

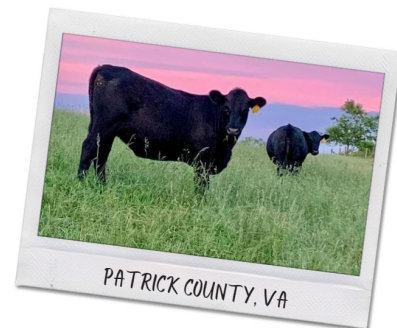


Greetings from the Virginia Primary Care Office & State Office of Rural Health

Community Photo Feature

This picture was taken by Beth Almond Ford. Beth captured a photo of the "neighbors" enjoying the sunset on the farm in Meadows of Dan, Virginia.

Beth submitted this photo to the 2021 VA-SORH Photo Contest.



VA-SORH Updates

Announcing the Delta Dental Loan Repayment Program! An extension of the Virginia State Loan Repayment Program (VA-SLRP).

Application Deadline: Friday, September 30, 2022

This one-year student loan repayment program is designed to help Virginia dentists and dental hygienists in exchange for 12 months of service with a safety-net clinic.

Who is eligible?

- A licensed dentist or dental hygienist in good standing;
- Working full-time (32 hours per week minimum);
- Have a valid and unrestricted license to practice in Virginia;
- Have worked in a free or hybrid clinic, or a federally-qualified health center, for at least 12 months;
- and Agree to serve at least one additional year in a free or hybrid clinic or a federally qualified health center in a Health Professional Shortage Area in Virginia (HPSA).



Announcing the Delta Dental Loan Repayment Program!
An extension of the Virginia State Loan Repayment Program (VA-SLRP)

Despite significant dental workforce shortages, oral health remains an essential need in many Virginia communities. The Delta Dental of Virginia Foundation is committed to addressing these shortages with a one-year student loan repayment program designed to help Virginia dentists and dental hygienists in exchange for 12 months of service with a safety-net clinic.

Who is eligible?

- A licensed dentist or dental hygienist in good standing
- Working full-time (32 hours per week minimum)
- Have a valid and unrestricted license to practice in Virginia
- Have worked in a free or hybrid clinic, or a federally-qualified health center, for at least 12 months; and
- Agree to serve at least one additional year in a free or hybrid clinic or a federally-qualified health center in a Health Professional Shortage Area in Virginia (HPSA)

How to apply:
Click here to register for a session Monday, July 18, 2-5 p.m. or here for Friday, July 26, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Click here to access the application.

Applications are open August 1 to September 30, 2022.
For questions, contact Olivia Burroughs at olivia.burroughs@vldental.org or 804.684.7425.

VA-SLRP
The Virginia State Loan Repayment Program (VA-SLRP) is a one-year student loan repayment program designed to help Virginia dentists and dental hygienists in exchange for 12 months of service with a safety-net clinic.

Delta Dental of Virginia | 4000 Stony Brook, Newport, VA 23606 | 800.257.6000 | delta.dental.org

For More Information

Crisis



The Virginia State Office of Rural Health publishes a **monthly series of rural health briefs**. Checkout the July 2022 edition, "Albemarle County's Housing Crisis," which explores Albemarle County's new policy approach of addressing the need for available and affordable housing while preserving the surrounding rural natural environment.

[For More Information](#)



Updated COVID-19 Resources

For a compiled list of Virginia Department of Health, Communication, and External COVID-19 Resources, please visit our website linked below.

[COVID-19 Resources](#)

Information & Resources for Providers & Healthcare Facilities

Community Conversations Experiences Small Town Collaboration

The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond recently visited four southern Virginia counties; Halifax, Charlotte, Mecklenburg and Brunswick. The team left the visit "impressed by collaboration in the region and the many areas of momentum in the regional economy."

[For More Information](#)



CMS Proposes Rule to Advance Health Equity, Improve Access to Care, and Promote Competition and Transparency

Describes proposed actions to improve access to care in rural areas and support health equity through policies for the Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) program and payment for certain behavioral health services via remote care. Includes information on a Request for Information about improving transparency and competition in healthcare.

