

# Protecting Public Health During COVID-19

## *Why is your local health department important during a pandemic?*

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic. Since that time, BRHD has been hard at work addressing the pandemic and implementing measures to prevent further spread. During National Public Health Week, we would like to share some of the accomplishments from the past year.



April 5-11 2021

## **Staffing**

The BRHD Team has more than doubled in response to the COVID-19 pandemic! On March 1, 2020, our staff consisted of 91 full-time, wage, and contract staff. As of March 18, 2021, that number has grown to 202, with more than a dozen staff in the hiring process. Since then, staff and hundreds of incredible volunteers have logged tens of thousands of around-the-clock hours!

## **BRHD COVID-19 Resource Hotline**

Established in March 2020 with two phones, the hotline has expanded to 20 lines and up to 22 operators. To date, the BRHD COVID-19 Resource hotline has answered over 25,000 phone calls!

## **COVID-19 Care Support Services Program**

Some who test positive for COVID need additional support and community resources. As of March 18, 2021, approximately 380 adults and 243 children have directly benefited from this program!

## **Vaccination Clinics**

On December 28, 2020, BRHD began administering COVID-19 vaccines. In less than three months, more than 14,200 vaccines have been administered at over 115 vaccination clinics!

## **Environmental Health Response**

The BRHD Environmental Health enforcement team has responded to 3,436 COVID-19 related complaints, providing education, inspections, and resources to keep the community safe!

**For more information:** [BlueRidgeHD.org](http://BlueRidgeHD.org)



4/21



A public health message from  
**BlueRidgeHD.org**



**VDH** VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH  
To protect the health and promote the  
well-being of all people in Virginia.

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