



ALEXANDRIA PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

Thursday, July 18, 2024

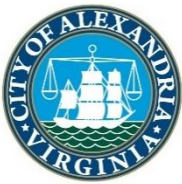
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

4850 Mark Center Dr., Alexandria, VA (3rd Floor)

- I. Welcome!
- II. Roll Call – Establish Quorum
- III. Review/Approve Minutes – June 2024
- IV. Review Agenda
- V. Update from the Chair
- VI. Health Department Update
 - Public Health Highlights
- VII. Topical Issues and Discussion
 - Health Equity Action Plan (R. Merritt)
 - Community Health Assessment
 - o Update on activities
 - o Liaison selection
 - PHAC Priority Setting Process
 - Local Administration of Health Department
 - Breastfeeding Support
- VIII. Liaison and Community Partner Updates
 - a. Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria, CHIP (QtrRpt)
 - b. Inova Health System
 - c. Community Services Board
 - d. Alexandria City School Board
 - e. Practicing Physician
 - f. Neighborhood Health, Inc.
 - g. Fire Department
 - h. Practicing Dentist
- IX. Public Comments
- X. Adjourn

Commission Members	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Chair, Jerome Cordts</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Vice Chair, Lisa Chimento</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Andrew Romero
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Michael Trahos
<input type="checkbox"/>	Richard Merritt
<input type="checkbox"/>	JeanAnn Mayhan
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anita McClendon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sylvia Jones
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patricia Rodgers
<input type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Riddy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Walz
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alex Long
<input type="checkbox"/>	David Bowen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fire Department (Andrew Duke)
<input type="checkbox"/>	School Board (Dr. Victor Martin)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern VA Dental (pending)
Alexandria Health Dept. Staff	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dr. David Rose Health Director
<input type="checkbox"/>	Natalie Talis, Population Health Mgr.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Casey Colzani Executive Secretary, Staff Liaison

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024



**Minutes of the Thursday, June 20, 2024
PHAC Meeting
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Via Zoom
Alexandria Health Department**

In-Person	Chair- Jerome Cordts (JC), Lisa Chimento (LC), Anita McClendon (AM) Patricia Rodgers (PR), Sylvia Jones (SJ) Richard Merritt (RM), Andrew Romero (AR), David Bowen (DB), JeanAnn Mayhan (JM) Michele Walz (MW), Alex Long (AL)
Virtual	Dr. Michael Trahos (MT)
Absent	Melissa Riddy (MR),
AHD Representatives	Casey Colzani (CC), Natalie Talis (NT)
Guests	

I. Establishment of a Quorum

- Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Jerome Cordts (JC); role taken.

II. Approval of the Previous Meeting’s Minutes

- Dr. Michael Trahos (MT) motioned to approve May 2024 minutes, David Bowen (DB), Second. All in favor, minutes approved with edits.

III. Review Agenda

- Jerome Cordts (JC) reviewed the meeting agenda with the commissioners.

IV. Update From the Chair

- Vacancies
 - Dentist nominated by NOVA Dentist Society. Dr. Hill will not be returning. JC working with NOVA Dental Society to appoint a new representative.
 - Fire/EMS Representative- Assistant Chief Duke has been sitting in. New Chief will be starting in the position on July 8th. Formal appointment of PHAC liaison is still unknown.
- HB 942 letter to council was sent after last month’s meeting. Several Council members acknowledge the receipt of this letter. 2021 Advancing Race and Social Equity through Reduction of Tobacco Use report was sent as support with this letter.
- Flora K. Casey award- will continue to look at better ways to solicit nominations. Patricia Rodgers (PR), motioned to return ceremony to Public Health Week in April. JeanAnn Mayhan (JM) Second. All in favor. JC will rework timing calendar.

- DB suggested that PHAC prepare letters for new Council members in the fall stating the main PHAC priorities for the next year. This will require PHAC to determine the purpose/vision and goals of PHAC.

V. Health Department Update

• Community Health Assessment Update

- The first CHA steering committee meeting was held. JC and LC were in attendance as interim representatives for the commission. AM and DB had expressed interest in being the repetitive and alternate for PHAC.
- The first year will focus on assessment.
- Community Survey is being developed currently. Are looking into alternative ways for community feedback for those who cannot/do not want to fill out formal surveys.
- First public kick off meeting is scheduled tentatively for August.
- Inova Health System will be starting their Community Needs Assessment in quarter one of 2025- AHD will be coordinating with Inova. JC will ask MR the Inova Health Systems representative for an update on their assessment.
- MT was present at the Fairfax County CHA results meeting- will share presentation with commission.

