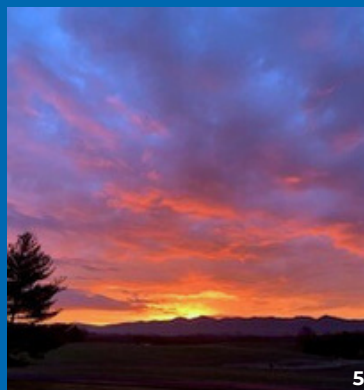
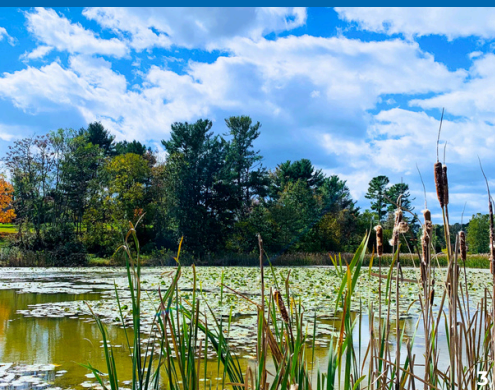


CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT



2024 ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT





TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT CSHD..... 1

FISCAL INFORMATION..... 4

VITAL RECORDS..... 5

WIC SERVICES..... 6

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH..... 7

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
& RESPONSE..... 9

CLINICAL SERVICES..... 11

EPIDEMIOLOGY..... 13

POPULATION HEALTH..... 14

Cover Photos - 1: Harrisonburg, Photo courtesy of Audra Paton. 2: Staunton, Photo courtesy of Scott Tiernan. 3: Harrisonburg, Photo courtesy of Audra Paton. 4: Waynesboro, Photo courtesy of Marisa Falsone. 5: Mount Crawford, Photo courtesy of Kim Dayhoff. 6: Harrisonburg, Photo courtesy of Audra Paton.



ABOUT CSHD

The Central Shenandoah Health District (CSHD) is one of thirty five health districts under the Virginia Department of Health. It is comprised of seven health departments that serve the counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge and Rockingham along with the cities of Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton and Waynesboro. Our local health departments provide numerous services to approximately 293,000 persons.

Central Shenandoah Health District



CSHD MISSION

To protect and educate the community and to use our expertise to achieve healthy outcomes.

CSHD VISION

The Central Shenandoah Health District aspires to be an accessible, collaborative, trusted community resource to create healthy, thriving communities.

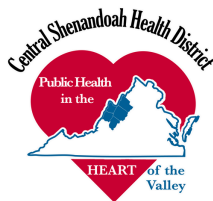


LETTER FROM OUR HEALTH DIRECTOR

In 2024 I was delighted to step into the role as the Health Director for the Central Shenandoah Health District. Becoming director of CSHD has allowed me to reinforce projects that were already in motion, as well as lead new initiatives to support our community. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to meet with community partners and identify health issues to collaborate on , which will allow the health district to expand on our efforts throughout our district.

This past year, CSHD strived to serve our community in the ways that mattered most. This included extending our STI Test & Go clinics, collaborating with schools to promote the uptake of school-required-immunizations, dispensing Naloxone along with providing “REVIVE!” training on its administration, tracking Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, distributing free car seats to those in need, and hosting a farmer’s market for our WIC clients on-site to allow access to fresh fruits and vegetables. As an attempt to meet our clients and patients where they are, we have also taken steps to launch a Mobile Healthcare Unit, which is planning to provide services across our community .

Positivity and inspiration from our staff and community bolsters my hope to improve the overall health of the Central Shenandoah Health district in 2025 and onward. I look forward seeing what we can achieve this year. Please continue reading to see the annual report from 2024.



Allison L Baroco MD, FSHEA, CIC

Health Director

Central Shenandoah Health District



Rockbridge, Photo courtesy of Laura Lee Wight.



