Beth O’Connor, M. Ed.
Executive Director
Virginia Rural Health Association

VRHA & Rural Health Data
Who is VRHA?

- Non-profit
- Individuals & organizations across Virginia
- Care about improving the health of Virginia's rural residents
- Provide information, education and advocacy
- Affiliate of NRHA
Rural Health in Virginia

- Unequal distribution of basic systems
- Problems other than long distances & low population density
  - Recruitment & retention
  - Payment inequities
  - High rates of poverty & disabilities
  - High levels of un- & under insurance
So What Do We Do?

- Rural solutions for rural areas
- IOM: initiatives have not been applicable to rural settings
- VRHA collaborates with VDH on Virginia’s State Rural Health Plan
The Virginia Rural Health Plan

What is it?

- 3–5 year strategic plan
- Strengthen infrastructure
- Improvements in rural health
  - NOT just delivery of services
  - NOT a static document
Why a rural health plan?

- Requirement
- Support Critical Access Hospitals and their communities
- Support delivery of rural health care
- Must build on past efforts
How was the Plan created?

- Over 50 partners around Virginia
  - Led by OMHHE, VRHA & VRHRC
- Workgroups examined issues
- 48 recommendations developed
- Launched va-shrp.org
- Extensive progress since 2008
- New plan coming in 2013
Rural Health Data Portal

- Big Progress!
Where do you go for data?

- Virginia Health Information
- Virginia Department of Health, Health Statistics
- Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service
- Virginia Employment Commission’s Virginia Workforce Connection Labor Market Information
- Virginia Department of Education, Virginia Education Statistics
- State Council of Higher Education for Virginia
- Virginia Rural Health Association
- Virginia Rural Health Resource Center
- Voices for Virginia's Children
- National Center of the Analysis of Healthcare Data

- State & County QuickFacts
- Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates
- Nursing Home Compare
- Health Resources and Services Administration
- CLASP DataFinder
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Data & Statistics
- World Health Organization, Data & Statistics
Now: Rural Health Data Portal

- Pulls information into a single, easy to use website
- Two main functions:
  - Create Virginia health data charts and graphs
  - Map data to create pictorial views

www.vrhrc.org
Data is available for...

- **Workforce:**
  - HPSA–Primary
  - HPSA–Mental
  - HPSA–Dental
  - Practitioners
  - Practioner Ratio

- **Poverty:**
  - Federal Poverty Level
  - below 100% FPL
  - between 100%–200%
  - No Vehicle
  - NEMT region
  - Income
  - Single Parents
  - Free/Reduced School Lunch
Data is available for...

- **Population:**
  - Census Population
  - Population Estimates
  - Population by Race
  - Population by Age
  - Population—Elderly
  - Population—Gender

- **Access:**
  - Medically Underserved Areas
  - Prenatal Care
  - Low Birth Weight
  - Infant Mortality
Data is available for...

- **Facilities:**
  - Bed Rate
  - Telemedicine sites

- **Insurance:**
  - Children without
  - Disabled on Medicare
  - Disabled on Medicare
  - Uninsured
Data is available for...

- Quality:
  - Inpatient Quality
  - Pediatric Quality
  - Patient Safety
  - Prevention Quality
  - Hospital Quality
  - Nursing Home Quality

- Social Determinants of Health:
  - Education
  - Graduation Rate
  - Unemployment
  - Violent Crime Rate
### Insurance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% of Children Uninsured</th>
<th>% of Disabled on Medicare</th>
<th>% of Uninsured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giles County</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Show Source and Description

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### Insurance

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>All of Virginia</td>
<td>9.9%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Show Source and Description

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Virginia's State Rural Health Plan

[www.va-srhp.org](http://www.va-srhp.org)
Compare between...

- Counties/Cities
- Planning Districts
- Health Districts
- Health Planning Region
- Levels of Rural Status
Data is linked to a GIS mapping function which maps data and can add boundaries for:

- US Congressional Districts
- Virginia Senate District
- Virginia Delegate Districts
- Planning Districts
- Local Health Districts
- Economic Development Regions
- Core Based Statistical Areas
- City/Country Boundaries
- Census Tracts
Population Age 65+ by US Congressional District

Current

% Population 55 Years and older (current)
- Less than or equal to 8%
- 8-12%
- 12-16%
- 16-24%
- Greater than or equal to 24%

2030 Projected

% Population 55 years and older (2030 projected)
- Less than or equal to 8%
- 8-12%
- 12-16%
- 16-24%
- Greater than or equal to 24%
Medically Underserved Areas by Health District
Shall we try it out?
Enter Portal from VRHRC

Virginia's clearinghouse for local, state and national rural health information

The Virginia Rural Health Resource Center (VRHRC) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization, which serves as a clearinghouse for local, state and national rural health information.

VRHRC provides technical assistance, facilitates rural health research and collaborates with various public and private organizations to identify and address rural health issues in the Commonwealth, thus ensuring access to quality health care for all rural Virginians.
Questions?

Beth O’Connor
Executive Director
Virginia Rural Health Association
540–231–7923
boconnor@vcom.vt.edu
www.vrha.org