

OHPP Access Newsletter

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Special points of interest:

- Second Annual Governor's Conference on Covering the Uninsured
- Physician Recruitment
- Physician Placements
- Shortage Designations
- Upcoming Events

Second Annual Governor's Conference on Covering the Uninsured

On June 6 - 7, 2004 the Second Annual Governor's Conference on Covering the Uninsured was held at the National Conference Center in Landsdowne, Virginia. The focus of the conference was on "Making a Business Case for Providing Health Insurance Coverage for Virginia's Working Uninsured." Over 300 people were in attendance, with approximately 20 percent of those in attendance representing the business community. This was a very successful first step in engaging the business community in dialogue about health care and health policy issues.



Second Annual Governor's Conference on Covering the Uninsured

The conference was made possible by State Planning Grant funds. To learn more about current and

upcoming State Planning Grant activities, as well as review the conference handouts and presentations, please log onto:

<http://www.InsureMoreVirginians.org>.

The Healthy Virginian 2010 Initiative

The Office of the State Health Commissioner and the Office of Health Policy and Planning have joined with specific state agencies to continue to provide health planners, policy makers, health officials and others interested in health issues, with current measures to improve health care and enhance the quality of life for all Virginians. Strategies, action steps and desired outcomes have been

developed, and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has taken the lead responsibility for coordinating the effort and has provided expertise to monitor these health status objectives, policies and practices.

The principal goals for the Healthy Virginians 2010 initiatives are to increase the quality and years of healthy live, and eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities. The States plan will strengthen and enhance

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Healthy Virginian 2010 Initiative cont.

Nations' health objectives for the 21st century. It will also strengthen the ability to fully serve and effectively address the health care needs of all citizens in the Commonwealth. This prevention initiative has been placed on the [Virginia Department of Health's, Office of Health Policy and Planning Web site](#) to inform the public of the standards presented in the

document and to facilitate the process of collecting comments. [Healthy Virginians 2010](#) is considered a "living document", and will be updated annually with available, current and viable data. Agencies will be asked to provide feedback and make recommendations regarding the strategies and data, which need to be amended.

OHPP Assists with UVA Installation of Telemedicine Equipment in Martinsville, VA

In November of 2003, at the Martinsville Health Fair, Governor Warner and Congressman Goode made a commitment that telemedicine services would be available to Martinsville-area residents all year long. Through VDH Office of Health Policy and Planning's (OHPP) collaboration with the University of Virginia Office of Telemedicine, the

telemedicine equipment was installed.



University of Virginia Office of Telemedicine

Virginia Places Additional Healthcare Physicians in Underserved Areas

The VDH Office of Health Policy and Planning received notification from the United States Department of State (DOS) regarding J-1 Waiver recipients Evgeniy Shchelchkov, M.D., Halim Muslu, M.D. and Claude-Laurent Sader, M.D. The DOS found that it was in the public interest to grant Dr. Shchelchkov, Dr. Muslu, and Dr. Sader a J-1 visa waiver. Dr. Shchelchkov has an employment contract to practice at Southside Community Hospital, in Farmville, providing medical care as a Neurologist. Dr. Muslu has an employment contract to practice at Buchanan County Rural Family Practice Center in Grundy, VA providing primary

medical care as an Internist. Dr. Sader has an employment contract to practice at Lee Regional Medical Center, Inc. in Pennington Gap, Providing primary care as a Cardiology Internist. The J-1 visa waiver enables international medical graduates to remain in the United States following completion of their residency, provided that they work in a Health Professional Shortage Area. Without the waiver, these graduates have to return to their home country for at least two years. Dr. Shchelchkov will provide medical services within the HPSA for a minimum of three years.

VDH Secures Health Professional Shortage Designation

The VDH Office of Health Policy and Planning has received notification from the Shortage Designation Branch of the federal Department of Health and Human Services Administration that a number of census tracts in Lynchburg city and a number of correctional facilities in Virginia have been approved for designation as a public health facility with a shortage of primary care health professionals. The applications for designation were submitted in February 2003 and May 2003.

Areas and facilities receiving such designation are eligible to recruit health professionals who have obligations to serve under the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, to recruit foreign trained physicians under the J-1 Visa Waiver Program, and to apply for certain grant funds. Thus, such a designation should help improve access to primary health care services for the populations that depend on the facilities.

“...census tracts in Lynchburg city and a number of correctional facilities in Virginia have been approved for designation...”