• Public Health Highlights

- Men's Health Empowerment Expo- about 100 attendees. Presenters, breakout sessions, and health services (11 HIV tests, 30 vision screening, etc.). AHD will be evaluating the feedback from attendees to determine how this event will continue in the future.

VI. Topical Issues for Discussion

- AHD 101 Orientation (Context for Local Admin Decision)
 - NT and DR presented on basics of Public Health Structure, health equity and health justice, budget and how it relates to local administration of AHD. (See Attachment A)
 - 35 Health Districts in Virginia reporting to Virginia Department of Health- some districts incorporate multiple localities. Alexandria District serves just the City of Alexandria. Dr. Rose reports to the Virginia Department of Health Deputy Commissioner. The Deputy City Manager Predeoux is AHD's City liaison.
 - AHD Services- Functionally both a City and State department
 1. Clinical- routing vaccination, WIC, sexual and reproductive services, Narcan distribution, Newcomer/refugee health, TB support.
 2. Epidemiology- Disease surveillance and investigation.
 3. Population Health
 4. Vital Records- Marriage, death and other vital records services.
 5. Environmental Health – Food Safety, Pool Inspections
 6. Public Health Emergency Management and MRC

- State vs City Employees- approximately 120 staff; with 23 City employees. 15 contractors (12 State, 3 City), remaining are State staff.
- AHD has been focused on updating the Strategic Plan, focusing on incorporating staff input.
- Cooperative Budget- 55% State and 45% City - composed of federal grants, general funding from both City and State, revenue, and various other grants. City provides salary supplement to VDH employees in Alexandria based on City salary scale.
- Overall funding will remain relatively the same regardless of local or state administration- financial processes would change under local administration. Some costs like IT costs would need to be taken on by the locality under local administration.
- Challenges- Two separate management systems for a number of administrative processes: human resource, finance, procurement, staff work schedules, policies, and IT infrastructure.
- Staffing, recruitment, and retention, remains a challenge with a patchwork of grants.
- Q&A
 1. Does local administration provide more flexibility for AHD to perform PH work?
 - a. Local agreement lays out which work/how certain work will be performed. City has additional programs resources- City has race and social equity office to guide staff in process and decision making.
 - b. State- has mandated programs but allows for flexibility to serve community as needed. Example- AHD does not provide primary care services but more rural districts do. This is because of the higher access to FQHCs in Alexandria.
 - c. Example: State removed LGBTQ services information from State website, so AHD and City provided information for Alexandria on the City website to meet the community needs.
 2. What are the downsides or other concerns regarding local administration?
 - a. From City and Central office- no strong feelings or push from other sides. State has good relationships with other locally administrated health departments.
 - b. Communication differences between the State and NOVA. NOVA is much different than other areas in the state and sometimes a more regional effort is needed.
 - c. Where in the city structure would the Health Department report- some jurisdictions report through DCHS and others are their own department.

I. Liaison and Community Partner Updates

- Fire Department - AD will work with JC to determine best time for Avive Trainer to discuss program with commission.
- Practicing Physician - MT noting a rise in COVID infections in his practice; three distinct variants in our area. Opioid use and death rates are raising in other communities- PHAC should monitor Alexandria rates.

II. Public Comment

- No public in attendance

III. Adjournment

- MT motioned to adjourn the meeting. AM second. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

DRAFT

Public Health + AHD

David C. Rose, MD, MBA, FAAP, Health Director
Natalie Talis, MPH, Population Health Manager

Alexandria Health Department

June 2024



Public Health

- What is Public Health?
- Health Equity and Health Justice
- Alexandria Health Department Overview

June 2024



What is Public Health?

