

Healthy Patrick County & UVA-SORH Rural Data Commons

Leveraging Localized Data to Drive Community Level Solutions

- *West Piedmont Health District - Case Study*
- *Virginia Rural Health Plan - Data Commons*

Presenters:

Nancy Bell
West Piedmont Health District

Clarissa Noble, MPH
OHE, Division of Primary Care and Rural Health

Objectives

- Identify some of the unique data obstacles facing rural communities.
- Provide an overview of one County's innovative path and solution.
- Preview data tools that will be shared and available to all rural communities in the Commonwealth.

The Need

Healthy Patrick County project was born out of extreme necessity

- Early data revealed a steadily decreasing lifespan for residents of Patrick County.
- Multiple inequalities that posed barriers to health care access and use identified.

Inequities plaguing Patrick County

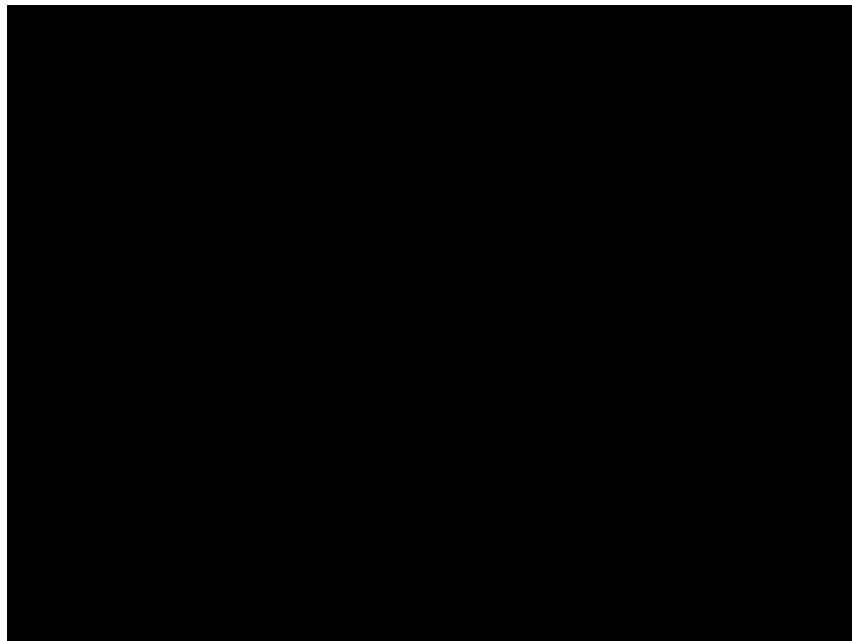
- Rough mountainous terrain affecting travel for aging population
- Widespread inability to access Internet
- Extremely medically underserved
- The only Hospital in the county closed its doors in 2013
- Only 1 private medical practice; long waits for appointments
- No wellness programs or services
- Citizens not engaged in “health” as an issue

The Need for Accurate and Community-Level Data

- Data was outdated or too broad
- Contradictory data; no sharing of data
- Citizens did not willingly trust the data

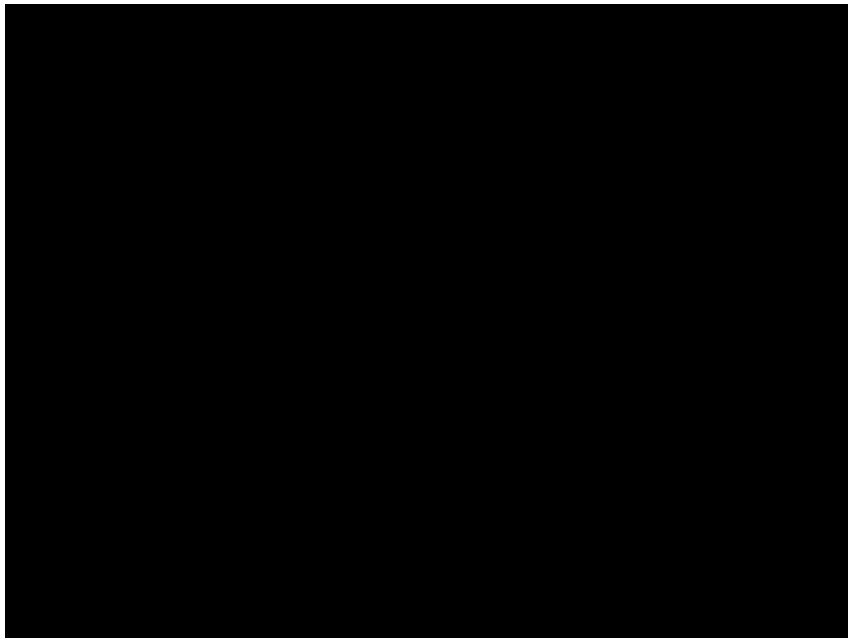
Access Barriers to Health in Rural Virginia

- The issue of ACCESS for the people of this community was overwhelming. We needed expert assistance!
- ARC \$50,000 planning grant = Telehealth Demand Model



Stephen Horan, PhD,
Community Health Solutions

Additional Grant Funding to provide Data Needs



Cooperative Extension Grant =
Biocomplexity Institute project
rooting out data of a granular nature

Terri Alt, with Virginia Cooperative
Extension, Patrick County, describes
the process.

