



Greetings from the Virginia Primary Care Office & the State Office of Rural Health!

Community Spotlight

VDH Partners with Libraries to Provide COVID-19 Antigen At-Home Test Kits at No Cost

VDH-STACC is a new program launched by VDH in November 2021. Through this program, VDH distributes COVID-19 at-home test kits to participating libraries. Community members can pick up FREE test kits from participating libraries (library cards aren't required) and take the kits home to self-test for COVID-19.



For More Information

If your organization would like to be featured in our VA-SORH bi-weekly newsletter, Facebook page, and website please fill out the following [Google form](#).

Updated COVID-19 Resources

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) COVID-19 Vaccination Resources



- [Vaccinate Virginia](#)- to find a vaccine near you
- Sign up for [Vaccinate Virginia Partner Updates](#)
- Become a 2021 VDH Community Ambassador
- [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Education Materials](#)
- Find out which phase of the vaccination campaign you fall in
- Contact your Local Health District
- [VDH Tele Town-Hall and Other Vaccine Confidence Resources](#)
- [VDH COVID-19 Vaccination Disparities and Social Determinants](#)

COVID-19 Communications Materials

- "About the Three COVID-19 Vaccines" Graphic ([download here](#))
- [The Language of Vaccine Acceptance](#) by de Beaumont
- [CDC Vaccination Communication Toolkit](#)
- Downloadable [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Patient Education Materials](#)
- [NRHA COVID-19 Vaccine Talking Points for Rural Leaders](#)
- [Customizable COVID-19 Vaccine Communication Toolkit for Rural Communities](#)
- [CDC "How to Address COVID-19 Vaccine Misinformation"](#)
- [CDC "Talking with Patients about COVID-19 Vaccinations"](#)
- [CDC "Ways to Help Increase COVID-19 Vaccinations"](#)
- [HRSA "RHC COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Program" information](#)
- [HHS "What works and What Doesn't in COVID-19 Vaccine Outreach"](#)
- **NEW** [Community-Based Workforce to Build COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence Application](#)
Deadline for funding: 12/10/21

Additional COVID-19 Resources

- CDC National Forum on COVID-19 Vaccine
- COVID-19 Vaccination Reporting Data Systems
- COVID-19 FAQs and Funding for HRSA Programs
- HRSA COVID-19 Coverage Assistance Fund (CAF)
- GHPC's Collection of Rural Health Strategies for COVID-19
- NRHA Rural-Relevant COVID-19 Resource Library
- We Can Do This: COVID-19 Public Education Campaign launches a [Spanish-language website](#)
- NRHRC "COVID-19 Funding Sources Impacting Rural Providers" guide
- CDC COVIDVaxView: A Data Dashboard
- **NEW** Expanding Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) Capacity to Respond to COVID-19- Application Deadline for funding: 11/29/21
- **NEW** FQHC and RHC Best Practices for Telehealth in Response to COVID-19

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

VA-SORH NRHD Video

Thank you to everyone who celebrated National Rural Health Day with us last week! If you missed it, check out the VA-SORH NRHD video for updates on the Virginia Rural Health Plan, an introduction to Virginia's 2021 Community Star, Bryan Price, and more!



VA-SORH NRHD Video

VA-SORH Photo Contest Winners!

Congratulations to the three winners of the Virginia State Office of Rural Health (VA-SORH) Photo Contest; Anne Powell, Miranda Ellis, and Colleen Forst (submitted by Amy Bull). Their photos will be featured in the 2022 VA-SORH Community Calendar!



If you would like to request a copy of the calendar please fill out this [Google form](#).

For More Information

Informational Webinar: Thursday December 16, 2021 from 3:00 - 4:00 PM ET

The National EMS Quality Alliance is recruiting EMS agencies from around the country to participate in a project on the use of lights and sirens. This project is voluntary and is limited to 50 EMS agencies/system.

To register for the informational webinar [click here](#).

[For More Information](#)

Seven Virginia hospitals join first-of-its-kind maternal and infant health collaborative



A new initiative from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Women's Health aims to use in-patient data to address maternal and infant mortality. The HHS Perinatal Improvement Collaborative includes over **200 hospitals** across the U.S., including some of Virginia's most renowned health systems listed below.