June 2024



An Origin Story



June 2024



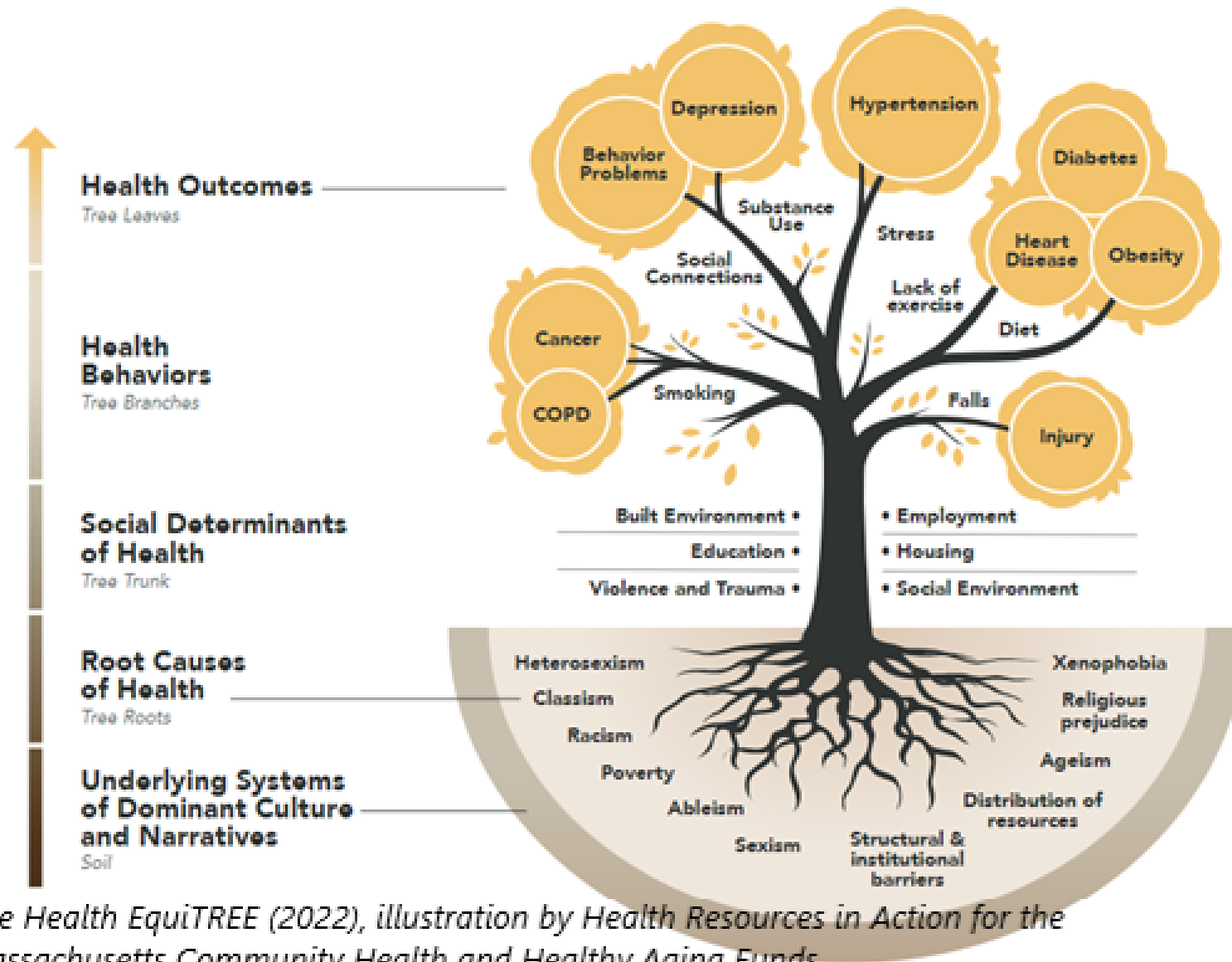
Health vs. Public Health

Health is a state of complete **physical, mental, and social wellbeing** and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity

Preamble to the Constitution of the World Health Organization. April 7, 1948

Public health is the science of **protecting and improving** the health of people and their communities.

CDC



The Health EquiTREE (2022), illustration by Health Resources in Action for the Massachusetts Community Health and Healthy Aging Funds

