**VDH Partner Call, 6 Nov 2020:**

All slides and handouts can be found at the VDH Emergency Preparedness COVID-19 Webpage:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/emergency-preparedness/covid-19-information/>

**COVID-19 Cumulative Case Counts (as of 5pm on Nov 5, 2020):**

* Cases: 188,770
* Deaths: 3,682

**Vaccination Update:**

* Still no authorized or approved vaccine right now
* 4 vaccines have entered phase 3 trials in the units
* OWS is working to make these vaccines as soon as possible
* In Virginia, we established a Vaccine Unit under the Virginia Unified Command Structure
* New Long Term Care Pharmacy partnership:
	+ Oct 16 – the Federal Government announced an agreement with CVS and Walmart to provide vaccine free of charge to LTCFs
	+ This will be an end-to-end service provided to these facilities
	+ Facilities need to opt in to participate and have until end of day today (Nov 6)
	+ Facilities that don’t opt in can partner with a local pharmacy or sign up themselves with VDH to become COVID-19 vaccine providers
	+ 840 LTCFs have provided their preference and 669 have signed up
* A separate partnership with chain pharmacies to provide vaccine to the general public during Phase 2 of the campaign
	+ CDC will provide the vaccine to large chain pharmacies (12 different partners have signed on)
	+ About 1000 stores in the Commonwealth are included in this program
* VDH has also set up a provider enrollment process for healthcare providers and pharmacies to become COVID-19 vaccine providers
	+ Once providers are enrolled and complete training – they will be able to get access to the vaccine and certain ancillary supplies will be provided to the providers
* About 1300 COVID-19 vaccine provider enrollment submissions have been received
* Virginia Vaccine Campaign Plan – draft sent to CDC, provided to partners during our Seminar and TTX and provided to Vaccine Advisory Group. VDH is currently working to update the plan with their feedback. Current version of the plan is available on the VDH Website
* CARES Act funding - $22 million provided to VDH and shared with local health districts to purchase supplies and equipment – this money must be spent by the end of Dec 2021

**Nursing Home Epidemiology Update:**

* Nursing Homes have to report data to the federal government and state in multiple ways
* Since May, CMS have required NHs to provide COVID-19 case data weekly
	+ Number of new confirmed and suspected COVID cases and deaths in residents and staff
	+ PPE Shortages
* CMS reporting does not absolve the facility of their requirement to report to the Health Department
* Outbreaks (2 or more related cases in a single facility) – must be reported to VDH. VDH puts that data on its website
* A portal on the VDH website has also been established for facilities to report their Point of Care antigen testing results
* A new portal for NHSN allows data reported to NHSN to be sent to the state health departments
* Pending additional information and guidance from CMS, facilities will need to continue to report to both NHSN and to VDH. Eventually, the need to report to both should be eliminated with all data going to NHSN first, with VDH receiving data on the back end
* NH testing frequency requirement is based on county or city-level percent positivity rates. NHs may use the rates reported by VDH or CMS, but must use the same source consistently (cannot switch back and forth to choose whichever data is more favorable that week)

**Community Based Emergency Response Seminar (CBERS) via Webinar:**

* Self-Care for Responder During COVID-19
* Dec. 3rd @12:00 PM-1:30 PM
* Participants will learn about:
	+ The various types of stress caused by providing care to others during COVID
	+ How COVID stress affects first responders
	+ The difference between burnout and compassion fatigue
	+ Self-care and develop coping strategies
* Target Audience: Any disaster or emergency responder (Supervisors are encouraged to attend)
	+ Emergency Management
	+ Disaster Shelter Workers
	+ EOC Staff
	+ EMS/Fire/Law Enforcement
	+ Emergency Dispatch
	+ Emergency Department Staff
	+ Local Health Districts and OCME Staff
	+ Anyone who responds to emergencies or disasters as part of their job.
* Registration via TRAIN Virginia: <https://www.train.org/virginia/>, Course ID# 1094133
* For more information:
	+ <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-preparedness/cbers-2020/>
	+ Or contact Adreania Tolliver at adreania.tolliver@vdh.virginia.gov

**COVID-19 Testing Update:**

* Health Department supported testing events:
	+ Next week – over 100 events throughout the Commonwealth (Nov 6-13)
	+ No charge for the testing
	+ VDH Testing Website will list all of the events (locations, dates and times): <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-testing/covid-19-testing-sites/>
	+ Questions? Contact COVID19PPS@VDH.virginia.gov

**Next call: Friday, Nov 13.**

* Note: No call scheduled for Friday, Nov 27