clients with limited English proficiency.

¹ Division of Health Statistics, Virginia Department of Health



For FY15, the Family Planning Program served a total of 1,550 individuals, resulting in a total of 3,510 visits.

Maternity Care

The District's goal is to decrease the prenatal mortality rate, and achieve healthy pregnancy outcomes for district residents. Services are enhanced through the use of a Spanish language medical interpreter and include regularly scheduled physical exams and prenatal blood work. Nutritional counseling is provided with an emphasis on nutritional, breastfeeding and smoking cessation education. Case management and referrals to community resources are provided as appropriate. Delivery, acute high-risk care, and emergency care are provided to Crater clients through an agreement with Virginia Commonwealth University Hospital system (Medical College of Virginia (MCV)).

For FY15, prenatal care services were provided to 133 clients, resulting in 664 visits.

Home Visiting Programs

Healthy Start/Loving Steps

The Healthy Start initiative is a home visiting program that supports African American women ages 20-40 while they are pregnant and after they deliver; and their infants and toddlers up to age two. It is a community driven program designed to reduce infant mortality and low birth weights. The local community name for the program is Loving Steps, and it is offered through the Petersburg Health Department. The program focuses on increasing awareness about infant mortality and low birth weight, as well as the need to enhance maternal and infant care by coordinating services between public and private agencies. Also, the program works to build partnerships among families, businesses, volunteers, health care and social service providers. One method for building partnerships is through the Community Action Network (CAN), which began during FY15 with immediate staffing of an Outreach Community Development Specialist.

For FY15, Healthy Start/Loving Steps served a total of 40 clients with 663 encounters to include phone, email/text, face-to-face, and group settings. Locations for services included clients' homes, the Petersburg Health Department, community organizations, and physician offices.

Resource Mothers

Resource Mothers is a home visiting program that supports African American teens up to age 19, who are pregnant for the first time, while they are pregnant and after they deliver; and their infants through their first birthday. The program is offered through the Petersburg and Hopewell health departments, and the primary goal is to improve birth outcomes for pregnant teens. Program staff ensures teens receive early and adequate prenatal care to reduce the chances of a low weight birth or infant death. Expectant teens are provided intensive child development education; encouragement for setting and achieving personal education goals; support to involve the family and father; and offered referrals to needed services.

For FY15, thirty-four referrals were received with 33 clients enrolled, resulting in a total of 61 clients served.

Nutritional Health

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)



WIC is a federal assistance program of the Food and Nutrition Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. The program addresses healthcare and nutrition of low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women; and infants and children under the age of five. The eligibility requirement is a family income below 185% of the U.S. Poverty Income Guidelines. The program provides screening and referrals to other health, welfare and social service agencies; nutrition education; breastfeeding promotion and support; as well as supplemental nutritious foods.

FY15 WIC Clients Served By Locality									
Fiscal Year	Dinwiddie	Emporia/Greenville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex	Fort Lee	TOTAL
FY14	383	457	895	1,299	436	110	163	299	4,042
FY15	390	491	881	1,273	429	111	159	319	4,053

Table 3: Crater FY15 WIC Clients Served

FY14 – Total participation of 4,042 included 418 pregnant women and 112 breastfeeding women.

FY15 – Total participation of 4,053 included 416 pregnant women and 125 breastfeeding women (12% increase in breastfeeding women).

Rehabilitation and Long-term Healthcare

Nursing Home Pre-Admission Screening Services

Nursing Home Pre-Admission Screenings are performed for individuals seeking Medicaid coverage of long-term care services. Requests for screenings need to be made through the Department of Social Services (DSS). An in-home assessment is performed by a health department registered nurse and a social worker.