LOCATIONS

BATH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



51 Courthouse Hill Road
Warm Springs, VA 24484



(540) 839-7246

BUENA VISTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT



2270 Magnolia Avenue
Buena Vista, VA 24416



(540) 261-2149

HARRISONBURG ROCKINGHAM HEALTH DEPARTMENT



110 North Mason St.
Harrisonburg, VA 22803



(540) 574-5101

HIGHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



140 Fleisher Avenue
Monterey, VA 24465



(540) 468-2270

LEXINGTON ROCKBRIDGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT



300 White Street
Lexington, VA 24450



(540) 463-3185

STAUNTON AUGUSTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT



1414 North Augusta St.
Staunton, VA 24401



(540) 332-7830

WAYNESBORO AUGUSTA HEALTH DEPARTMENT



540 Lew Dewitt Blvd, Suite 5
Waynesboro, VA 22980



(540) 569-4848

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[@CentralShenandoahHealthDistrict](#)



Visit our website at
vdh.virginia.gov/central-shenandoah



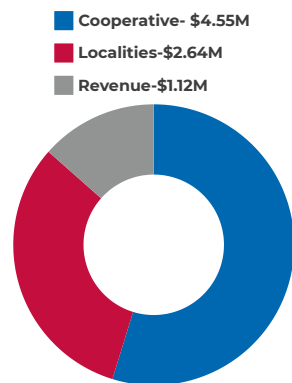
Email us at
cshdinfo@vdh.virginia.gov



FISCAL INFORMATION

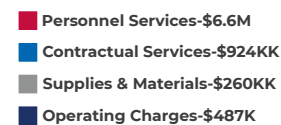
Central Shenandoah Health District receives funding through a variety of sources, including funds from the state, localities, and grants. The 2024 fiscal year runs from June 2023 to July 2024.

FY 2024 CSHD COOPERATIVE BUDGET



There are three main sources making up the CSHD budget. The cooperative budget consists of Commonwealth general funds, locality funds, and projected revenue. CSHD generates revenue from clinical services, environmental health permitting fees, and vital record requests.

TOTAL EXPENSES FY 2024



Expenditures consist of personnel services, contractual services, supplies and materials, transfer payments, and continuous charges.

FEDERAL GRANTS

The health district receives federal grants for different programs. Each grant has specific guidelines as to how the money can be used as well as varying timeframes in which the money can be used.

TOTAL GRANT EXPENSES

All COVID-19 Related	\$2,073,528
Breastfeeding Peer Counselor	\$35,551
Disease Intervention	\$1,129
Disease Surveillance	\$106,751
Emergency Preparedness	\$311,645
Immunizations	\$107,571

Maternal Child Health	\$157,555
NACCHO	\$53,335
Public Health Workforce Grant	\$269,800
Rural Health	\$106,865
Tuberculosis	\$17,555
All WIC Related	\$827,457



VITAL RECORDS

The Vital Records program allows community members to access essential documents. In 2024, over 5,600 requests were made with just shy of 22,000 documents provided to CSHD residents.

VITAL RECORDS REQUESTS BY SITE

Residents may obtain certified copies of birth, death, and divorce certificates, and marriage licenses as long as the event occurred in Virginia.

	Bath County	Harrisonburg City/ Rockingham County	Highland County	Lexington City/ Rockingbridge County	Staunton City/ Augusta County	Waynesboro City/ Augusta County
Birth Certificates	25	601	36	117	459	121
Death Certificates	55	1640	82	494	1019	882
Death Verifications	3	2	2	2	14	10
Divorce Certificates	1	5	0	1	3	0
Marriage Licenses	1	20	2	10	18	7

*Buena Vista City office does not offer Vital Record Services.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO ACCESS YOUR VITAL RECORDS?

Vital Record requests can be made for one's self or an immediate family member, with valid identification by the following methods:



IN PERSON

Applications can be made at most CSHD local health department offices during regular business hours. Please bring a valid ID.



ONLINE

Visit the [VDH Vital Records page](#) to complete an application.



