



Public Health in Alexandria

City Academy, October 2022

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Public Health in Alexandria

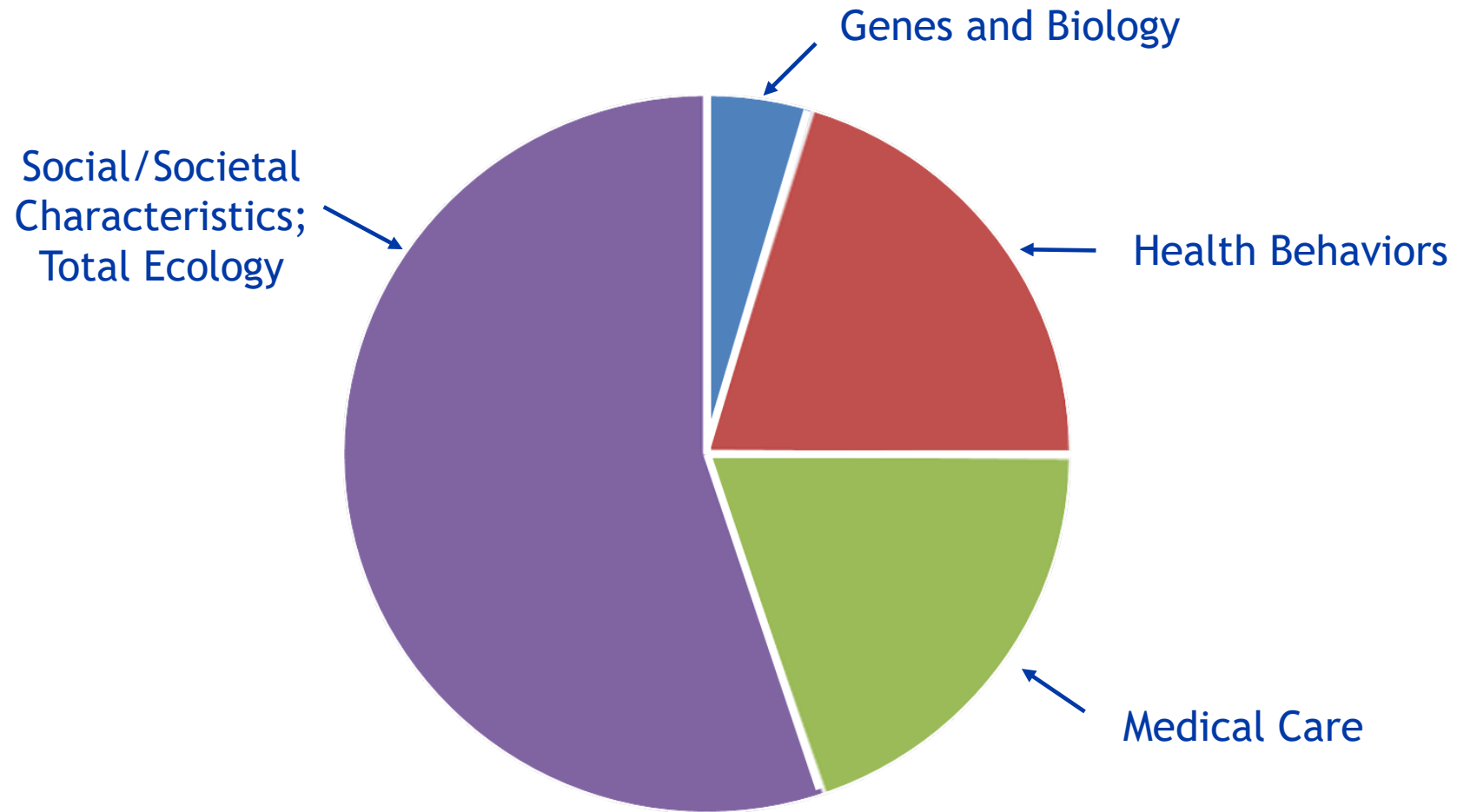
OVERVIEW

- What is Public Health?
- AHD Services
- Key Alexandria Health Department Foci
- How Can YOU Get Involved?

