Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Reproductive Health Programs

More than Abstinence and Birth Control

VDH Reproductive Health Unit
Learning Objectives

1. List ways to collaborate with VDH's reproductive health programs to support adolescents in the community

2. Name three ways to employ positive youth development practices when working with adolescents

3. Demonstrate ability to refer youth appropriately to VDH reproductive health programs according to state policies
VDH Reproductive Health Unit

Emily Yeatts, MSW, MPH: Reproductive Health Unit Supervisor

Janelle Anthony, MSN, RN, PHNA-BC: Family Planning Quality Assurance Nurse Supervisor

Madeline Kapur, MPH, MSW: Adolescent Health Coordinator (she most likely will not be in attendance, so Emily will present her info).

Consuelo Staton, MEd.: State Resource Mothers Program Coordinator
VDH Title X Family Planning Program
Title X Highlights

• Charges based on sliding scale using adolescent’s income

• All Title X services are confidential

• All minors receive counseling to encourage parental/adult participation in their decision to seek family planning services.

• All minors receive counseling on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities.
Informed Consent

• Informed consent is the voluntary agreement or consent to some act or purpose, with full knowledge of the risks involved and alternatives, given by a competent person.

• VA Code § 1-204- Age of majority

http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode
VA Codes Pertinent to Minors Accessing Medical Services

• VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(E)(1)
  • Authority to consent to surgical and medical treatment of certain minors
  • STI treatment

• VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(E)(2), VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(F), VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(G), and VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(G)
  • Authority to consent to surgical and medical treatment of certain minors

• Minors are not considered adults for the purpose of consenting to abortions
  • VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(J)

http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode
Confidentiality

• The duty to keep information private
• VA Code Ann § 54.1-2969(K)
• Parents or legal guardians may access a minor’s medical records unless:
  • The record is a drug test or related to rehabilitation care
  • Releasing the information would cause harm to the minor or another person*
• Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Providing Services to Minors Policy

http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode
STI Testing and/or Treatment

• VDH offers free *confidential* counseling, testing, and treatment for STIs
  • Components of counseling are dictated by VA Code § 32.1-57

• Only STI treatment for reportable infections/diseases is free; everything else is sliding scale.
Service Locations

Family Planning Services
- Local Health Departments
- Private Physicians
- Community Clinics
- Planned Parenthood
- [https://bedsider.org/where_to_get_it](https://bedsider.org/where_to_get_it)

STI Services
- Local health department
- Certain Walgreens provide free HIV testing
- Non profit organizations
- Private Physicians
- Community clinics
- [https://gettested.cdc.gov](https://gettested.cdc.gov)
Resource Mothers Program

Consuelo Staton, State Resource Mothers Program Coordinator
July 11, 2019
Resource Mothers Program Overview

▪ The purpose of the Virginia Resource Mothers Program (VRMP) is to improve birth outcomes for teen mothers and their infants and to decrease infant mortality and rapid repeat pregnancy.

▪ The program’s target population is pregnant and parenting teens and their infants, 19 years of age or less. Any pregnant teen is eligible for the program.

▪ The Program focuses on:
  ▪ A wide range of individual, family and community factors to promote good birth outcomes
  ▪ Preventing infant mortality and morbidity.
  ▪ Encouraging teens to have reproductive life plan that includes birth control education.

▪ Community Health Workers (CHWs)/Resource Mothers serve as a trusted adult/mentor to pregnant and parenting teens. VRMP is designed to improve parental and child health, child development, and social outcomes during and after a teen’s pregnancy and up the infant’s 1st birthday. The program uses evidence-based curricula to promote teen and child development.

▪ Educational and supportive services are also provided for other members of the family unit, such as the male partners, the teens’ parents and the infants.

▪ VRMP serves a two-generation or three-generation program population.
Resource Mothers Program Overview

The program promotes healthy behaviors such as:
- Participation in regular physical activities to maintain healthy weight
- Eating nutritious foods
- Keeping immunizations up-to-date for both the teen and the infant
- Avoidance of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco

Program Activities and Outreach include:
- Increasing knowledge about child development, child care, and child safety
- Encouraging the teen to remain in school or to develop work skills
- Providing support to encourage delaying a repeat/subsequent pregnancy
- Involvement with the teen’s family and the infant’s father in providing a stable and a nurturing home environment for the positive growth and development of the baby
- Helping the teen develop constructive decision-making and relationship skills
- Enrollment in Medicaid/FAMIS, WIC and other available community services

Number of Sites
- Currently there are six (6) Resource Mothers Program Sub-recipients local agency sites.
- Each program site has specific enrollment and service goals.
VRMP Statewide Local Agencies
Referral Process for Resource Mothers Program

Pregnant?