Nursing Home Pre-Admission Screenings- FY15							
Dinwiddie	Emporia/Greenville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex	Total
54	80	44	174	78	12	60	502

Table 4: Crater FY15 Nursing Home Pre-admission Screenings

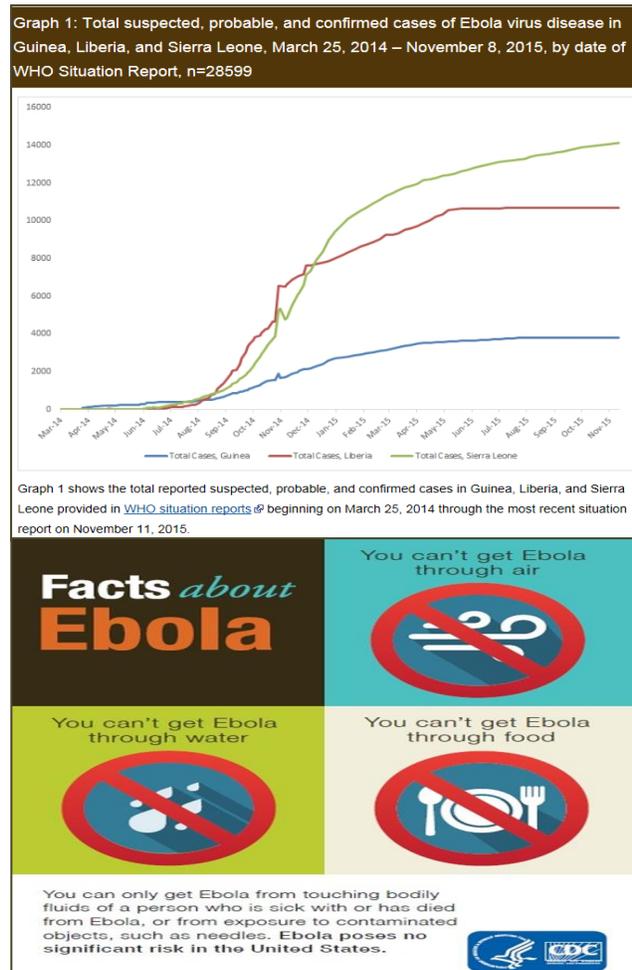
Communicable Disease Services

The CHD Communicable Disease Team conducts surveillance and investigations to minimize effects of communicable disease outbreaks within the district. By ensuring thorough investigations of all reportable disease conditions and identified outbreaks, the Communicable Disease Team works to prevent widespread disease transmission.

During the 2014 year, the CHD Communicable Disease Team investigated 588 reports of infectious diseases and responded to clusters of scabies in a hospital setting and Fifth disease in a school setting, and outbreaks of Hand Foot and Mouth Disease and influenza in school settings. Staff also investigated



Salmonella cases associated with a multi-state Salmonella outbreak, for which they were awarded the FDA Leveraging Collaboration Award.



Response to Ebola Outbreak in Western Africa

In March 2014, an outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) was identified in the west African country of Guinea. By May, outbreak cases had been identified in three countries – Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone (Graph 1). In September 2014, the first case of Ebola diagnosed in the U.S. was identified in connection with the outbreak in western Africa.

In response to this public health emergency, public health agencies implemented Exit and Entrance Screenings of travelers from Ebola-affected countries. Beginning in October 2014, all travelers from Ebola-affected countries arriving in the U.S. were actively monitored by health officials for 21 days for signs and symptoms of EVD, and to coordinate medical care if EVD-like symptoms were observed.

All local health districts in Virginia, including CHD, conducted active monitoring of any travelers arriving from Ebola-affected countries. CHD worked very closely with local hospitals and healthcare providers to provide guidance on assessing exposures and risk of EVD in patients, and to potentially manage a patient suspected of having EVD. CD staff provided 24-hour

consultation to area healthcare providers and hospitals. At the end of December 2014, Virginia had actively monitored 412 travelers from Ebola-affected countries, most of whom traveled to the northern region of the state. No cases of Ebola were identified in Virginia. Active monitoring of travelers from affected countries continues.

Tuberculosis Control

The Tuberculosis Control Program protects CHD citizens from the transmission of tuberculosis (TB) by identification, assessment, monitoring, and treatment of individuals with tuberculosis disease. The TB Program staff also assesses those exposed to individuals with tuberculosis. CHD outreach personnel provided directly observed therapy (DOT), assuring proper drug administration for all active TB cases throughout the district. This past year TB program staff followed one active case of TB. Table 7 shows the 2010-2014 five-year trend of TB cases for the Crater Health District compared to the Central Region area (which includes Crater, Chesterfield, Chickahominy, Henrico, Richmond, Piedmont and Southside health districts) and to the state. Over the past five years, Crater's TB rates have decreased below that of the region and the state overall.