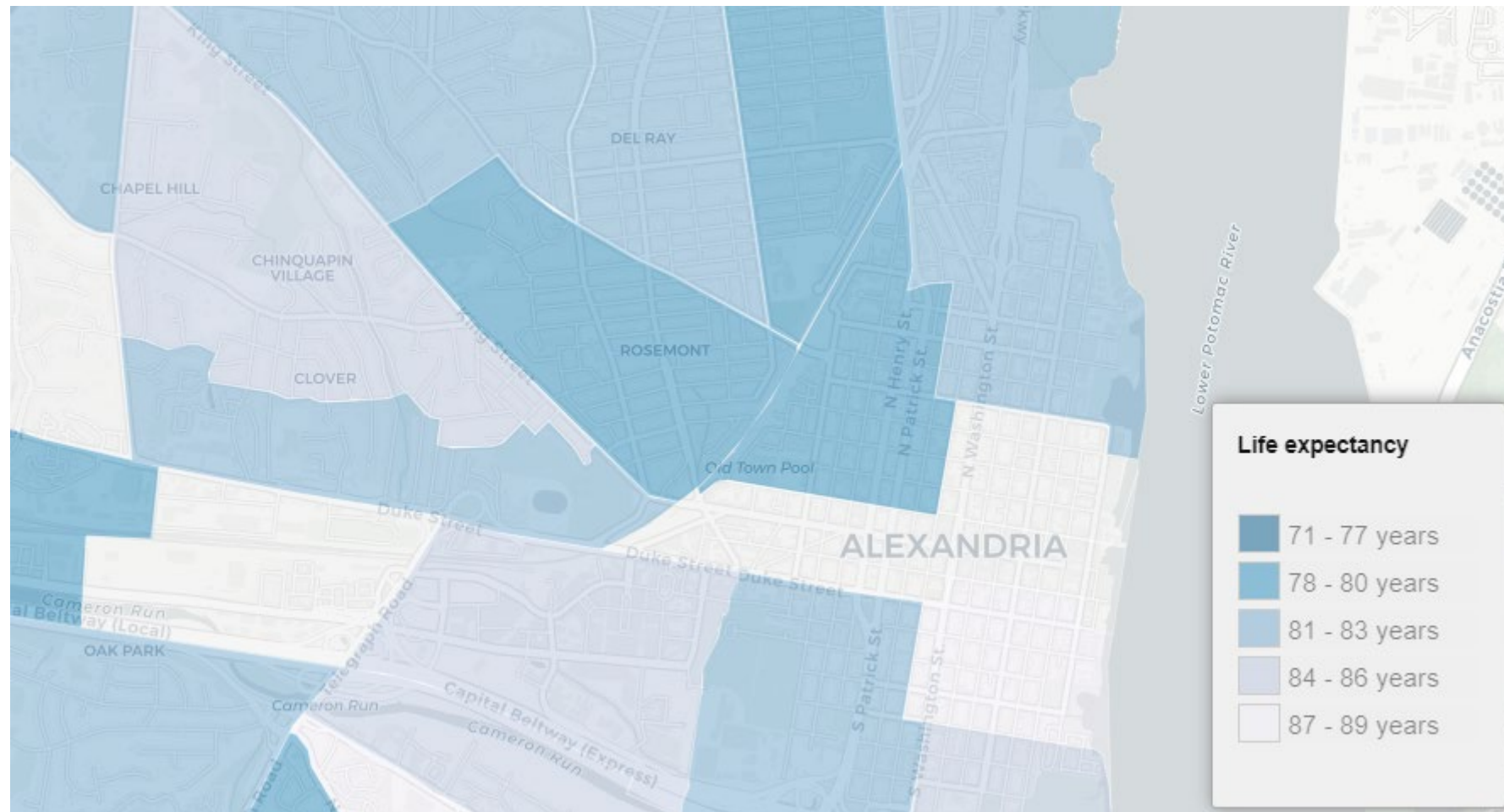
WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?



What Determines the Health of a Population?



What Determines Health?



Public Health Defined



Photo: IF Fisher and EL Fisk

“The science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health through the organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private communities, and individuals.”

