

VDH VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

**BLUE
RIDGE
HEALTH
DISTRICT**

VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

EY25 ANNUAL **REPORT**

www.BlueRidgeHD.org



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Who We Are:

The Blue Ridge Health District (BRHD) is one of 35 health districts under the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). We are comprised of five health departments and one community-based clinic that serve the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson, along with the city of Charlottesville. Our local health departments provide public health services to over 250,000 residents.

Our Mission:

To protect and promote the health and well-being of all Virginians.

Our Vision:

Working together for healthy, equitable communities.

BRHD Locations

Charlottesville/Albemarle Health Department

1138 Rose Hill Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434-972-6200

Greene County Health Department

50 Stanard Street
Stanardsville, VA 22973
434-985-2262

Nelson County Health Department

1645 Thomas Nelson Highway
Arrington, VA 22922
434-263-8315

Fluvanna County Health Department

132 Main Street
Palmyra, VA 22963
434-591-1960

Louisa County Health Department

101 Woolfolk Ave
Suite 202- Clinical
Suite 203- Environmental Health
Louisa, VA 23093
540-967-3703

Yancey Community Center

7625 Porters Road
Esmont, VA 22937
434-270-3216



Letter From the Director

Fiscal Year 2025 (July 2024 – June 2025) was a remarkable year for the Blue Ridge Health District (BRHD). Our Emergency Preparedness team worked diligently to earn recertification in Project Public Health Ready, a testament to our readiness to respond effectively to emergencies across the District. We reaped the benefits of that work repeatedly throughout the year, whether it was responding swiftly to rapidly reportable infectious diseases or utilizing the incident command model to plan and execute our move to a new location in Nelson County.

Speaking of that move, we completed our long-anticipated relocation to the Nelson Heritage Center in November 2024. The new space is thoughtfully designed to support critical public health services including administering vaccines, counseling clients on nutrition needs and access, and serving as a location for people to get vital records or complete well and septic applications. It's a place where community members can come for the support they need, and we're proud to call it home.

FY25 also brought its challenges, most notably a federal funding rescission of nearly \$3 million in spring of 2025, which significantly impacted our population health capabilities. Despite this, we have worked to reallocate and stabilize our grant funding to ensure continued access to essential services throughout the Blue Ridge Health District.

Through every challenge and success, our dedicated team has stayed true to the mission and vision of BRHD, working each day to serve our community with integrity and compassion. As we look ahead to FY26, I am confident we will continue to build on this foundation.

I hope that this report gives you a deeper connection to the everyday work of public health here in the Blue Ridge Health District. Thank you for your ongoing support.

In health,



Ryan L. McKay, MPA

Director, Blue Ridge Health District
Virginia Department of Health

MAPP2Health Report

From July 2024 through July 2025, the Blue Ridge Health District partnered with Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital, UVA Health, and dozens of community organizations to complete the 2025 MAPP2Health Community Health Assessment (CHA). Throughout the year, hundreds of residents shared their perspectives through one-on-one interviews, focus groups, and surveys. Their input helped identify three top health priorities for the next three years:

- **Chronic Conditions** (with a focus on obesity and mental health)
- **Healthcare Access**
- **Social Drivers of Health** (such as healthy food access, income stability, and transportation)

The CHA gave us a clear picture of our community's health and set the direction for the next Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

At the same time, partners continued advancing the 2023-2025 CHIP, which will conclude in December 2025. That plan focused on strategies in four key areas: transportation, the healthcare workforce, digital access and skills, and mental health. While the 2025 CHA brought in new voices and charted the future, the ongoing CHIP ensured that current efforts – such as improving transit reliability, expanding the community health workforce, and training digital navigators – stayed on track and delivered results.

By July 2025, the MAPP2Health Core Group had completed the **CHA report**, begun laying the groundwork for the 2025-2028 CHIP, and prepared partners to move into the next phase of collective action. The final months of 2025 will be a time of transition: wrapping up the 2023-2025 CHIP, celebrating accomplishments, and launching new workgroups to address the priorities identified through the CHA. This continuous cycle of assessing, planning, and acting ensures that community voices guide our work together as we continue improving health and resilience across the Blue Ridge Health District.



BRHD and Core Group partner Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital attended a focus group with members of the re-entry community, hosted by the Fountain Fund. Focus groups were one of the four methods of collecting community input for the MAPP2Health Community Health Assessment.

Environmental Health

When you go out to eat, get a school lunch, or have lunch catered, you might not think about the careful work behind the scenes to keep your food safe. Yet every meal relies on proper handling, preparation and sanitation to protect your health. BRHD food inspectors work daily to spot potential risks and prevent foodborne illnesses caused by harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites, or chemicals.