Immunizations

The Immunization Program promotes and provides childhood and adult immunizations against diseases such as pertussis, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), measles, and other diseases to prevent disease outbreaks within CHD. A total of 2,026 people district-wide were immunized to prevent multiple diseases in 2014.

Crater Immunizations	CHD	Dinwiddie	Emporia/Greenville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex
2014	2026	394	256	193	660	329	109	85

Table 5: Crater FY15 Immunizations

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)

The STI Program has as its primary goal the reduction and prevention of the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection. Aggressive case finding efforts and treatment are employed by Crater's STI counselors to curtail the spread of STIs. In 2014, a total of 1,314 people received STI clinic services provided by CHD local health departments.

Crater STI Clinic Services	CHD	Dinwiddie	Emporia/Greenville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex
2014	1314	34	152	38	948	106	22	14

Table 6: Crater FY15 STI Clinic Services

Table 6 gives a five-year trend of Crater's number of reported STI cases and their respective rates. HIV rates for the district have increased slightly from 18.6 cases per 100,000 people in 2010 to 22.4 cases per 100,000 in 2014. Gonorrhea rates were decreasing from 2010 to 2013, but increased in 2014 (230.3 per 100,000) to a rate approaching that observed in 2010 (242.9 per 100,000). Over this period, Chlamydia case rates have declined below the rate observed five years ago, however, still remains double that of the state rate of 426.7 per 100,000. Since 2011, the rate for Total Early Syphilis has increased to a 14.8 in 2013 and 10.9 in 2014, double the rate observed in 2010.

Number of Reported TB Cases and Rates per 100,000 2010-2014											
Area	Pop 2014	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
		Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Case	Rate	Case	Rate
Crater Health District	157,488	6	3.8	4	2.6	1	0.6	3	1.9	2	1.3
Central Region	1,407,115	44	3.3	28	2.0	30	2.2	30	2.1	17	1.2
Virginia	8,258,952	268	3.4	221	2.7	235	2.9	179	2.2	198	2.4

Table 7: Crater FY15 TB Cases 2010-2014



Number of Reported STI Cases and Rates per 100,000 2010-2014										
Disease	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Case	Rate
HIV	29	18.6	26	16.6	31	19.9	36	23.1	35	22.4
Total Early Syphilis	9	5.8	8	5.1	14	8.9	23	14.8	18	10.9
Gonorrhea	379	242.9	353	225.7	316	203.0	272	174.5	359	230.3
Chlamydia	1544	989.4	1602	1024.4	1283	824.2	1342	860.8	1387	889.6

Table 8: Crater FY15 STI Cases 2010-2014

Environmental Health Services

Programs and Services

The local health departments in the Crater Health District have Environmental Health Specialists that are engaged in a variety of environmental programs. Some localities do not have a full time Environmental Health Specialist and the programs are covered by supervisory and management staff. All environmental staff with the exception of two have caseload responsibilities in multiple localities throughout the district. These programs are either state mandated or directed through local code/ordinance.

Environmental programs include: onsite sewage and private water well permitting/inspection, food facility inspections, rabies prevention, campground, summer camp and migrant labor camp inspections, marina inspections, hotel/motel and bed and breakfast inspections, swimming pool inspections at tourist establishments and environmental complaints. Local health departments do not investigate mold in residential dwellings. Program responsibilities specific to some localities include tattoo parlor inspections, grocery store inspections and standing water complaints. Environmental Health Specialists are standardized in the food inspection process and/or hold a license from the Department of Professional and Occupational Registry for onsite sewage work.

The economy continues to have an effect on the onsite sewage and well permitting program. While some localities experience an increase in activities others remained constant or saw a slight decline in activities. Table 9 illustrates activities in three of the major programs and total site visits are provided for all programs.