—CEA Winslow

Health & Public Health

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
7 April 1948

Public Health

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

CDC Foundation

PROBLEM SOLVING IN PUBLIC HEALTH

STEPS IN CLINICAL MODEL

Symptoms

Signs

History

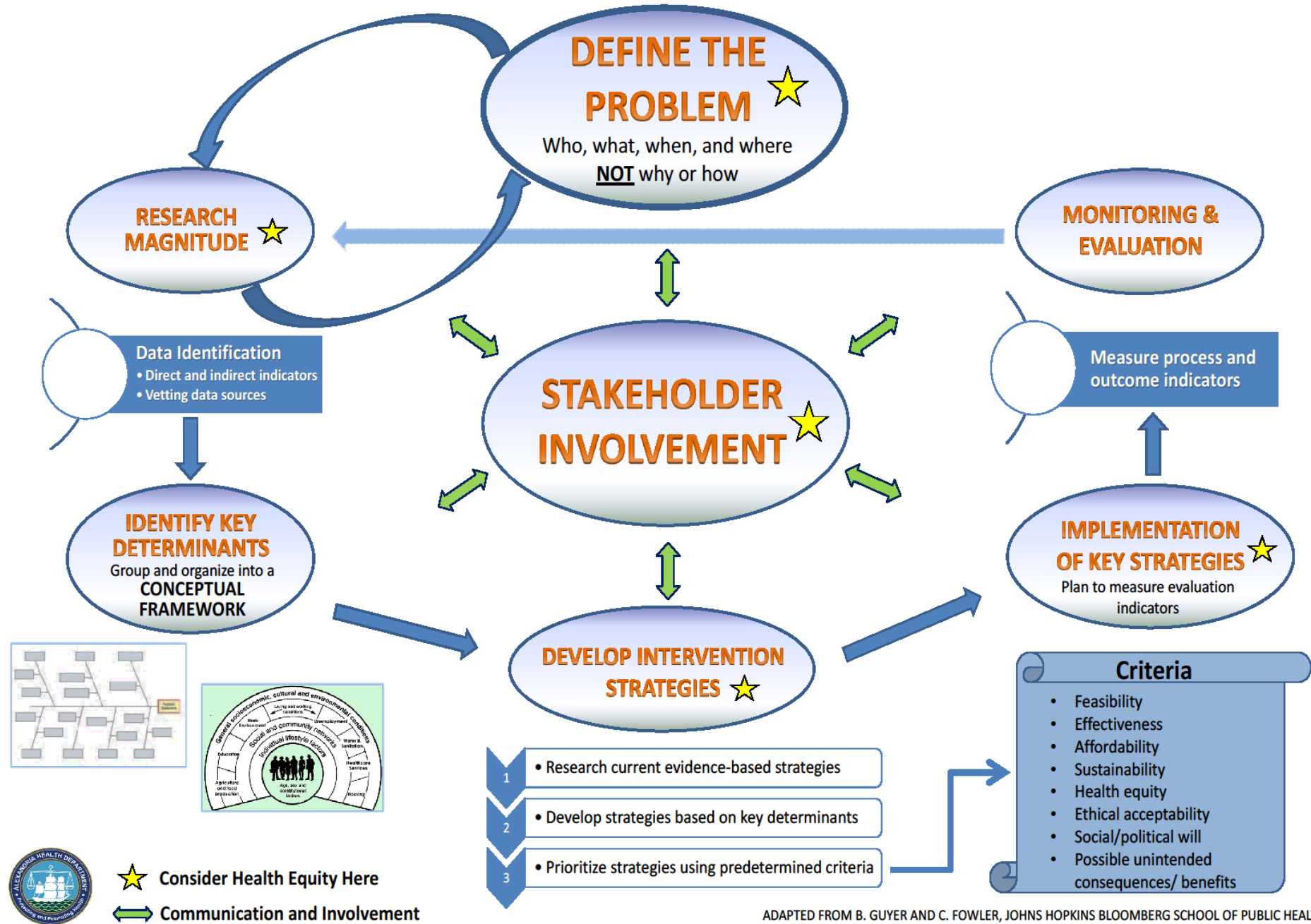