Local Public Health System

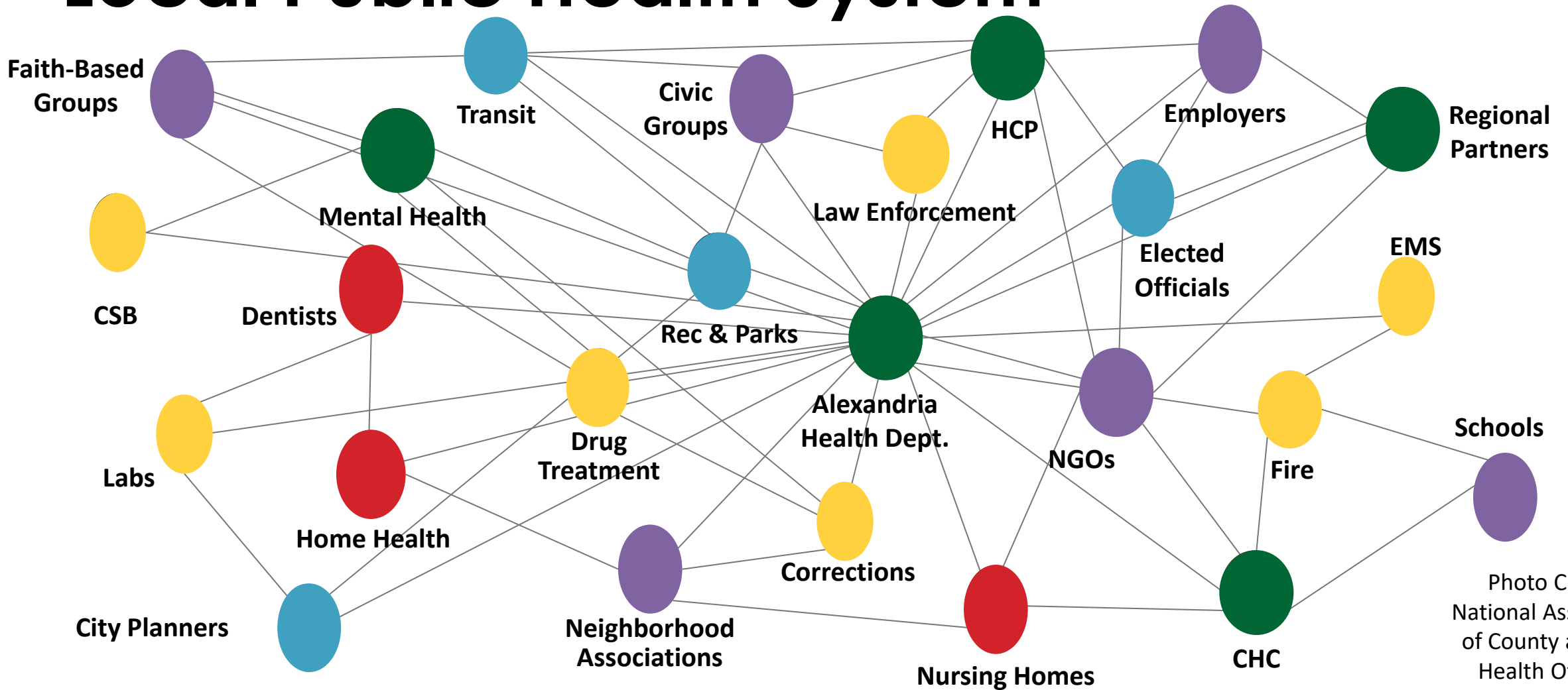


Photo Credit:
National Association
of County and City
Health Officials

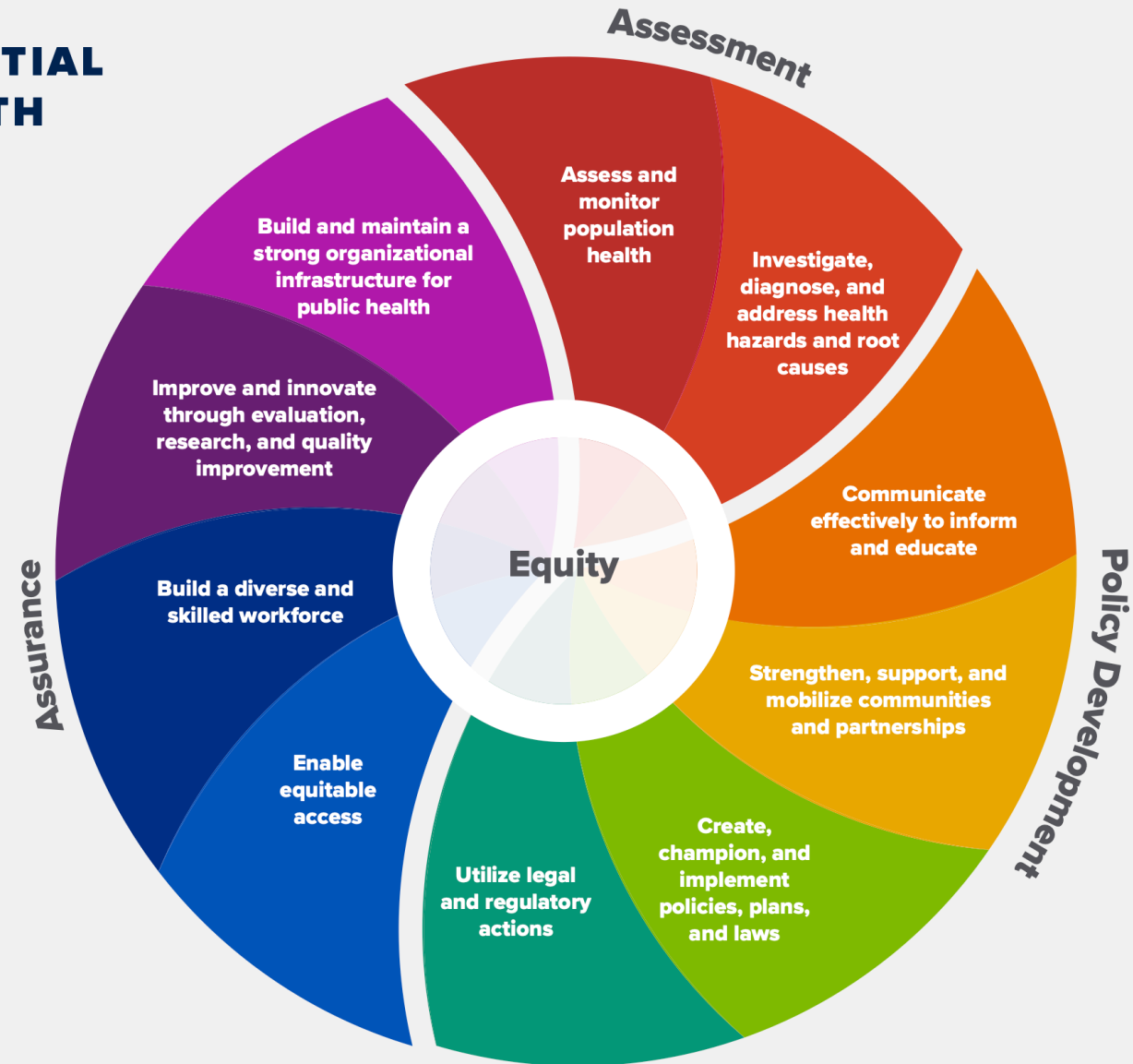
June 2024



THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

To protect and promote the health of all people in all communities

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.