Temporary Event Vendors Permitted

Albemarle	13
Charlottesville	32
Fluvanna	15
Greene	5
Louisa	14
Nelson	17
Total	96

It is the BRHD's goal to prevent the spread of rabies. We do this by educating the public about rabies and the importance of reporting an exposure. We work closely with medical staff and providers to identify exposures and provide medical guidance or treatment in a timely manner. We also collaborate with local Animal Control to confine biting domestic animals, and the State lab to test animals for rabies when needed.

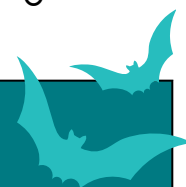
BRHD also helps restaurant operators learn how to prepare and serve food safely. In FY25, BRHD's Food Safety program partnered with the Virginia Tech Extension Program to offer ServSafe training in Spanish, working with over 25 operators to obtain the Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) credential. They also created helpful videos on handwashing, sanitizing, date marking, and food separation for temporary events. These resources are available on the BRHD website and are used throughout the Commonwealth.

Food Service Establishment Inspections



Albemarle	383
Charlottesville	355
Fluvanna	45
Greene	72
Louisa	75
Nelson	30
Total	960

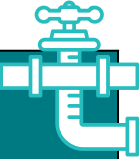
Rabies Exposure Investigations




Albemarle	80
Charlottesville	27
Fluvanna	24
Greene	59
Louisa	97
Nelson	42
Total	339

Environmental Health


Thousands of Virginians rely on private wells for their water instead of municipal systems, which are regularly tested and treated. Private water is the owner’s responsibility, so it’s important to understand how to keep it safe for drinking, cooking, and daily use.

Well System Applications 	
Albemarle	249
Charlottesville	7
Fluvanna	99
Greene	77
Louisa	453
Nelson	104
Total	989

BRHD’s Environmental Health (EH) team recently helped an elderly woman in Louisa whose septic system had failed. She had been using a potty chair for years because she couldn’t afford a replacement. EH Onsite staff partnered with the Fluvanna-Louisa Housing Foundation, and they were able to fully fund the repair through a grant. After a year of challenges, a new sewage disposal system was installed, restoring her basic comfort and removing a serious public health risk.

Sewage Disposal System Applications 	
Albemarle	555
Charlottesville	0
Fluvanna	114
Greene	139
Louisa	486
Nelson	149
Total	1,443

During FY25, the BRHD Vital Records program issued 21,888 vital record certificates, including birth, death, marriage, and divorce records for events that occurred in Virginia. By offering same-day, in-person service locally, we helped community members save both time and the cost of traveling to Richmond – making access to essential documents faster, easier, and more convenient.

Vital Records Issued (incl. duplicate copies) 	
Albemarle / Charlottesville	14,919
Fluvanna	2,046
Greene	1,211
Louisa	2,211
Nelson	1,501
Total	21,888

Clinical Services

We continue to see a steady increase in requests for Pre-Admission Screenings, underscoring the growing need for long-term support services that help individuals safely maintain daily living activities at home. This rising demand extends to children as well, with more pediatric referrals than in previous years. Training new staff to conduct these critical screenings remains a top priority to ensure timely and effective service delivery.

Our team continues to perform a high volume of tuberculosis (TB) screenings, particularly for employment purposes. To meet demand and reduce barriers, we organized several onsite screening events in Fluvanna, Charlottesville, and Louisa. While many individuals undergo TB screenings, not all require further testing – this depends on various clinical and risk-based factors. Screening numbers in Nelson County were lower this year, likely reflecting the temporary impact of relocating our clinic site. As services stabilize in the upcoming fiscal year, we anticipate increased utilization in this locality.

Pre-Admission Screenings



Albemarle	154
Charlottesville	205
Fluvanna	84
Greene	61
Louisa	127
Nelson	72
Total	703

Tuberculosis Screenings & Visits



Albemarle / Charlottesville	162
Fluvanna	64
Greene	92
Louisa	166
Nelson	5
Total	489



Immunization Visits

Albemarle / Charlottesville	1,673
Fluvanna	222
Greene	262
Louisa	205
Nelson	37
Total Visits	2,399
Total Clients	2,000




Family Planning Visits

Albemarle / Charlottesville	220
Fluvanna	40
Greene	69
Louisa	83
Nelson	27
Total Visits	439
Total Clients	297

Sexual Health Services

We saw a slight increase in condom requests this past year, a positive sign that more community members and partner organizations are prioritizing safer sex. Our extensive selection of condoms remains available, and we can provide community members with a link to our confidential survey for conveniently requesting condoms - including an option for delivery if desired! Our ongoing efforts aim to reduce sexually transmitted infections (STIs) through increased accessibility to safer sex items, family planning services, and STI testing.