The Dashboard

- [The Dashboard](#)
- Older adult characteristics <https://dspgtools.shinyapps.io/ruralvirginia/>
- Retail food access -- only half the pop within a 15 minute drive of food
<https://dspgtools.shinyapps.io/ruralvirginia/>
- Internet access by phone or computer in one census tract, only 11%
access <https://dspgtools.shinyapps.io/ruralvirginia/>

A Solution was Found!

VDH State Office of Rural Health: Innovative Grant Program

- 1-year grant cycle program for Virginia's rural communities

In 2020, Healthy Patrick County Applied

2021-2022 VA-SORH Grantee: Healthy Patrick County

Need Addressed: Access to Healthcare

Project Goal: Increase access to healthcare services by leveraging the Patrick County EMS to host telehealth services/appointments in their buildings

RURAL HEALTH DATA COMMONS

an innovative approach to inform health and well-being



BIOCOMPLEXITY
INSTITUTE





Virginia State Office of Rural Health (VA-SORH)

Mission:

To address and rectify health disparities affecting the rural residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia

The VA-SORH is dedicated to:

- Fostering collaboration and leveraging resources across and within various levels of government, communities, and non-profit organizations
- Collecting and disseminating information to stakeholders
- Providing technical assistance
- Assisting the coordination of rural health interests statewide
- Recruitment and retention of health professionals in rural and medically underserved areas

PURPOSE

BRING VIRGINIA RURAL HEALTH PLAN TO LIFE

- **AMPLIFY**
understanding of priority areas
- **PROVIDE**
opportunity to explore current data insights
to dive deeper into regions, communities,
or neighborhoods
- **CREATE**
a sustainable tool with current data
ingested over time
- **SUPPORT**
multiple audiences



RURAL HEALTH
DATA COMMONS

VA-SORH PRIORITY METRICS

1. Education

- Child Readiness via Third Grade Standards of Learning Reading Assessment

2. Broadband

- Percentage of Households with Broadband

3. Nutrition and Food Security

- Rates of Food Security
- Rates of Food Insecurity among Households with Children

4. Healthy Moms and Babies

- Adequacy of Prenatal Care Utilization via Kotelchuck Index

5. Access to Health Care Services

- Rates of Avoidable Hospitalizations per 100,000 Residents

6. Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorder and Recovery

- Rates of Emergency Department Visits for Overdose (All drugs)

7. Employment/Workforce Development

- Earnings/Income per Job
- Employment Rates per Census Tract

***VISION: A RURAL DATA COMMONS TO INFORM
COMMUNITY AND WELL-BEING***

PURPOSE

INTENDED AUDIENCE

- General public
- Virginia government: elected officials and agency personnel
- Community stakeholders and leaders: local government, NGOs, business and industry
- Researchers: universities, institutes, think tanks
- Health professionals

A Data Commons allows multiple audiences to explore issues relevant to their communities.