Created 2020

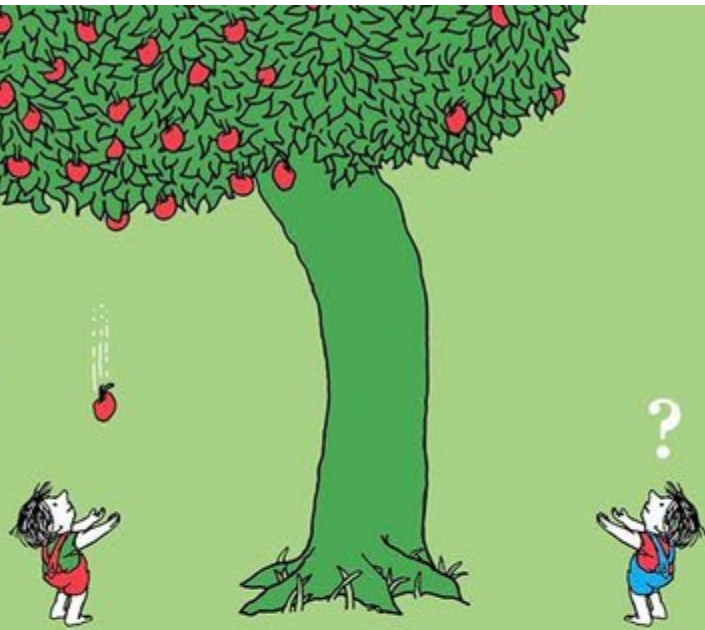
Health Equity/Justice

June 2024



Inequality

Unequal access to opportunities

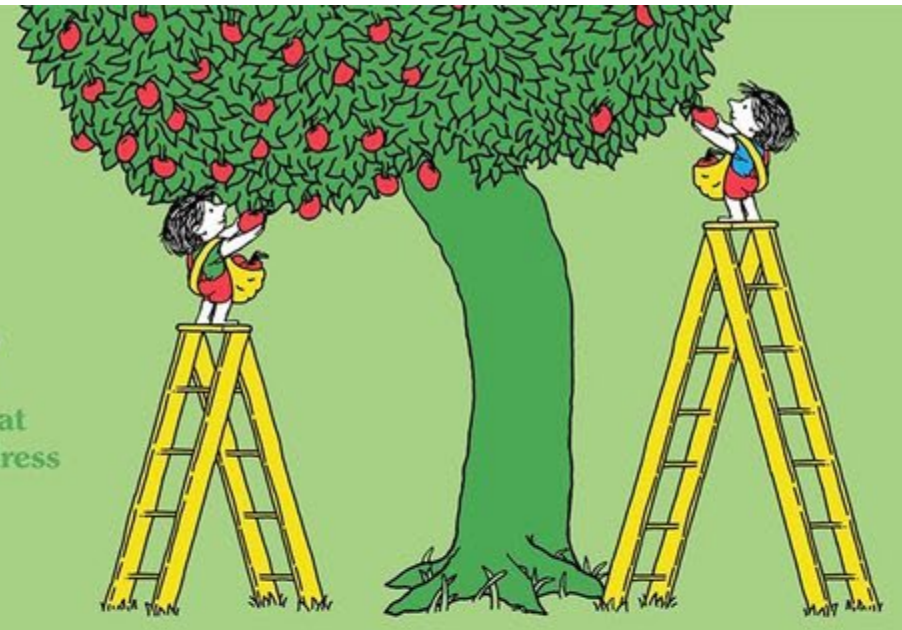


With apologies to Shel Silverstein from @lunchbreath

2019 Design In Tech Report | Addressing Imbalance

Equity

Custom tools that identify and address inequality



With apologies to Shel Silverstein from @lunchbreath

2019 Design In Tech Report | Addressing Imbalance

Equality?

Evenly distributed tools and assistance

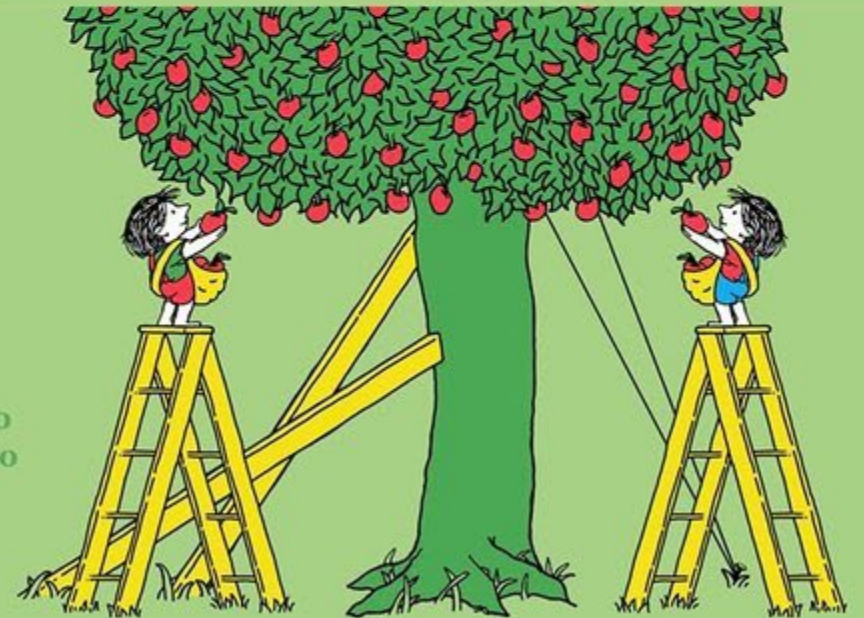


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2019 Design In Tech Report | Addressing Imbalance

Justice

Fixing the system to offer equal access to both tools and opportunities



With apologies to Shel Silverstein from @lunchbreath

2019 Design In Tech Report | Addressing Imbalance

PROBLEM SOLVING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH JUSTICE



Wherever possible, the impacted individuals should be decisionmakers at the table. We solve problems WITH people, not FOR them.



An Example: Healthy Homes

Baseline: Many Alexandrians, particularly those who are lower-resourced, experience unhealthy housing conditions.

A lot of follow up questions:

- What do we know about the situation?
- How do we better define the issue?
- Who is most impacted?
- Who decides the solutions?
- How do we measure improvement?

THE LONG-TERM GOAL

Every Alexandrian lives in a safe, healthy home where they can thrive.



Once we move to solutions.... How should we address this?

Equality approach: Everyone gets education on green cleaning and preventing issues like mold and pests.

Equity approach: Residents with respiratory conditions under an income threshold can participate in ALX Breathes; tenant rights trainings; language-specific videos on key topics

Justice approach: Systemic approach to increase proactive rental inspections; work with property managers to increase smokefree buildings; pass policy that requires clearer explanations of tenant rights and fees; increase affordability of housing