FY15	Dinwiddie	Emporia/ Greensville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex
Sewage Applications	118	22	0	1	75	34	9
Well Applications	53	20	2	0	40	35	14
Food Inspections	105	168	216	373	109	17	57
Rabies Investigations	63	23	62	108	90	3	4
Positive Rabies Cases	2	0	0	0	5	1	1
Total Site Visits	589	319	529	1070	405	150	103

Table 9: Crater FY15 Environmental Health Services



FY14	Dinwiddie	Emporia/ Greensville	Hopewell	Petersburg	Prince George	Surry	Sussex
Sewage Applications	106	20	1	2	50	39	21
Well Applications	77	13	0	0	27	23	30
Food Inspections	74	157	228	377	120	28	55
Rabies Investigations	57	24	68	99	61	7	5
Positive Rabies Cases	2	1	0	0	3	1	0
Total Site Visits	488	364	486	1104	308	210	171

Table 10: Crater FY14 Environmental Health Services

Food Safety and Emergency Response

Training of food service workers in food safety is provided by district Environmental Health Specialists. The Certified Food Managers course is offered several times per year and Basic Food Safety Training is provided upon request. These trainings are open to anyone who wants to attend which includes individuals that participate in temporary food events.

Environmental Health is involved in emergency planning and response. Events such as natural and manmade disasters and/or terrorist events require health department involvement. Post event recovery and sheltering are areas that require environmental work. Non-hurricane related events that produce weather that causes power failure to food facilities and/or flooding of drinking water supplies (wells) entail environmental health involvement to facilitate the protection of the public's health.

Community Health and Prevention

The Community Health and Prevention (CHP) Team is focused on assessing the needs of the community, and developing programs and initiatives to address those needs. Areas of focus include a wide range of topics that impact the community to include social determinants of health and health equity, chronic disease prevention, health literacy, social justice, health policy, youth health and wellness, worksite wellness, tobacco control, and much more. The Team serves in a leadership capacity on several health and wellness related boards, coalitions and committees. Public information and health education are major components of the Team's efforts as well. CHP staff maintain a positive relationship between the community and the CHD by being heavily involved in community events and activities, to include those held on nights and weekends. Programs and services provided by the Team include: lead case management, health education and presentations, health literacy support, and messaging and activities for chronic disease and STI prevention for youth and adults.

Lead Case Management

CHD provides lead case management for children six years of age and younger, who have elevated blood lead levels. Case management includes a preliminary assessment of the home, and education and follow-up with the family. Lead program staff works with the child's primary care provider to assure lead poison treatment. They conduct home visits to identify sources of lead exposure, and to educate families on how to reduce blood lead levels in their children as well.



For FY15, CHD provided case management services to ten families. Of these, two were newly reported, and eight were follow-up.

Health Education and Community Outreach

CHP staff regularly assesses community needs and responds to community requests for a variety of outreach opportunities. Some of these opportunities include presentations, health fairs, community coalitions, trainings, health screenings, immunization clinics and preparing and distributing health-related literature. CHP staff develops interventions and health information campaigns to address community health needs. CHP health educators work directly with various populations in the community such as youth, older adults, clinicians and faith-based organizations. Staff actively seek funding opportunities, and develop grant proposals to address health priorities for the district. Also, the CHP Team supports development of grant proposals made by local community organizations to improve public health. In addition, the Team is an active partner with several community organizations and coalitions who work towards improving health throughout the district.

In FY15, CHD received approximately 74 outreach requests. Staff attended over 70 community events, and reached an estimate of 9,000 community members throughout the District.

Healthy Living and Learning Center

The Healthy Living and Learning Center (HLLC) is a supportive, literacy-conscious environment where health information and resources such as books, brochures, videos, referrals and online services are shared with community members. HLLC provides citizens with access to health information and connections to existing health resources available in the community in a readily available location. The Center provides these services at its location in the Petersburg Public Library and through mobile outreach efforts. HLLC is a partnership between Crater Health District, the Petersburg Public Library and VCU Massey Cancer Center.

Since its beginning, up to FY15, HLLC has served over 4,000 people, received over 400 referrals, made over 600 referrals to community resources, distributed over 9,000 condoms, and attended nearly 500 community programs or events.

Closing the Gap

CHD was identified as one of five health districts in the state to receive the DP14-1422 Closing the Gap grant. This grant is a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant awarded to VDH to prevent and reduce the burden of chronic disease in vulnerable communities in Virginia. The grant award was for approximately \$436,000 per year for four years (2014 to 2018). Since receiving this grant in September 2014, CHD staff has spent significant time fostering relationships with community partners, and community action networks to implement grant activities. This includes creating a community action network in Hopewell, where one did not previously exist. With these relationships in place, CHD staff expects to implement more activities and begin collecting data in grant year two (October 2015 to September 2016).