Participating Virginia hospitals:

- Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (Chesapeake)
- Riverside Regional Medical Center (Newport News)
- Riverside Shore Memorial Hospital (Onancock)
- Southside Regional Medical Center (Petersburg)
- Bon Secours St. Francis Medical Center (Midlothian)
- Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital (Richmond)
- UVA Health (Charlottesville)

[For More Information](#)

Rural Hospital Patient and Family Engagement - 2021 Toolkit



Toolkit provides guidance for rural hospitals to foster effective communication between patients, staff, and leadership. Discusses communication strategies in a number of domains, such as data collection, community engagement, and workforce development, among others.

[For More Information](#)

HRSA Federal Office of Rural Health Policy investments in Virginia in Fiscal Year 2021. Lists grant and cooperative agreement recipients, award amounts, award recipient locations, and congressional district.

Request an Opioid Response Outreach Toolkit from the VDH P3 Program



The best ways to prevent opioid overdose deaths are to:

- decrease risk factors and increase protective factors
- improve opioid prescribing
- reduce exposure to opioids
- prevent misuse
- treat opioid use disorder

To aid in these efforts, the Virginia Partners in Prayer and Prevention program have Opioid Response Outreach Toolkits available. If you would like to request a Toolkit, at no cost please fill out this form.

Request Form

Upcoming Conferences & Meetings

Economic Development Infrastructure: A Hub & Spoke Model



Wednesday, December 8, 2021 from 10 AM to 1 PM ET

United Way of
Southwest Virginia

For the last several years, United Way of Southwest Virginia has been working with educators, employers and community leaders to make it easier for employers to find skilled workers, and for students to find good jobs. We've seen the unlimited potential with our own eyes.

Join United Way of SWVA and key stakeholders from business, education, government, economic development, and workforce development to visualize the future and discuss multiple opportunities to make a lasting impact in the Southwest Virginia region. Leaders from multiple sectors will explore localized solutions for a proposed regional plan.

For More Information and to Register

State & Regional Resources & Funding Opportunities



Healthy Food Financing Initiative Targeted Small Grants Program

Letter of Interest Deadline: Tuesday, December 7, 2021
Full Application Deadline: Upon invitation

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative aims to improve access to healthy foods in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities. The program aims to build a more equitable food system that supports the health and economic vibrancy of all Americans.

For More Information and to Apply



NHSC Loan Repayment Programs: One Application, Three Programs

Application Deadline: Thursday, December 16, 2022

Three programs will award more applicants this year with an historic \$800 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan. Loan repayment programs play a critical role in supporting clinicians in rural communities, with more than 30 percent of the funds going to rural applicants. The NHSC Loan Repayment Program awards up to \$50,000 in exchange for a two-year commitment to provide primary medical, dental or mental/behavioral health care at approved sites in high-need, underserved areas. The NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program provides up to \$75,000 in exchange for a three-year commitment to health care professionals who provide substance use disorder treatment services. Providers in rural communities may apply to the NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program, which awards up to \$100,000 for three years of service.

[For More Information](#)

Empowering Communities to Address Behavioral Health and Chronic Pain through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs



Letter of Intent (Optional): Friday, December 17, 2021

Application Deadline: Tuesday, January 25, 2022

This funding opportunity is designed for applicants to propose how they will develop or expand capacity for, deliver, and sustain evidence-based chronic disease self-management education and support programs among older adults and adults with disabilities, particularly those in underserved areas/populations, as defined by Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government.

[For More Information](#)



The 2022 Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program Application Cycle is NOW OPEN!

Application Deadline: Thursday, January 13, 2022

The Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program (LRP) helps address the health care needs of those in underserved communities and supports the ongoing development of the nursing workforce in our country by offering funding to registered nurses and advanced practice registered nurses towards payment of their qualifying educational loans.

In exchange for the payment of these qualifying educational loans:

Nurses (RNs and APRNs) serve a two-year service commitment at a health care facility facing a critical shortage of nurses.

Nurse faculty serve a two-year service commitment at an eligible school of nursing.

Additional loan repayment is available for both groups with a third year of service commitment.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)



Application Deadline: Monday, January 24, 2022

CATCH Planning, Implementation, and Resident Grants support innovative community-based child health initiatives, which include the following components:

- Is led by a pediatrician or pediatric resident.
- Focuses on building strong community partnerships.
- Serves those who are underserved/experience health disparities.
- Provides access to services that lead to optimal child health and well-being.
- Has measurable outcomes.
- Plans for sustainability.

[For More Information and to Apply](#)

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