[For More Information](#)

Pittsylvania-Danville and Southside health districts use vans to take public health on the road

The Pittsylvania-Danville and Southside health districts used early COVID-19 grant funds to purchase vans to aid in mobile outreach. "We are quite excited and thankful to be able to acquire these. Now we will have a much greater ability to meet the needs of those we serve in essentially all areas of our two districts," said Dr. Scott J. Spillmann, health director for the Pittsylvania-Danville & Southside Health Districts. "These are our 'mini' mobile health departments. Flexibility and adaptability are crucial to carrying out our mission. Many of our departments can utilize these vans, which complement our other mobile capabilities."



VAFCC partners with Virginia Telehealth Network

The Virginia Association of Free & Charitable Clinics (VAFCC) is partnering with the **Virginia Telehealth Network** on an exciting project that aims to expand access to timely and appropriate telemental health services to low-income, un- and under-insured patients by collaborating with pre-licensed behavioral and mental health professionals and strengthen the safety net by providing clinics with tools, technology, training, and staff.

[For More Information](#)

VRHA's Pride of Rural Virginia initiative featured in research published this summer



New research out of the University of Minnesota reveals rural LGBTQ folks face unique, and often unmet, mental- and physical-health needs... One of the groups profiled in [the] research is the **Virginia Rural Health Association**, which aims to improve health access and quality of care for the commonwealth's rural communities.

[For More Information](#)

Farm Dinner Theater: Farmers Helping Farmers

This Cooperative Extension-led program invites community members to take part in dinner theater productions that focus on issues related to farm health. Cooperative Extension agents in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, Nebraska, and North Carolina have used this resource to coordinate events in which the members of a community can come together to inform and support each other. After the advent of COVID-19, Farm Dinner Theater has expanded beyond in-person performances to reach online audiences with live virtual performances and recorded videos.

[For More Information](#)



NRHA is now accepting session and research presentation proposals for their Annual Rural Health Conference next May

Submission Deadline for Session Proposals: Thursday, August 18, 2022
Submission Deadline for Original Research: Thursday, January 12, 2023

Any person with an interest in rural health is invited to submit session proposals for presentation during the National Rural Health Association's (NRHA) Annual Rural Health Conference and Rural Hospital Innovation Summit, which will be held May 16-19, 2023 in San Diego, Calif.

These educational events are curated for anyone with an interest in rural health care, including rural health practitioners, hospital administrators, clinic directors and lay health workers, social workers, state and federal health employees, academics, community members, and more.

[For More Information](#)

Registration is now open for the 2022 Virginia EMS Symposium

November 9-13, 2022



The Virginia EMS Symposium is one of the largest and most comprehensive EMS training events in the country! This five-day training event helps EMS providers fulfill their continuing education needs, with more than 300 classes and various course tracks. These courses are also applicable for nurses and physicians.

This year only - Due to the rising cost of gas and inflation, the Virginia Office of EMS is reducing the price of the Virginia EMS Symposium registration by nearly 50 percent - to only \$100! They are hopeful that by reducing the registration cost for this premier educational event, that more EMS providers will be able to attend.

[For More Information](#)

Bottled and Well Water Quality in a Small Central Appalachian Community: Household-Level Analysis of Enteric Pathogens, Inorganic Chemicals, and Health Outcomes in Rural Southwest Virginia

Results of a study to characterize and assess household-level water sources, water quality, and associated health outcomes in Central Appalachia. Uses data from surveys and water samples from 9 households in a small rural community without utility-supplied water in southwest Virginia.

[For More Information](#)

Upcoming Meetings & Webinars



**Pride of Rural
Virginia-
Shenandoah Co.**



**National Rural
Health Association**

**NRHA RHC
Conference**



**2022 NOSORH
Annual Meeting**



**2022 Rural Health
Voice Conference**

August 6

September 20-21

October 5-6
register by 8/26/22

November 16-17

[To Register](#)

[To Register](#)

[To Register](#)

[To Register](#)

State & Regional Funding Opportunities

Department of Education Full Service Community Schools Program

Deadline to Submit Letters of Intent (*strongly encouraged*): Friday, August 12, 2022
Application Deadline: Monday, September 12, 2022

Rural, high-poverty school districts are given priority for funding to coordinate academic, social, and health services through partnerships between local public schools and community-based organizations. Each applicant must provide at least three services from a list of eligible programming that includes high-quality early childhood education, out-of-school time programs and strategies, and social/health supports.