Name of Prison	Eligibility for Shortage Designation in			
	County	Primary Care	Mental Health	Dental Health
Augusta Correctional Center	Augusta/Staunton-Waynesboro	Yes	Yes	No
Bland Correctional Center	Bland	Yes	Yes	No
Brunswick Correctional Center	Brunswick	Yes	Yes	No
Buckingham Correctional Center	Buckingham	No	Yes	No
Deerfield Correctional Center	Southampton/Franklin	Yes	Yes	No
Dillwyn Correctional Center	Buckingham	Yes	Yes	No
Greensville Correctional Center	Greensville/Emporia	No	No	Yes
Haynesville Correctional Center	Richmond	Yes	Yes	Yes
Keen Mountain Correctional Center	Buchanan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lawrenceville Correctional Center	Brunswick	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lunenburg Correctional Center	Lunenburg	Yes	Yes	No
Mecklenburg Correctional Center	Mecklenburg	Yes	Yes	No
Nottoway Correctional Center	Nottoway	Yes	Yes	No
Red Onion State Prison	Wise/Norton	Yes	Yes	No
Wallens Ridge State Prison	Wise	No	Yes	No
Locality Lynchburg City	Scope of Designation Census Tracts – 000.400, 0005.00, 0006.00, 0007.00, 0011.00, 0012.00	Primary Care Yes	Mental Health No	Dental Health No

VDH Places Additional Health Care Practitioners in Underserved Areas

The VDH Office of Health Policy and Planning has received the 2003 practitioner placement report from the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) for placements made in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA) in Virginia. There were 11 placements made. Currently, there are 23 NHSC

scholars and loan repayers completing service obligations in Virginia. OHPP administers the designation process and assists the NHSC with practitioner placements, verification of practice sites, and identifying new practice sites requesting practitioner placement assistance.

New NHSC Practitioner Placements for 2003

HPSA	Practice Site	Type of Placement
Amelia	Amelia Health Care Center	MD/Family Practice
Buckingham	Central Virginia Health Services, Inc. (two placements)	MD/Internal Medicine and MD/Pediatrics
Grayson	Independence Family Care Center	DO/Family Practice
Henry	The Children's Medical Center	MD/Pediatrics
Henry	Martinsville Family Medical Center	Physician Assistant
Nelson	Blue Ridge Medical Center, Inc.	MD/Family Practice
Pittsylvania	Pittsylvania/Danville Health District, Virginia Department of Health	Nurse Practitioner/Family Practice
Russell	Ridgewood Health Care	Nurse Practitioner/Family Practice
Scott	Clinch River Health Services, Inc. (two placements)	Dentists

"...improve healthcare systems thereby strengthening the health care workforce and improving health care accessibility for Virginia residents."

3RNet.org



Recruitment and Retention Corner

The Office of Health Policy and Planning's, Recruitment and Retention Services works collaboratively with organizations throughout Virginia to assist rural and medically underserved communities to recruit health care professionals and improve healthcare systems thereby strengthening the healthcare workforce and improving health care accessibility for Virginia residents.

The Recruitment Manager is available to visit various medical institutions, organizations, conferences, etc. to provide information on resources, services and healthcare needs in Virginia. If you are interested in having someone address your organization or you would like further information please contact our office.

Recruitment and Retention Resources: (Please click on the following links to learn more about our services.)

Online recruitment website Primary Practice Opportunities of Virginia (PPOVA): www.ppova.org

[Loan Repayment Programs](#)

[Nursing Scholarship Program](#)

Inquiries may be sent via email to:

Karen.Reed@vdh.virginia.gov

or by fax to: 804-864-7440

Or by mail to:

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Recruitment and Retention Corner

PPOVA is our comprehensive online health care provider resource designed to assist in the recruitment of health care providers throughout Virginia. Our mission is to increase access to primary health care and improve health care outcomes for Virginia's medically underserved and vulnerable populations.

Visit PPOVA.org

Primary Practice Opportunities of Virginia



Welcome to PPOVA!!!

PPOVA is Virginia's Premier **Non-Fee Based** Health Care Recruitment Resource

Virginia - The **1st** Place to Be!



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Questions/Comments

For recruitment opportunities visit:

PPOVA.org





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SAVE THE DATE

August 17, 2004

Health Workforce Advisory Committee

Come and learn about recent Virginia health workforce activities, voice your comments, and participate in an activity designed to recommend future health workforce activities to the Commissioner.



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