NO

NOT A RM REFERRAL

TEENAGER?

YES

INCLUDES

19

NO

NOT A RM REFERRAL

FIRST PREGNANCY?

YES!

NO

NOT A RM REFERRAL

PUT A SMILE ON A RESOURCE MOTHERS FACE AND WRITE A REFERRAL 😊
AIM4TM Core Elements Include:

- Thinking about a positive possible future
- Present Actions to achieve future success
- Safeguarding one’s future
- Creating a Reproductive Life Plan
- Motherhood as an Identity Strength
Virginia LARC Initiative: In Summary

Offers free hormonal IUDs and implants to patients who qualify.

Pilot program lasting two years.

Target population: Patients under 250% of FPL.
   (Currently, $51,950 for a family of three)

Expected outcomes: reduced unintended pregnancy and abortion rates, improved birth spacing.
IUDs and implants

What have you heard about them?

How do they work?

Who can get them?

How much do they cost?
Participating Agencies

1. Augusta Healthcare for Women
2. Central Virginia Health Services
3. Daily Planet
4. Greater Prince William Community Health Center
5. Harrisonburg Community Health Center
6. Planned Parenthood South Atlantic
7. Rockbridge Area Health Center
8. Sinclair Health Clinic
9. UVA Health System
10. VCU Health System
11. Virginia League for Planned Parenthood
12. Whole Woman’s Health Alliance
LARC Initiative
Counties/Cities Served

- Albemarle
- Augusta
- Brunswick
- Buckingham
- Buena Vista
- Caroline
- Charles City
- Charlotte County
- Charlottesville
- Fredericksburg
- Hampton
- Harrisonburg
- Henrico
- King William
- Lexington
- Louisa
- Petersburg
- Prince Edward
- Prince George
- Prince William
- Richmond City
- Roanoke
- Rockbridge
- Virginia Beach
- Westmoreland
- Winchester
VDH’s Adolescent Health Programs
Hello!

I am Maddie Kapur, Adolescent Health Coordinator.

I can’t be here in person because today is my due date!
1. BrdsNBz

Free, Anonymous Sexual Health Text Line for Teens.
BrdsNBz

- Virginia teens text their sexual health questions to __, get responses from a certified health educator within 24 hours
- Completely anonymous
- Owned and operated by the American Sexual Health Association
2. Positive Youth Development Programs

Teen Outreach Program (TOP) and Project AIM.
What is Positive Youth Development?

An intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people’s strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.
TOP & Project AIM

- Evidence-based positive youth development programs that increase protective factors for youth so that they are more likely to avoid risky behaviors.
- Sites: Family Service of Roanoke Valley, James Madison University, Portsmouth Health Department, Mt. Rogers Health District, Lenowisco Health District
3. “Get Real”

Evidence-based comprehensive sexual education intervention.
Get Real: Comprehensive Sexual Education That Works

“Get Real” is an evidence-based comprehensive sexual education program for middle and high school students.

VDH will begin funding two sites to implement “Get Real” in June 2020. The Request for Applications will be released in early 2020.
3. Youth Advisory Council

Integrating Youth Voice into Public Health.
Youth Advisory Council

- In August 2020, two Youth Advisors (youth between the ages of 18-21) will begin working as part-time employees in VDH’s Central Office.

- Youth Advisors will serve as consultants for public health interventions that impact adolescents and will spearhead the development of regional youth advisory councils.
Other Partnerships, Projects and Collaborations

VDH & DOE
VDH staff met with DOE staff to provide feedback on new health education SOLs. DOE anticipates rolling out these new SOLs in Summer 2019.

Sexual Education Needs Assessment
The Reproductivte Health Unit is currently calling every school district in the state to assess where comprehensive sexual education is happening in the Commonwealth.

Teen Dating Violence Media Campaign
The Adolescent Health Program funded social media ads promoting healthy relationships during Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (February).
Thanks!
Any questions? You can email our team at reproductivehealth@vdh.virginia.gov

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