BY MAIL

Applications can be printed from online and mailed with enclosed check or money order for \$12 per requested copy to:
Division of Vital Records
PO Box 1000
Richmond, VA 23218-1000



WIC SERVICES

The WIC program strives to improve the health of pregnant women, infants and children (under 5 years) through better nutrition and access to health care. This is achieved through nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support, supplemental nutritious foods, counseling, and screenings and referrals to other health, welfare, and social services.

AVERAGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED PER MONTH



WOMEN

Pregnant	281
Breastfeeding	188
Formula Feeding	289



INFANTS

873



CHILDREN

1,851

**Numbers are a monthly average for FY 2024 (October 2023 - September 2024).*



Harrisonburg,
Photo Courtesy of
Audra Paton

INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR WIC?



Visit: www.myvawic.org



Call your local health department

To be eligible for the WIC program, applicants must meet categorical, residential, income, and nutrition risk requirements



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The Environmental Health program covers a variety of areas focused on protecting residents and the environment.

FOOD SAFETY PROGRAM



The Food Safety program inspects and permits food service establishments. Inspectors work with food establishments to prevent and address foodborne illness.



CSHD saw a 3.41% increase in permitted food establishments from 2023 to 2024

	Augusta County	Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg City	Highland County	Lexington City	Rockbridge County	Rockingham County	Staunton City	Waynesboro City
Permits	194	44	27	327	14	68	118	194	146	113
Inspections	284	44	36	457	7	92	151	292	166	154

*inspections include complaint, follow-up, food borne illness, pre-opening, risk factor, routine, and other



LODGING AND RECREATIONAL

These programs provide permits and health and safety inspections for public facilities. Tourist lodging includes hotels, motels, and bed & breakfasts.

Permits	Augusta County	Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg City	Highland County	Lexington City	Rockbridge County	Rockingham County	Staunton City	Waynesboro City
Campgrounds	12	3	0	0	1	0	13	4	0	0
Summer Camps	2	6	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0
Tourist Lodging	20	12	1	28	4	10	27	10	14	15

Inspections	Augusta County	Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg City	Highland County	Lexington City	Rockbridge County	Rockingham County	Staunton City	Waynesboro City
Campgrounds	9	0	0	0	0	0	13	4	0	0
Summer Camps	2	5	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0
Tourist Lodging	12	0	0	19	0	6	22	7	10	12

*inspections include complaint, follow-up, pre-opening, and routine



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



WATER & WASTEWATER

This program provides surveillance, inspection, and regulatory oversight of private wells, on-site sewage systems, and sewage handlers.

	Augusta County	Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg City	Highland County	Lexington City	Rockbridge County	Rockingham County	Staunton City	Waynesboro City
Well Permit Applications	130	15	1	0	27	0	86	164	1	0
Sewage Permit Applications	173	13	0	0	15	0	81	164	1	4



LOOKING FOR THE MOST EFFICIENT METHOD TO GET YOUR ONSITE SEWAGE SYSTEM RECORDS?

Make a request for public records through the online VDH FOIA request portal! visit: vdh.nextrequest.com



ANIMAL DISEASE PREVENTION

Also known as the rabies program, this program is responsible for handling concerns of rabies and its potential spread to the human population. Duties include investigating reports of possible exposure to rabies, submitting animal specimens for rabies testing, and following up with both animal and human exposures.

REPORTED INCIDENTS

Augusta County	264
Bath County	9
Buena Vista City	13
Harrisonburg City	92
Highland County	12
Lexington City	15
Rockbridge County	112
Rockingham County	268
Staunton City	112
Waynesboro City	98
Other	9

*Other includes incidents handled by staff outside of the district or the location was unable to be determined

ANIMAL TESTING RESULTS

	Negative	Positive
Augusta/Staunton Health Department	74	13
Bath Health Department	1	0
Highland Health Department	0	0
Rockbridge/Lexington Health Department	16	5
Rockingham/Harrisonburg Health Department	39	11

*Specimens are sent out by health department locations.