Alexandria Health Department Overview

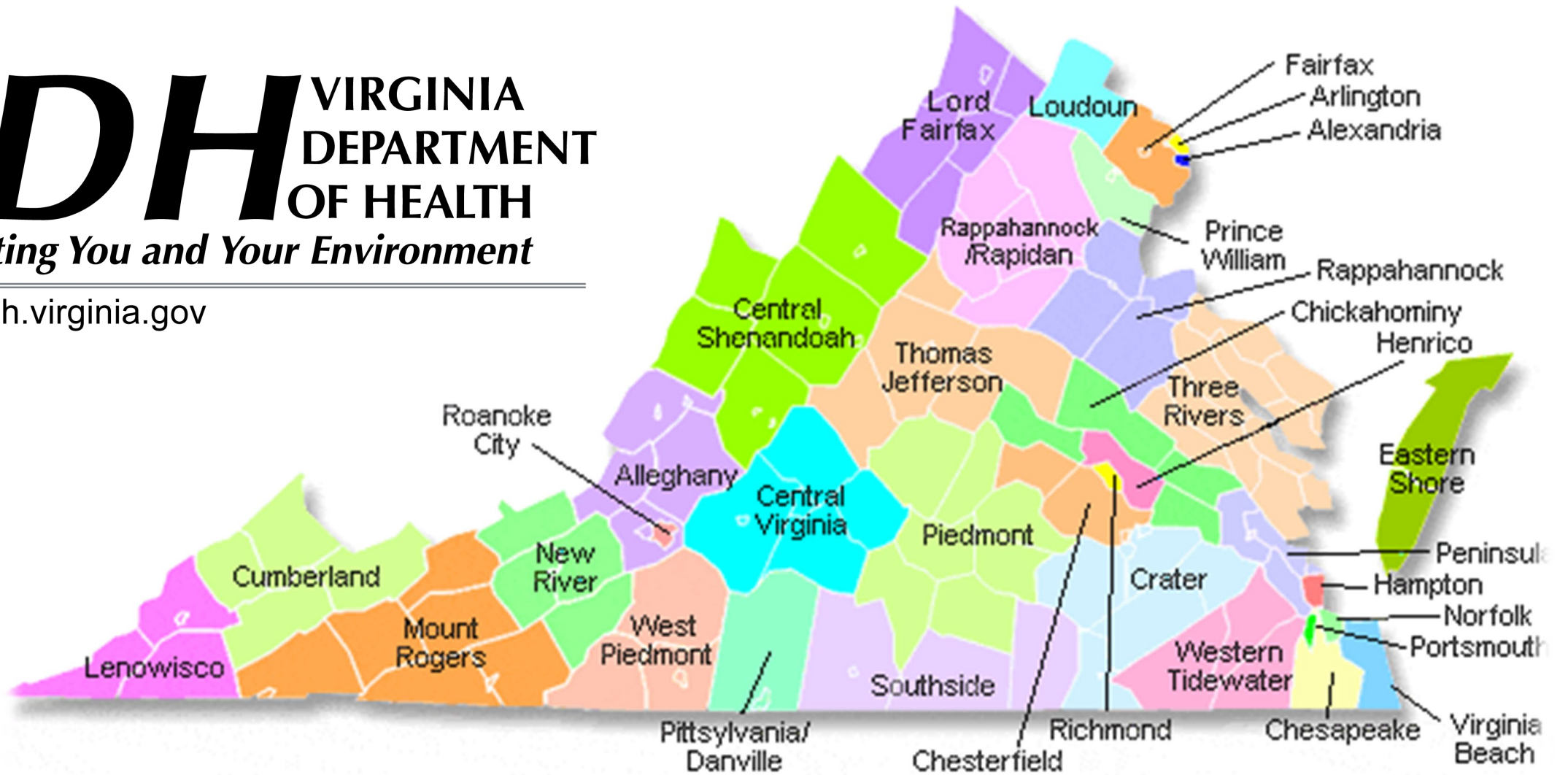
June 2024



VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Protecting You and Your Environment

www.vdh.virginia.gov



June 2024



Vision

Healthy People, Healthier Communities

Mission

Protecting and Promoting Health and Well-Being in Our Communities

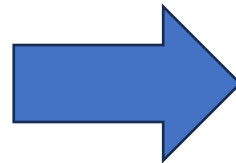
Values

Working Together, Improving Continuously, Making a Difference

Strategic Plan 2024-2027

- Overarching Principals

- A collaborative, equitable, learning environment which accomplishes its goals through collective effort
- Provides quality programs and services through internal systems that hold it accountable to national standards (PHAB)