Reproductive Health Education and Condom Distribution

CHD health educators provide reproductive health education in middle and high schools throughout the district. This includes an evidence-based curriculum that addresses hygiene, sexual health and contraception, STI prevention, and abstinence (dependent upon locality preference and permission). In a direct effort to prevent and reduce STI rates in the City of Petersburg, CHD partners with the Minority



Health Consortium to implement a condom distribution program in the City. This program partners with local businesses in the City of Petersburg to offer condoms in their establishments at no cost to community members. Countless condoms have been distributed to the community through this program.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Being prepared means the district is able to adapt quickly and appropriately. For the Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) Team, FY15 included testing and training to ensure the district is prepared to respond appropriately to an emergency event. The Team believes the district will continue to see aging infrastructure failures and Ebola/world threats, as well as weather related emergencies. These types of events remain high on the Team's priority list. One can never be fully prepared; however, CHD stands ready and watching the horizon while continuing to plan, prepare and practice for the worst.

Ebola Preparedness and Response

In response to the Ebola outbreak in western Africa, an Ebola Plan was written; training was developed and delivered to both CHD staff and external partners; an Ebola Work Group was established as the vehicle for communications and a resource hub; tracking and monitoring people and supplies was conducted, as well as sharing best practices.

Emergency Exercises and Events

A new Point of Dispensing Site (POD) was exercised in Greenville/Emporia and identified the future possibility of a drive through model. Additional POD drills conducted in Surry County and Prince George County saw success with support from 50% Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Volunteers. CHD participated in the Surry Nuclear Power Station, Command and Control Exercise - VOPEX, on February 10th 2015, meeting all FEMA Nuclear Regulatory Commission public health standards.

Also, for FY15, CHD responded to: nine boil water notices due to infrastructure failures spread out over six localities; one chemical oil spill in Hopewell; three winter storms; and an Ebola outbreak which remains active and on-going today.

Training and Highlights

Training opportunities in FY15 were exceptional with fit testing completed for Crater staff. The MRC Coordinator completed the Incident Command series 100-200-244 and Media Spokesperson training. The Emergency Coordinator partnered with Fort Lee military post by taking the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program. The Coordinator completed the advanced FEMA Mass Casualty course at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Alabama as well. In addition, a bi-annual EP&R Training Needs Assessment was conducted to evaluate emergency planning needs of Crater employees. When training volunteers, Crater MRC has chosen to expand on the minimum competencies required in order to train volunteers at a more advanced level over the coming years.

CHD EP&R highlights include the submission of Project Public Health Re-Recognition (PPHR): a five (5) year report focusing on the Crater Health District workforce capacity development, demonstration of readiness and continuous quality improvement in public health preparedness planning and response efforts. Also in FY15, the Statewide Agencies Radio System (STARS) connecting all state agencies during times of emergencies was implemented. The EP&R Team contributed to building the public health workforce by establishing an EP&R Student Intern program. In this program, six university students committed 2,283 hours of time for learning and support of Crater emergency preparedness programs.



Additionally, the City of Petersburg Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) was established. The purpose of the LEPC is for city agencies, local business, and community partners to plan and prepare for local emergencies impacting the community of Petersburg.

Medical Reserve Corps

Crater's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) mission is to improve public health preparedness by recruiting, training, deploying and retraining volunteer health professionals and community members. CHD relies on MRC members to share their skills and expertise during responses to threats of bioterrorism, public health emergencies, and other community needs. The MRC coordinator position was vacant for nine months prior to being filled.

The new MRC Coordinator joined the Crater team in March 2015. With two months remaining in the fiscal year, MRC membership increased from 203 volunteers to 224; volunteers committed 66 hours towards public health activities and training, equaling \$813.62 of economic impact; new community partnerships were created; a twelve-month work plan was developed; and MRC volunteers were committed to three large exercises and health fairs over summer/fall 2015. Crater MRC is ended the year positioned for an exciting FY16.



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