[For More Information](#)

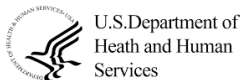
Appalachia READY Nonprofits Initiative Learning Track

Application Deadline: Friday, August 19, 2022



READY Nonprofits is a learning track offered by READY Appalachia, the Appalachian Regional Commission's new community capacity-building initiative offering free training and flexible funding to Appalachian nonprofits, community foundations, local governments, and Local Development Districts.

[For More Information](#)



Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR)-Registered Nurse Training Program

Application Deadline: Friday, August 19, 2022

NEPQR is designed to enhance nursing education and practice to increase the number of nursing students trained in acute care settings to address and manage social determinant of health factors and improve health equity and health literacy in underserved areas. This program aims to advance the health of patients, families, and communities and improve health outcomes by strengthening the capacity and skillset of undergraduate student nurses (including underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities) prepared to provide high quality culturally sensitive care in underserved communities.

[For More Information](#)

Rural Hospital Leadership Team Award



Application Deadline: Wednesday, August 31, 2022

The Rural Hospital Leadership Team Award honors the leadership team who has guided their hospital and community through transformational change on the road to health care innovation. The team will have displayed outstanding leadership and responsiveness to the community's health needs and demonstrated a collaborative community process that has led to measurable outcomes.



The team will receive a stipend for 2022 of \$2,000 to defray the team's expenses to attend the 2023 AHA Rural Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX. The AHA will work with the honoree and finalists to provide national recognition of their achievements through media releases and announcements and feature stories in our national media channels.

[For More Information](#)



Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program

Application Deadline: Wednesday, October 12, 2022

The purpose of the program is to support community-based partnerships and collaborations aimed at promoting access to health care for under-resourced and underserved children, youth, and their families nationwide, through the implementation and evaluation of new or enhanced community-based projects and models of care. Recipients will implement community-based projects incorporating evidence-informed or evidence-based strategies or innovations to increase access to health care and preventive health services in rural and other underserved populations. Community-based partnerships and collaborations will support the establishment of these projects and advance innovations.

[For More Information](#)

VRHA Health and Public Policy Student Opportunities

Student Scholarships

Submission Deadline: Friday October 14, 2022



VRHA is inviting students who are in any health or public policy program to submit essays on why they want to serve rural communities. 3 essays will be selected and the authors will receive free conference registration. The author of the winning essay will have the honor of reading the essay at the conference and will receive 2 complimentary nights at an area hotel and free conference registration.

Student Poster Presentations

Submission Deadline: Friday, October 21, 2022

The Poster Presentations provide participants with the ideal opportunity to disseminate information to other rural health stakeholders. Poster Presentations may include research projects, case studies, clinical evaluations, case presentations, observations, unusual or uncommon situations and other topics as they relate to rural health. All types of health professions and public policy students are encouraged to submit applications for consideration. All posters must have a Virginia perspective.

American Electric Power Foundation Grants

Application Deadline: ongoing

The American Electric Power Foundation focuses on improving lives through education from early childhood through higher education in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math and by meeting basic needs for emergency shelter, affordable housing and the elimination of hunger. This grant supports nonprofits working in these areas in American Electric Power's 11-state service area- including Virginia.

[For More Information](#)



Appalachian Community Fund Technical Assistance Grants

Application Deadline: ongoing

ACF believes that building organizational capacity and skills is essential for carrying out effective social justice work. Designed to meet specific technical assistance needs of grassroots organizations working for social change in Appalachia, this program awards grants to help build organizational capacity and train board or staff members in key skills such as:

- Leadership development
- Fundraising and planned giving
- Board responsibilities and roles
- Long range planning
- Financial management
- Legal issues, e.g. non-profit incorporation
- Community organizing
- Informing community/media about work
- Training fees, materials, and travel

[For More Information](#)



"Like" us on Facebook to receive live updates on Virginia rural health issues and important messages from our community partners on your Facebook News Feed.

[Visit the VA-SORH Facebook Page](#)

