# Bringing Remote Area **Medical to the Piedmont** Region

Connor Eickelman '24

Hampden-Sydney College and Piedmont Health District, Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response

#### INTRODUCTION

The Piedmont Health District covers Amelia, Buckingham, Charlotte, Cumberland, Nottoway, Lunenburg, and Prince Edward County. My main goal this summer has been to bring a Remote Area Medical clinic to the Piedmont Health District to provide primary, dental, and vision care to the district.

#### **ABOUT REMOTE AREA MEDICAL**

Remote Area Medical is a charity that organizes popup weekend clinics throughout the United States. The clinics provide approximately 400-600 patients primary, dental, and vision care at no cost. As well, the charity partners with local providers to guarantee no-cost follow-up care.

## **MY ROLE**

I attended a RAM clinic in Emporia with several other members of the PHD team. I've started working with the RAM staff to organize a Community Host Group to lay the groundwork for a clinic in the spring of 2024. I then gave a presentation to over 30 community partners to gauge interest in the clinic. I will be continuing to work with PHD after the internship ends to organize this clinic.

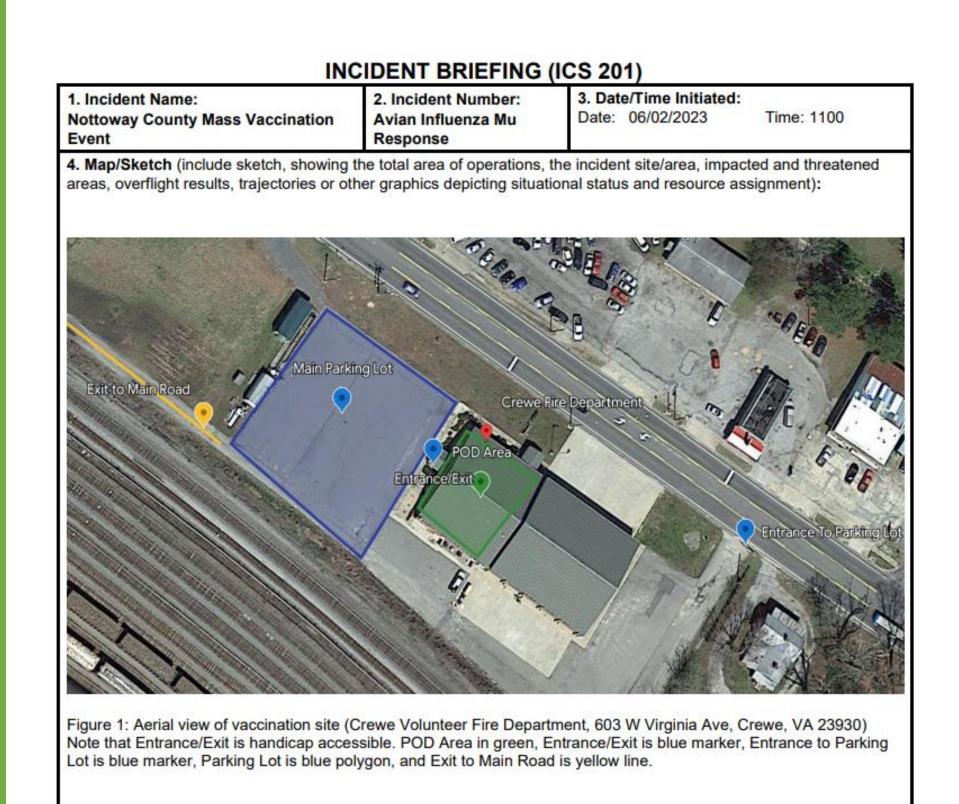


Map of the Piedmont Health District

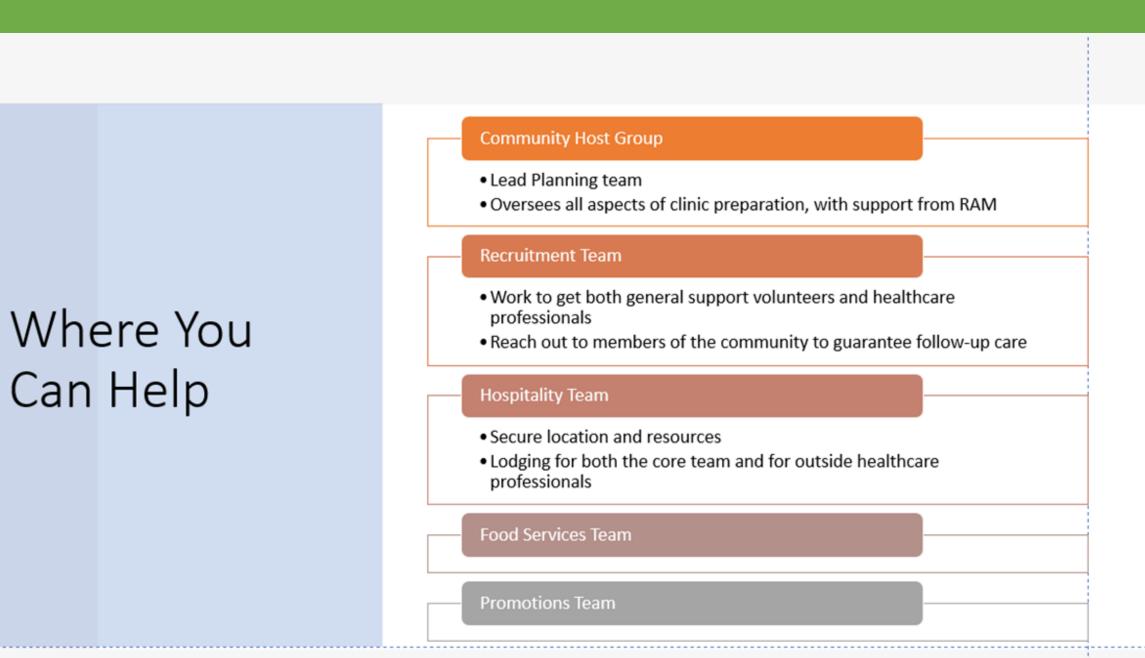


Can Help

Presentation to Community Partners for RAM Clinic



## Page from IAP for Mass Vaccination Clinic



## Slide from Presentation to Community Partners

### **OTHER PROJECTS THIS SUMMER**

- Attended multiple local emergency planning meetings with my boss Chris Thompson
- Attended a CBERS class with Chris Thompson
- Assisted in organizing local health department emergency supplies
- Participated in multiple restaurant health inspections
- Developed an Incident Action Plan for a vaccination clinic
- Developed a Recovery Plan for the PHD
- Assisted with multiple Chemical, Biological, Nuclear, Radiological, and Explosive trainings for members of the PHD staff
- Organized a plan to integrate social services into local EMS agencies
- Presented in front of the VDH Agency Forum on July 26, 2023

#### WHAT NEXT

This internship has radically changed my career goals. Prior to this internship, I had never seriously considered what taking a role in public health would look like. Through this internship and conversations with both Chris Thompson and District Director Dr. Maria Almond, I am now planning to obtain both an MD and an MPH, with the goal of one day being a District Director myself.