Sexual Health Visits	
Albemarle / Charlottesville	472
Fluvanna	1
Greene	2
Louisa	3
Nelson	2
Total Visits	480
Total Clients	326


Harm Reduction

We trained 326 individuals to recognize opioid overdose signs and properly administer naloxone, reinforcing community capacity to respond to emergencies. Over 270 specialized test strips, capable of detecting substances like xylazine, benzodiazepines, and fentanyl in pills, were dispensed. These are an important tool in preventing accidental overdoses.


More than 760 medication disposal bags were distributed to safely remove unused medications from homes, protecting both residents and local waterways. These efforts are crucial as overdoses account for 40.3 of every 10,000 emergency department visits in the Blue Ridge Health District, with 15 opioid-related deaths reported in Charlottesville and Albemarle in 2024.



Condoms Distributed	
Total	50,706



Boxes of Naloxone Nasal Spray Distributed	
Albemarle / Charlottesville	299
Fluvanna	9
Greene	2
Louisa	12
Nelson	4
Total	326



Medication Disposal Bags Distributed	
Total	768

Emergency Preparedness & Response

BRHD's Incident Management Team swiftly and effectively responded to several high-priority infectious disease incidents in 2025, including two confirmed cases of measles and one case of meningococcal disease. In close collaboration with key partners such as UVA Health and UVA Student Health and Wellness, we ensured consistent public messaging and delivered comprehensive healthcare support tailored to the needs of our community.

The measles cases resulted in over 350 identified exposed contacts, while the meningococcal case involved more than 250 potential exposures. Our team demonstrated exceptional dedication by working through holidays, evenings, and weekends to manage these complex incidents and coordinate critical Point of Dispensing (POD) events to administer relevant vaccines.

Real World Incidents 		Exercises Participated in or Conducted 	
Total	22	Total	35

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

VIRGINIA



BRHD Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers contributed over 2,100 hours of volunteer time in FY25, valuing over \$72,430.

Notably, our MRC Volunteers assisted the Charlottesville City Schools nurses with conducting mandatory testing for students in grades kindergarten, 3rd, 7th, and 10th. BRHD MRC volunteers helped with vision and hearing tests, along with the Virginia Dental Assessment Program. This is just one example of a great community collaboration between BRHD MRC and local schools that will continue into the new fiscal year.

Hours Volunteered by Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Volunteers	
Albemarle	436
Charlottesville	663
Fluvanna	198
Greene	17
Louisa	47
Nelson	100
Online Education	639
Total	2,100

Epidemiology

Our community continued to face the evolving impact of infectious diseases this past fiscal year. Though the pandemic has shifted from crisis to management, COVID-19 still accounted for nearly three-quarters (73.6%) of all reportable illnesses outside of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in BRHD.

Beyond COVID-19, a wide array of illnesses shaped our public health landscape. Gastrointestinal diseases comprised over a quarter of non-COVID cases, with campylobacteriosis alone representing 34% of these GI infections. Vaccine-preventable diseases, while less frequent, remained a critical concern, accounting for 21% of reported cases. This category included measles and a tragic meningococcal infection that resulted in a fatality. These events required a coordinated, high-level response from BRHD, VDH, and UVA, demonstrating the power of collaboration in protecting our community.

BRHD saw encouraging declines across STIs compared to the previous year. HIV/AIDS cases fell by 23%, gonorrhea by 20%, syphilis by 14%, and chlamydia saw a slight decrease as well. Despite these positive trends, STIs remain the second most commonly reported health events in our district, signaling continued need for targeted education, prevention, and treatment efforts.

Tickborne illnesses, invasive pathogens, and toxic exposures such as lead also contributed to the health challenges we faced. We were reminded that the fight against disease is multi-faceted, ongoing, and requires sustained funding and response efforts.



Reported Disease Cases Investigated

Albemarle	1,508
Charlottesville	655
Fluvanna	397
Greene	329
Louisa	587
Nelson	190
Total	3,666

Population Health

Community Engagement

BRHD's Population Health Division includes communications, Community Health Workers (CHWs), and maternal and child health programs including Title V and WIC. Collaborating with teams across the District, this division produced over 600 culturally appropriate education materials, many in multiple languages. They also hosted 58 community-based events in FY25, distributing hundreds of COVID-19 rapid test kits, cribs, car seats, and other resources. This team is focused on meeting people in the community where they live, work, worship, and play.