POSITIVE RESULTS BY ANIMAL TYPE



GOAT: 1



RACCOON: 9



BAT: 2



CAT: 4



SKUNK: 11



HORSE: 1



BOBCAT: 1



From 2023 to 2024 we saw an increase in Rabies testing and total positive results.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

This program works with local emergency response partners to enhance readiness to respond to all hazards, including bioterrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and other public health emergencies.

ACTIVITIES AND HIGHLIGHTS

Continued Engagement with Community Partners

Emphasis on "first name relationships" and frequent collaboration, training, and communication with locality emergency management, healthcare organizations, community coalitions, and state partners. These established and robust connections inform CSHD Emergency Preparedness & Response planning and lay the groundwork for rapid and effective response to public health emergencies.

Formation of the Safety Team

CSHD safety transitioned from an office representative model to a committee with wide-ranging program representation. Additional safety initiatives were coordinated prior to and following a safety event including Office Safety Reference distribution and training, review of district communications devices and software, updates to office signage, and feedback on the safety event response. Significant collaboration with CSHD Administrators, Office Support, and the Training Workforce & Development Committee resulted in additional virtual and in-person training available to all staff.

Vaccination Exercises at James Madison University and Augusta Remote Area Medical Clinic

Partnered with JMU once again to administer 550 flu vaccinations to students, faculty, and staff for a one-day exercise. Collaboration between CSHD, the University Health Center, and JMU Nursing ensured successful vaccine distribution and facilitated new plans, process, and procedure for future emergency responses. Our continued involvement with Augusta RAM resulted in 84 routine adult vaccination administrations with efforts coordinated between Medical Reserve Corps, Nursing, and Population Health.

Tabletop Exercises with CSHD Staff

Stakeholders from Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Medical Reserve Corps, Nursing, and Population Health met to discuss scenarios for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza and measles. Support from Dr. Baroco provided staff refamiliarization into emergency response plans, process, and logistics.

Responses to Internal and External Emergencies

Coordination of District Leadership Team, Supervisors, and Incident Management Team members ensured facilitated responses to a communicable disease outbreak, a water disruption, and a CSHD safety event. Real-world testing of district plans and analysis of these responses contributed to valuable plan and committee updates, as well as provided state partners with valuable feedback.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS (MRC)

A total of 18 Central Shenandoah MRC (CSMRC) volunteers contributed a total of 150.5 hours supporting vaccinations, REVIVE! lay-rescuer training, STI Testing, Health Education, Clerical services, and Language Access Services at the Remote Area Medical (RAM) Clinic in Fishersville, VA in April. Other routine public health activities that CSMRC supported included deployments for school immunization clinics (6) in May and June, assembling public health outreach kits and REVIVE kits (4), conducting REVIVE training for the public (4), flu-vaccine point-of-dispensing exercise at JMU (2) in October, flu vaccination clinics with the Rockbridge Area Relief Association also in October (3). MRC volunteers supported the WIC program with weekly appointment reminder calls between May and July, and supported registration and traffic flow for the WIC farmer's market. Volunteers have also supported OSS coverage of the local health department clinic and environmental health offices for monthly district wide training days between April and August. CSMRC volunteers (8) attended an in-person, regional hybrid training event with other MRC units in the VDH Northwest Region. The event consisted of a joint-presentation session and a hands-on-skills based training session, focusing on emergency response. The Central Shenandoah MRC Coordinator attended the NACCHO MRC National Summit in Chicago, IL in May, and co-presented a session on lessons learned during 2020-2023 COVID-19 Pandemic Response for the Central Shenandoah, Lord Fairfax, and Blue Ridge MRC units as they transitioned between regional and local models of funding, coordination, and administration.