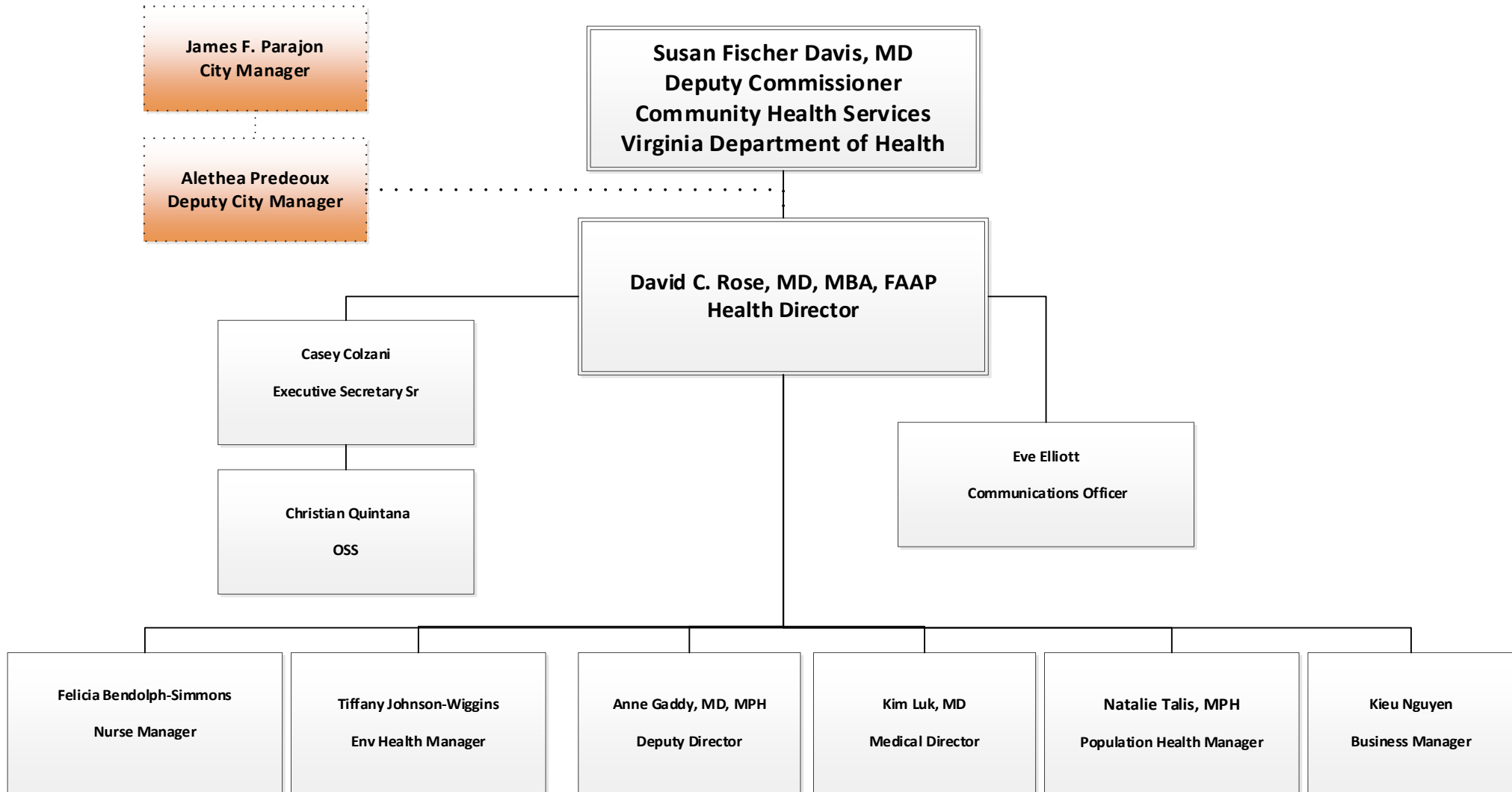


- Priorities

- Maintain a valued and professional workforce
- Be a trusted source of public health information and services
- Support conditions that protect and promote community health and well-being
- Provide internal systems that deliver efficient, dependable, and responsive support

Alexandria Health Department

Supervisory Organizational Chart (June 2024)



Approved State & City Budgets FY 2023

AHD FY2022 Budget	AHD	State Amount	City Amount	Revenue
Cooperative Budget	\$8,705,334	\$4,422,177	\$3,618,145	\$665,012
Grant Funding	\$4,142,329	\$4,142,329	-0-	
City General Funds	\$4,772,897	-0-	\$4,772,897	
Totals	\$17,620,560	\$8,564,506	\$8,391,042	\$665,012

AHD Locations



AHD Services



Clinical services*, including:

- Routine vaccines
- WIC food & nutrition services
- Sexual & reproductive health
- Narcan distribution
- Newcomer/refugee health
- Tuberculosis (TB) support



Environmental Health Services



Vital Records



Public Health Emergency Management & Medical Reserve Corps



Epidemiology



Population Health

Issues of Significance

- **“Hybrid/bifurcated” health department**
 - Administratively: Virginia Department of Health
 - Functionally: City department (e.g., numerous City mandated and funded programs; closer relationships in the City)
 - Challenges: Two sets of human resource management, financial management, procurement processes, staff work schedules, policies, IT infrastructure
- **Staffing**
 - Recruitment and retention
 - Patchwork of grants and FTEs

QUESTIONS?

June 2024