Materials Translated into non-English languages

Total	304
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Community Events

Total Events Attended	54
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Total Events Hosted	58
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At the start of FY25, BRHD had six CHWs who connected with hundreds of local community members. Between July 2024 and February 2025, they hosted 90 community office hour sessions to connect individuals and families with essential services like housing, healthcare, food access, and mental health support. In March 2025, BRHD experienced a loss in federal funding which led to the elimination of five out of six CHW positions. Our remaining CHW has continued to provide support to everyone throughout the District, including at the Yancey Community Center. BRHD is hopeful to hire more CHWs in the future as we know the profound impact that these roles have on improving our community's health.

CHW Office Hours Hosted

Total	239
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BRHD continues to support CHWs across the District from other agencies by operating the BRHD Outreach Network. Our Network convenes outreach workers for training, networking, resource sharing, and assisting with CHW certifications.

Trainings & Networking Events Hosted by Outreach Network

Total	26
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Population Health

Maternal Child Health (MCH)



In FY25, BRHD's Maternal and Child Health & MRC Volunteer Coordinators co-hosted four infant safety classes for new and expecting parents/caregivers. Classes covered medication safety, Friends and Family CPR, choking hazard prevention, room by room baby proofing,

and local resources for new and expecting families. Of all the classes we've hosted, this is one of our most consistently attended. BRHD also partnered with the Improving Pregnancy Outcomes Workgroup and other local organizations to host the second annual HealthyBirth HealthyBaby Birth Expo in September 2024. In addition to celebrating pregnancy, babies, and new parents, the main goal of this event was to provide much needed resource connection at no cost. Over 30+ agencies and businesses joined to share information on their services with 100+ attendees. Thanks to the generosity of several local organizations and individuals, we were able to provide a free photo booth, snacks, and a variety of giveaway prizes.

Free Portable Crib Distributed



Total	146
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Free Car & Booster Seats Distributed

Albemarle / Charlottesville	118
Fluvanna	40
Greene	38
Louisa	44
Nelson	24
Total	264

Women, Infants, & Children (WIC)



Last summer (starting June 2024), the BRHD WIC program was enrolled in the WIC Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

This program is run by the Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services and also includes the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. Funded by the USDA, this program allows \$30 vouchers to be issued at local farmers' markets and farmstands throughout the state of Virginia for the purchase of local fruits and vegetables. This past farmers' market season we issued over 140 vouchers;

this represents an additional \$4,200 distributed to WIC families to support the purchase and consumption of fresh and locally grown produce. WIC staff will continue to promote this program to eligible families at their appointments until the season ends for the year.

Average Monthly Client Caseload



Albemarle / Charlottesville	1,343
Fluvanna	246
Greene	328
Louisa	419
Nelson	212
Total	2,548

Workforce Development

Two BRHD public health nurses were selected to present a poster on the innovative VeVaGo program at the North American Refugee Health Conference. They traveled to Minnesota in August 2024 to represent the work they did to improve refugee health in our community. This was a huge honor and highlighted the important role of BRHD in protecting and promoting the health of all Virginians – including our newest arrivals.

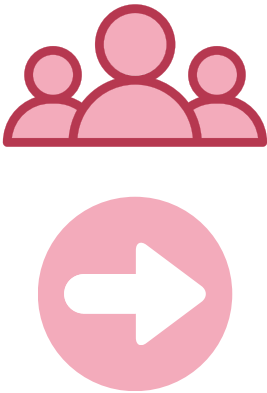
Also in summer of 2024, our Director of Communications and Population Health attended the Commonwealth Management Institute. This is a week-long conference for managers in state, federal, and local government deeply invested in affecting positive change for their agencies and organizations. BRHD aims to send one manager each year to this conference to increase our capacity for leadership and ensure our managers are skilled and effective leaders who can reach their career and public service goals.

