

Virginia Beach Department of Public Health

Funding Opportunity

Funding equity and prioritizing populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19 with mental health support.

Background and Purpose:

The Virginia Beach Dept of Public Health is seeking applicant organizations interested in partnering to host Every Brilliant Thing project, an immersive storytelling experience that addresses mental health. The places where people live, learn, work, play, and worship affect a wide range of health risks and outcomes, such as COVID-19 disease, severe illness, and death. These social determinants of health over time takes a toll on our community's mental health.

As evidenced by the available data to date, populations that have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 include, but are not limited to:

- People in racial and ethnic minority groups
 - Non-Hispanic American Indian
 - Alaska Native
 - Non-Hispanic Black
 - Hispanic
- People living in communities with high social vulnerability index.
- People living in rural communities.
- People with disabilities.
- People with who are homebound or isolated.
- People who are underinsured or uninsured.
- People who are immigrants and/or refugees.
- People with transportation limitations.

To address these disparities, the purpose of this opportunity is to offer a safe place for discussion and connection to mental health resources to vulnerable populations by hosting a play in partnership with the Virginia Beach Department of Public Health and Virginia Stage Company, Every Brilliant Thing. The goal is to fund strategies that increase access, knowledge and uptake of supports post COVID-19 for those disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

The following criteria can help you prioritize your selection of Virginia Beach communities of focus:

- Communities that have experienced disproportionately high rates of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) infection and severe COVID-19 disease or death. The Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 and Health Equity (<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/health-equity/virginia-health-equity-report/>) websites have data to help identify populations disproportionately affected.
- Communities with a history of mistrust in mental health authorities or the medical establishments
- Communities that are not well-known to health authorities or have not traditionally been the focus of mental health programs.

Information:

- Total funding for this opportunity is **\$2500 per play**.
- Each selected partner shall host play according to Virginia Stage Companies requirements as outlined in the technical rider (linked at the VBDPH website).
- Funds shall be reimbursed/disbursed after completion of event.

Eligibility:

- Community or faith-based organizations holding a current tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code.
- A Virginia Beach organization, not affiliated with a local, municipal, city, county, or state governmental agency or entity
- A Virginia Beach Native American Tribe

Requirements:

- Partner must provide space for the play. The space must comply with applicable building and safety codes for the size of the audience and participants.
- Partner will work with VBDPH to ensure adequate attendance for play. Marketing materials will be provided and supported by Virginia Stage Company and Virginia Beach Department of Public Health.
- Partner must provide logistical support for event including a staff point of contact to monitor space usage.
- Partner must work collaboratively with VBDPH staff for resource fair organizing, as well as provide space, and tables for resource partners.
- Partner must reach populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19 as outlined above.
- Partner must service Virginia Beach and all events must take place within Virginia
- Submit financial information and meet budgetary requirements linked at vdh.virginia.beach.gov. All applicants must complete the budget template.

** Play is currently offered in English only. Translators welcome.*

Important Dates:

- All plays must be completed by March 31, 2024
- Grantees will be selected on a rolling basis.

Applications will be reviewed by a group of representatives within VBDPH and evaluated based on the following criteria:

Alignment with purpose of funds	15 points
Organizational focus on vulnerable populations	15 points
Demonstrated capacity for implementation	10 points
Completeness of Application	10 points

Interested parties please contact maleah.amos@vdh.virginia.gov for more information.