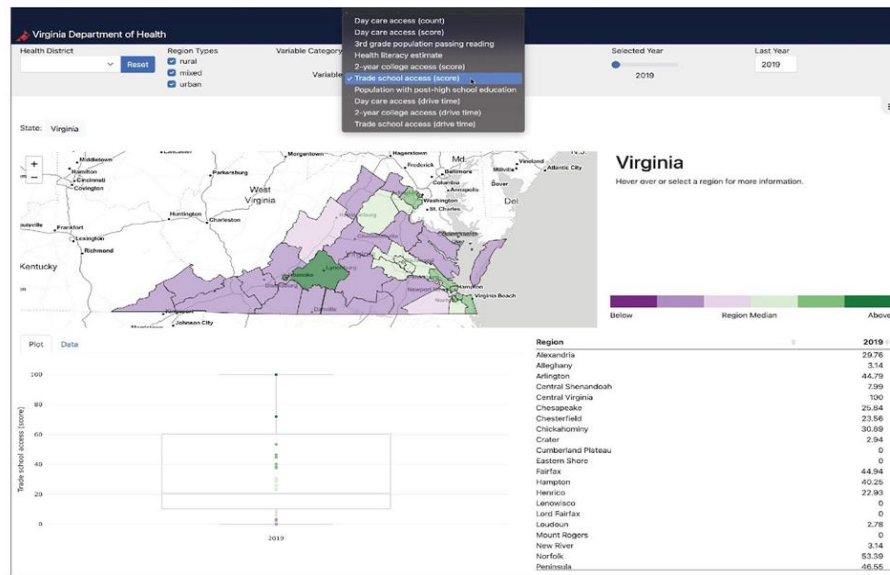
RURAL HEALTH
DATA COMMONS

DATA COMMONS IN ACTION

EDUCATION

COMPOSITE METRIC:

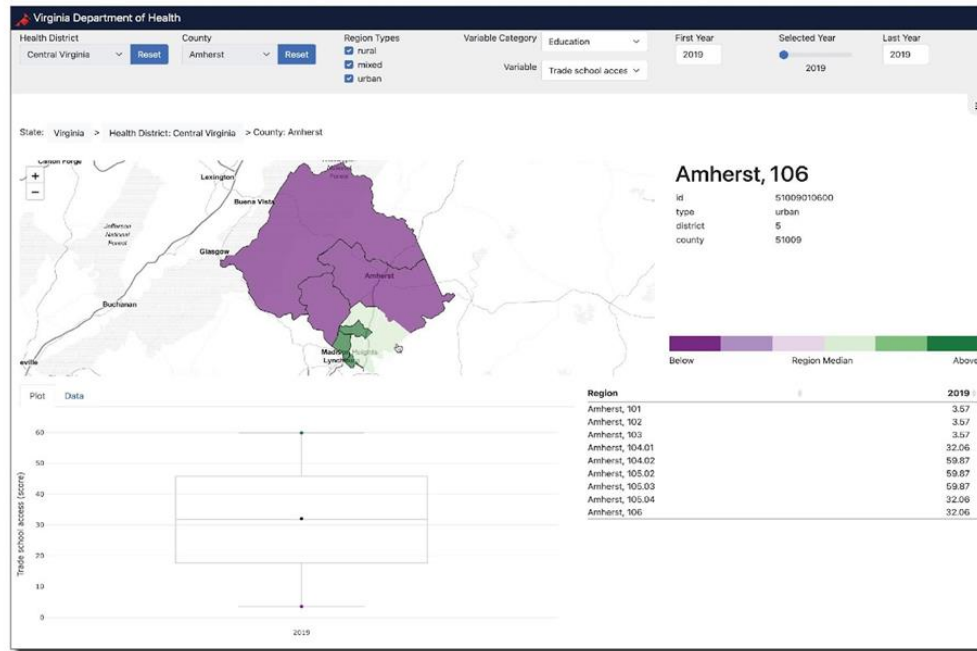
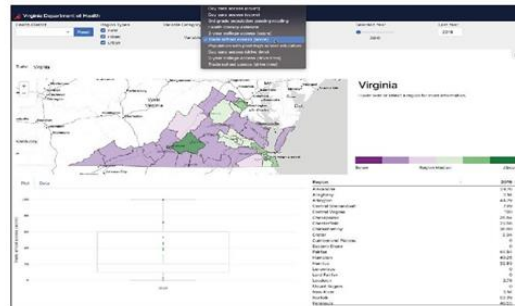
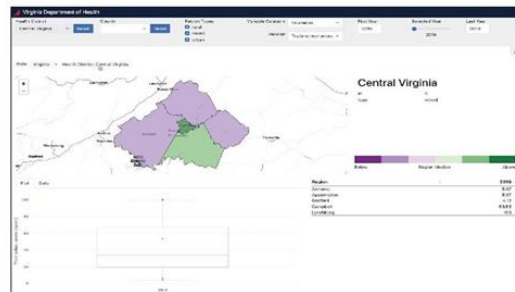
Trade School Access
Catchment Area Score



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DATA COMMONS

EDUCATION

DIVING DEEPER



RURAL HEALTH
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COMING SOON....



THANK YOU

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Heather Anderson, MPH
Division Director Primary Care & Rural Health (VA-SORH)
Heather.Anderson@vdh.virginia.gov

Nancy Bell
Population Health Manager/PIO
West Piedmont Health District
Nancy.Bell@vdh.virginia.gov

Clarissa Noble, MPH
Rural Health Manager, VA-SORH
Clarissa.Noble@vdh.virginia.gov



Picture: Stone Mountain Health Services, Black Lung Clinic
St. Charles, VA