



CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

- [VDH COVID-19 Page](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Page](#)
- [VDH Hotline: 877-ASK-VDH3](#)

[Web](#) | [Social](#) | [Join the VA MAP Listserv](#) | [Find a Service Provider](#) | [Resources](#)

AUGUST 2020 EDITION

REVISED COMPREHENSIVE HARM REDUCTION LAW OFFERS GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR SERVICE DELIVERY

As of July 1 organizations wishing to conduct needle exchange as part of a comprehensive harm reduction (CHR) program will have fewer restrictions in establishing sites. The major changes to the previous law are:

1. CHR sites can be established in any jurisdiction in Virginia. The previous law allowed sites only in specific communities at greatest risk for a Hepatitis C or HIV outbreak.
2. Potential sites are no longer required to obtain letters of support from law enforcement, local government, and the local health director in order to apply.
3. CHR program participants now have protection from prosecution for possession of paraphernalia acquired through the program. Previously only CHR site staff and volunteers had this protection.
4. The number of mandatory core services has been reduced, which may enable smaller organizations to apply for authorization. Agencies seeking VDH funding, however, must still offer the full range of CHR services.

NAVIGATION

- [Revised CHR Law Offers Greater Flexibility for Service Delivery](#)
- [Updated DDP Mailing Policy for Confidential Information](#)
- [COVID-19 and the State of the STD Field: Phase II](#)
- [Self-Care Webinar Series](#)
- [New CHARLI DDP Webpage](#)
- [Increase the Appeal of Your Condom Selection Personnel](#)

The revised CHR application and program requirements can be found at: www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/chr. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact **Bruce Taylor** at (804) 864-8015 or bruce.taylor@vdh.virginia.gov.

[Return to Top](#)

UPDATED DDP MAILING POLICY FOR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

DDP has revised its Mailing Policy outlining the submission of HIV and STD-related documents. The revised policy is available on both the external website and the internal website. The policy is located on the external website at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/resources/> under the *Community Partners* tab.

Local health department and state health department employees can find the policy at: vdhweb.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/hiv-testing/. The revised policy will also be updated in the Rapid HIV Testing and Hepatitis Testing



Quality Assurance Manuals.

The policy revision includes two primary changes. First, HIV and STD forms can be mailed together in the same envelope, and no longer have to be mailed separately. Secondly, a weekly mailing of forms is recommended; this will ensure more timely data entry, and will avoid the risk of overstuffed envelopes which can be damaged in transit. In addition, language around the number of forms that can be mailed in a single envelope has been revised.

For questions or comments regarding the mailing policy, please contact **Caroline Campbell** at (804) 864-7978, or caroline.campbell@vdh.virginia.gov.

[Return to Top](#)

COVID-19 AND THE STATE OF THE STD FIELD: PHASE II

The National Coalition of STD Directors (NCSO) has released a follow-up report highlighting the ongoing, longer term response to COVID-19 and what effect the response has had and will continue to have on STD programs and the work of Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS). To view the report, [click here](#).

[Return to Top](#)

SELF-CARE WEBINAR SERIES

With stress on public health workers due to COVID-19, as well as a heightened visibility of racial injustice and inequities, self-care is more important than ever.

NCSO is offering a biweekly self-care webinar series in August and September. The dates of the webinar run from August 12, 2020 until September 30, 2020. Join the webinar to learn more about prioritizing self-care in your work environment.

For more information and to register for the webinar series, [click here](#).



[Return to Top](#)

NEW CHARLI DDP WEBPAGE

DDP is pleased to announce the launch of the Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Resources and Linkage for Inmates (CHARLI) webpage. The page URL is: www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/charli. Take a moment to view the page to see the services available through the CHARLI program. Included are the agencies contracted to provide the program and the correctional facilities that partner with VDH DDP.

If you have any questions/comments, please contact **Susan Carr** at (804) 864-8020 or susan.carr@vdh.virginia.gov.

[Return to Top](#)

INCREASE THE APPEAL OF YOUR CONDOM SELECTION

If you are repeatedly ordering the same condoms from the VDH Condom Distribution, consider adding different types and brands to appeal to your clients. Studies show that people are more likely to accept free condoms when they can choose from a selection. VDH DDP has two bulk assortments, in regular and large sizes, which provide a mix of styles and types of male condoms. By ordering a case of each, you will diversify your condom selection without ordering multiple cases of a single style or type of condom.

Don't forget to include lubricant in your order! Did you know that lubricant that is not oil based can increase the effectiveness of condoms, resulting in less condom breakage? Single use lubricant packs are available through the VDH Condom Distribution Program in cases of 1,000, and are on the order forms. VDH DDP now offers ONE Move Silicone – waterless and oil-free. Two Trustex Condom/Lube Combo packs offer a condom and lube in a single pack. They are available as assorted colors or natural condoms.

VDH DDP also has the ONE Ultrafeel Combo pack. This 2-in-1 pack contains an ultra-thin condom combined with an extra 2ml lube pouch.

Many organizations qualify for free condoms from the VDH DDP program! Both health districts and community partners are eligible for program. Organizations may now order up to 25,000 condoms each quarter (100,000 a year) and those with multiple sites may be approved to order more. Smaller quantities of female condoms, non-latex condoms, and oral dams are also available. For questions, the most current order forms, or to join the program, please contact **Beth Marschak** at elizabeth.marschak@vdh.virginia.gov, or (804) 864-8008.



[Return to Top](#)

PERSONNEL

Welcome

SPS welcomes **Patrick Ingram** as the new Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) for Prince William. He graduated from American Public University in 2017 with a concentration in Public Health and is currently working on his Master of Sciences in Health Service Administration. His career spans various areas in health delivery services, which includes community health; curriculum/training development; health consultant and prevention counselor in HIV/STD care and prevention. Patrick is also a former Alexandria DIS. Patrick can be reached at patrick.ingram@vdh.virginia.gov or (571) 208-7010.

Farewell

SPS bids farewell to **Shalesha Majors**. Shalesha came to VDH in 2019 as a DIS for the Crater health district. Her last day with VDH was August 7, 2020. We wish her much success in her new position with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and look forward to working with her in a different capacity.

SPS also bids farewell and a happy retirement to **Yvonne "Mimi" Nowlin**. Mimi's last day was August 6, 2020. Mimi's career with VDH spans over a decade. We wish Mimi all the best and many thanks for her years of dedication.

SPS bids farewell to **James Matthews**, DIS in Prince William. James' last day was August 6, 2020.

Mary Beth Cox left her position as Evaluation Coordinator with HIV and Hepatitis Prevention to accept a Quality Improvement position with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. Mary Beth was instrumental in carrying out evaluation activities for the PrEP and Bridges 757 grants. She will be greatly missed.

[Return to Top](#)