Onboarding Program Participants	
Total	16

External Trainings Attended	
Total	28

Human Resources

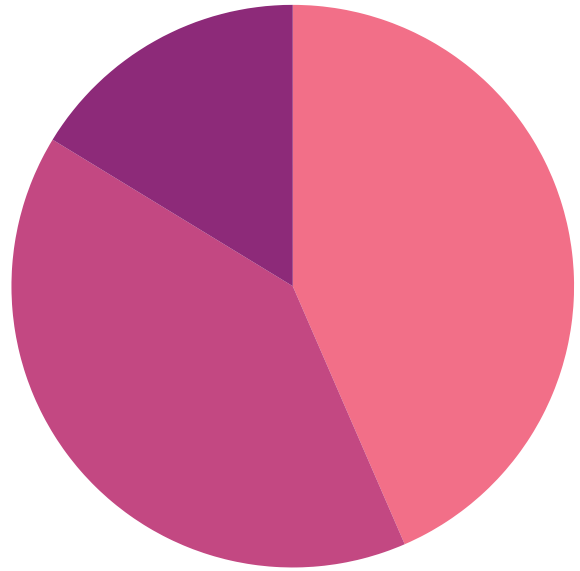
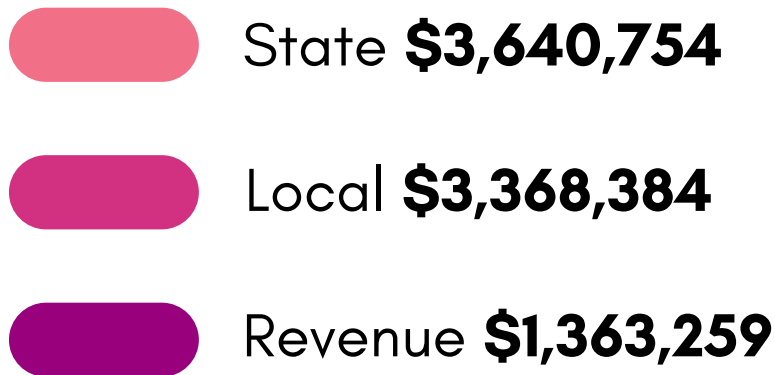
June 2024	
Full-Time	70
Wage	4
Contract	40
Total	114



June 2025	
Full-Time	75
Wage	3
Contract	14
Total	92

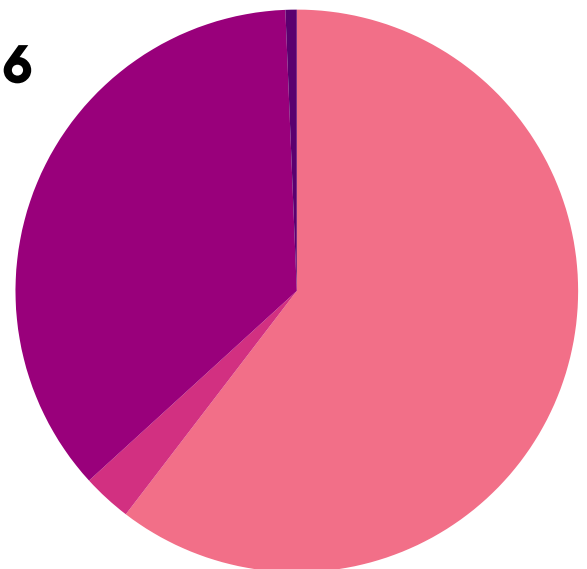
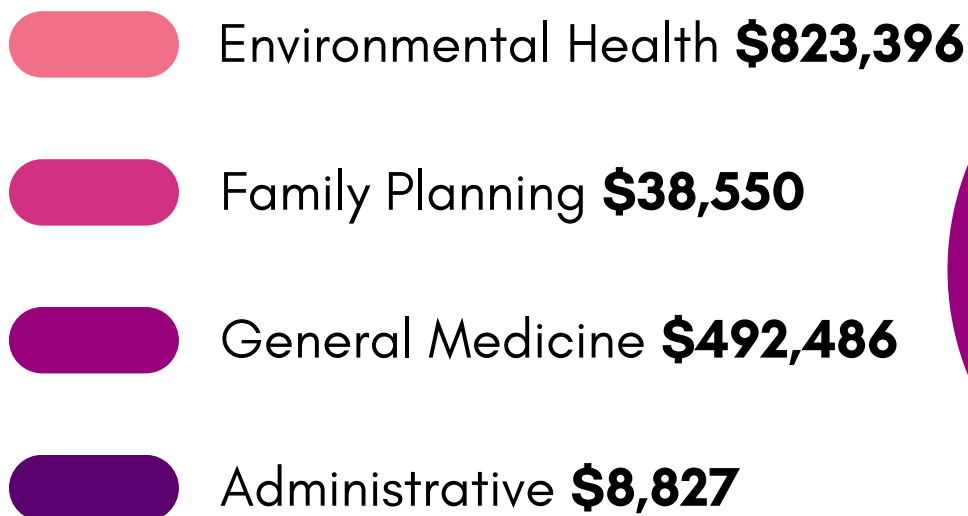
Fiscal Information

Funding:



\$8,372,397 Total

Revenue:



\$1,363,259 Total

Fiscal Information

Expenses:



\$8,159,653

Total