VOLUNTEERS



543 Approved
Volunteers

97% Deployable
Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS BY CATEGORY

Support (non-medical)	227
Medical	316

VIRGINIA

Sign up to become a Medical
Reserve Core Volunteer!
Visit: vdh.virginia.gov/mrc

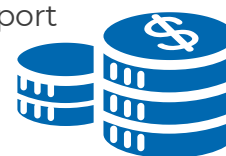


WORKFORCE SUPPORT

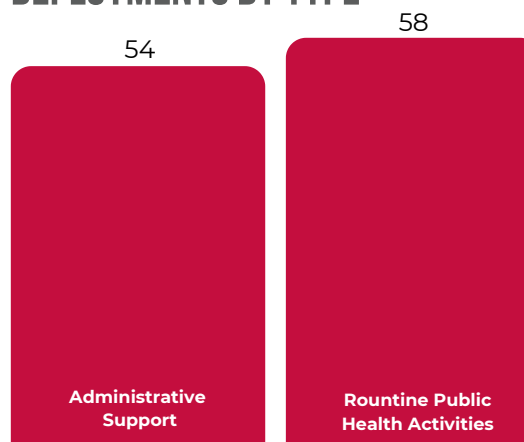
Over **\$24K** in workforce savings

Over **660** hours of support

112 total deployments



DEPLOYMENTS BY TYPE



*In 2024 there were no Emergency Response deployments



CLINICAL SERVICES

The Clinical program strives to support health promotion, disease prevention, and community health and wellness across the entire lifespan by offering different clinical services. The Immunization program offers vaccines to adults and children to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with vaccine-preventable diseases. The Newcomer Health program provides screenings and services for newly arrived refugees and other qualified individuals. Services include immunizations, general and mental health screenings, and follow-up referrals. The Sexually Transmitted Infections program strives to prevent the spread of STIs through education, outreach, and providing counseling, testing, treatment, and referral services. Tuberculosis management is also offered through risk assessment screenings and testing. Screenings for long-term care pre-admission are offered.



IMMUNIZATIONS

IN 2024 CSHD SAW:

3,534 TOTAL PATIENTS 12,190 TOTAL VISITS

48.32% of patients in 2024 were pediatric

VISITS BY OFFICE LOCATION

Bath County	289
Buena Vista City	0
Harrisonburg City/ Rockingham County	7,407
Highland County	172
Lexington City/ Rockbridge County	998
Staunton City/ Augusta County	2,128
Waynesboro City/ Augusta County	1,196



NEWCOMER HEALTH

IN 2024 CSHD SAW:

266 TOTAL PATIENTS 3,097 TOTAL VISITS

The Newcomer Health program provides screening and services for newly arrived refugees and other qualified individuals. Most patients utilizing this service are within the areas of Harrisonburg City and Rockingham County. Newcomers receive all necessary immunizations, general health and mental health screenings, and follow-up referrals, within 45 days of arrival.



21 OFF-SITE CLINICS

CSHD hosted 21 community based clinics in 2024. Immunizations were the focus of these clinics.

Vaccines that were provided:

- COVID-19
- Tetanus
- Diphtheria
- Pertussis
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV)
- Meningococcal
- Hepatitis A
- Flu



CLINICAL SERVICES



STI TESTING & TREATMENT

IN 2024 CSHD SAW:

566 TOTAL PATIENTS 6,843 TOTAL VISITS

The STI program is offered at all locations, but appointments for 2024 were predominantly made at the Harrisonburg City/Rockingham County (29.56%), Staunton City/Augusta County (42.09%), and Waynesboro City/Augusta County (27.94%) office locations. Clinics offer counseling, testing, treatment, and partner referral services for patients at risk of or currently experiencing STIs.

**SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON OUR STI PROGRAM**



TUBERCULOSIS MANAGEMENT

IN 2024 CSHD SAW:

581 TOTAL PATIENTS 5,144 TOTAL VISITS

VISITS BY OFFICE LOCATION

Bath County	51
Buena Vista City	0
Harrisonburg City/ Rockingham County	3,285
Highland County	39
Lexington City/ Rockbridge County	935
Staunton City/ Augusta County	329
Waynesboro City/ Augusta County	505



LONG-TERM CARE PRE-ADMISSION SCREENING

IN 2024 CSHD SAW:

**901 TOTAL PATIENTS
1,719 TOTAL VISITS**



CSHD saw a **25.66%** increase among patients needing Long-Term Pre-Admission Screening services from 2023 to 2024

VISITS BY OFFICE LOCATION

Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg/ Rockingham County	Highland County	Lexington City/ Rockbridge County	Staunton City/ Augusta County	Waynesboro City/ Augusta County
11	23	730	12	81	454	488



EPIDEMIOLOGY

The Epidemiology program is responsible for monitoring and investigating reportable and emerging communicable diseases, investigating outbreaks, and providing guidance and recommendations to prevent and control the spread of communicable diseases within our communities.

CASE INVESTIGATIONS BY PROGRAM AREA

	Augusta County	Bath County	Buena Vista City	Harrisonburg City	Highland County	Lexington City	Rockbridge County	Rockingham County	Staunton City	Waynesboro City
Communicable Diseases	88	2	3	50	5	5	18	111	9	16
Healthcare Associated Infections	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	0
Hepatitis	22	3	1	26	0	2	4	12	11	13
Toxic Substance Exposures	8	0	1	22	0	1	3	15	6	2
Vaccine Preventable Diseases	20	0	9	27	3	2	4	83	5	4
Zoonotic/ Environmental	58	8	5	21	5	4	20	46	18	10

*COVID-19 numbers have been excluded from the Communicable Diseases program area. Total investigation counts is based on the patient's county at the time of the investigation and the earliest report to public health date was used to determine if the investigation occurred during 2024.

COVID-19

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19 TRENDS

VISIT:



vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus



cdc.gov/covid/



OUTBREAKS BY TYPE

Dermatological	4
Gastrointestinal	9
Respiratory	7
Other	1

*COVID-19 outbreaks have been excluded from the Respiratory counts. The date Virginia Department of Health was notified was used to determine if the outbreak occurred during 2024.

To report a suspected foodborne illness, visit:

vdh.virginia.gov/environmental-health/foodborne-illness-report



POPULATION HEALTH

Within the scope of the local health district, the population health department goes beyond traditional public health department functions and programs to include cross-sectoral collaborations and community capacity-building activities. This encompasses coalition involvement, health service partnerships, stakeholder engagement, health resource networking, communications and media engagement, health equity strategizing, health education programming, harm reduction, as well as community outreach and engagement. While these activities are meant to serve the health of the general population, an equity-driven approach is taken to address the needs of communities experiencing greater vulnerability.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

TOTAL EVENTS ATTENDED: 136

Augusta County	19
Bath County	3
Buena Vista City	7
Harrisonburg City	25
Highland County	1
Lexington City	8
Rockbridge County	9
Rockingham County	4
Staunton City	25
Waynesboro City	35



CONNECTION2CARE

650

Referrals
Provided

450

Clients
Assisted

TOP NEEDS:

Housing
Food
Rent/Utility Assistance
Medical Assistance
Connection to Social Services

COVID-19 TESTS

8,500

Test Kits Distributed

CSHD partners with 35 community organizations to distribute free COVID-19 test kits.



HARM REDUCTION SERVICES

519

Individuals Trained
in Opioid Overdose
Response

1060

Doses of
Naloxone
Distributed

210

Fentanyl
Test Strips
Distributed



MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH INITIATIVES

129

Cribettes
Distributed



100

Car Seats
Distributed

39

Car Seat Safety
Classes Held



TOTAL CAR SEAT SAFETY CLIENTS: 86

Augusta County	7
Bath County	1
Buena Vista City	9
Harrisonburg City	19
Highland County	0
Lexington City	19
Rockbridge County	12
Rockingham County	7
Staunton City	13
Waynesboro City	10

*Connection2Care referrals services represents the number of cases opened in 2024. Car Seat Safety program participants may receive car seats for each child in need after taking the class and meeting eligibility requirements. Car seat distribution began in June of 2024.



THANK YOU!



Waynesboro, Photo courtesy of Laura Lee Wight.