Physical Exam

Diagnostic Studies

Differential Diagnoses

Therapy

Re-evaluation

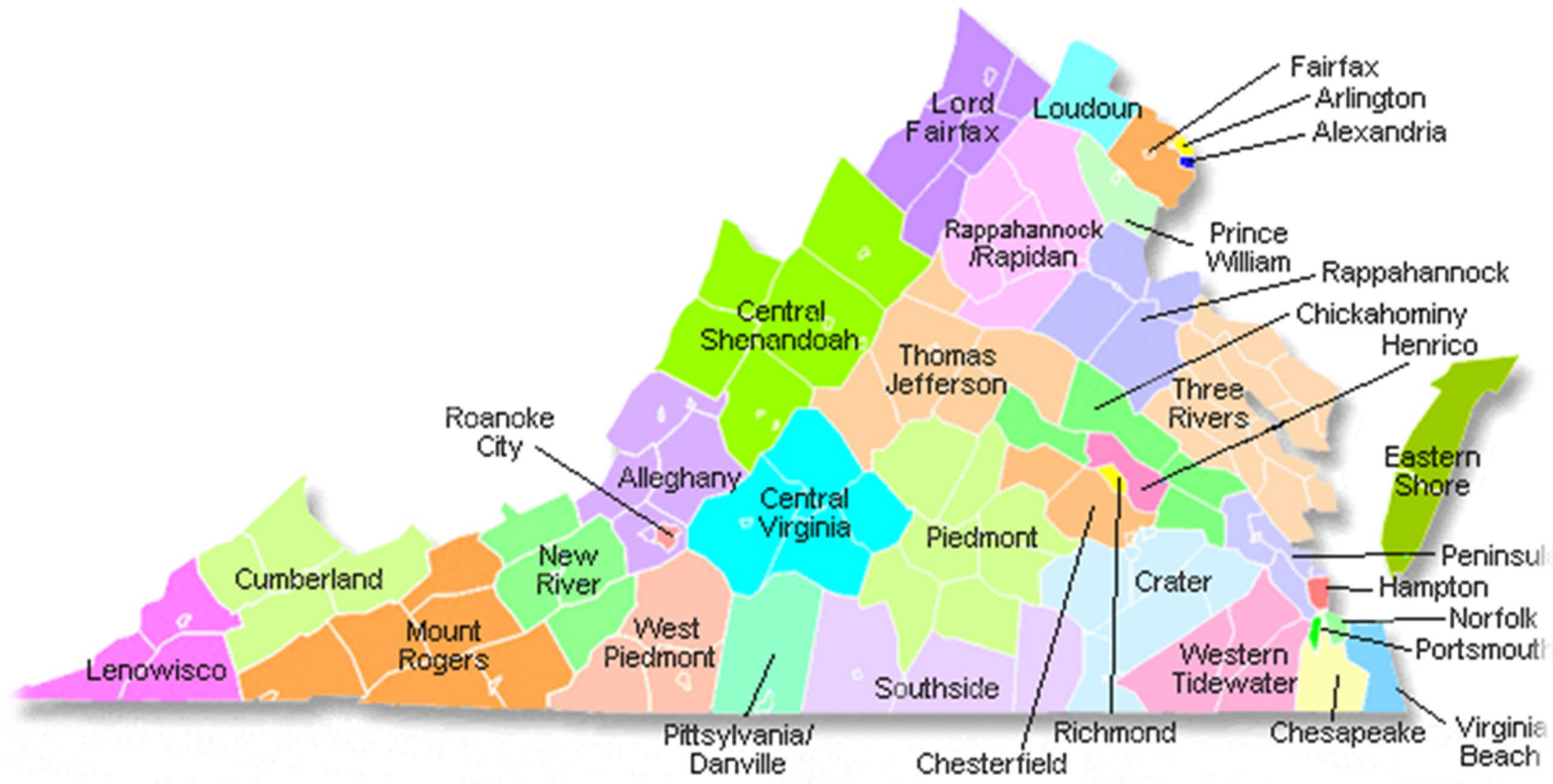


PUBLIC HEALTH IN ALEXANDRIA



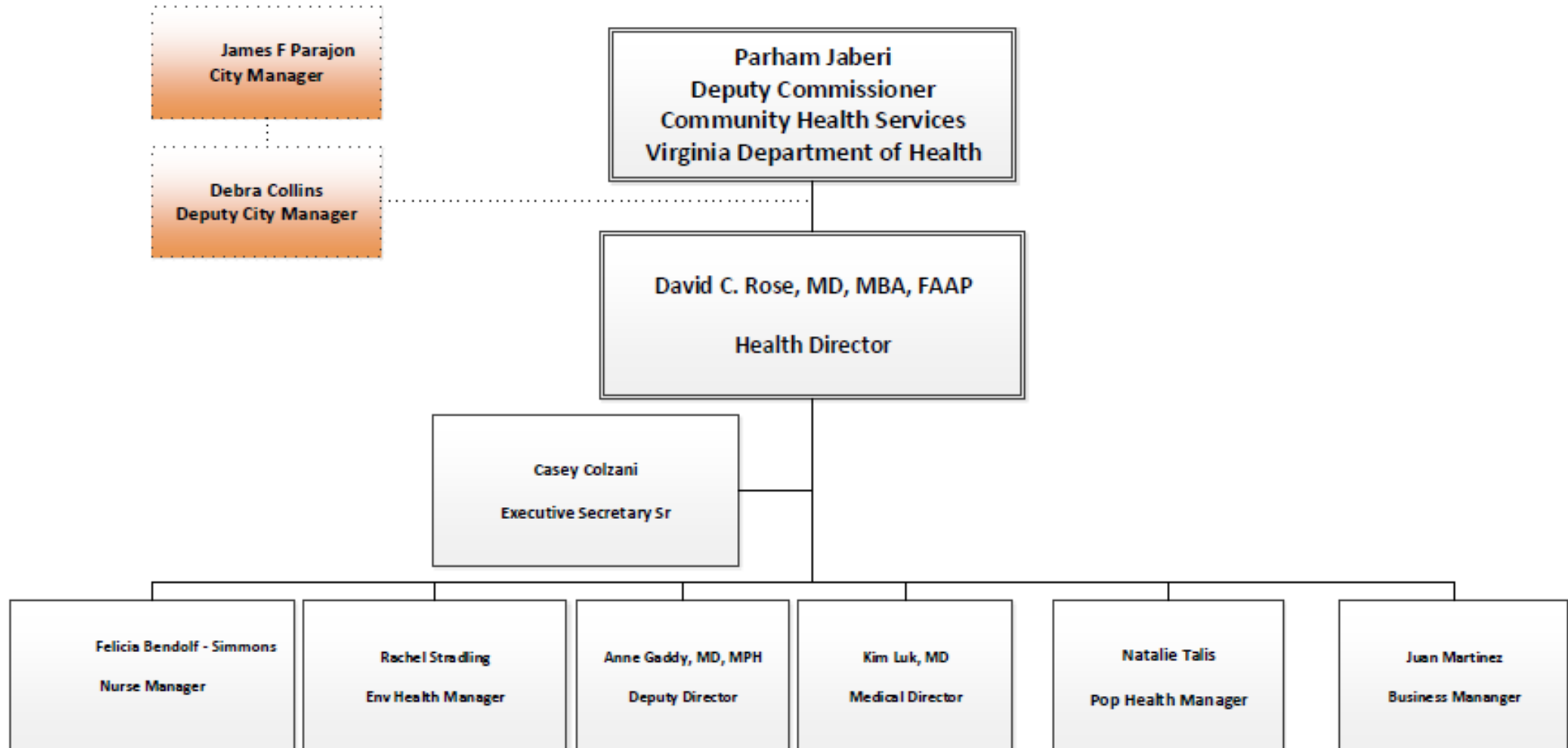
VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Protecting You and Your Environment



Alexandria Health Department

Supervisory Organizational Chart (November 2021)



Vision

Healthy People, Healthier Communities

Mission

Protecting and Promoting Health and Well-Being in Our
Communities

Values

Working Together, Improving Continuously, Making a Difference



AHD Major Services

Population-Based Clinical Services



- BabyCare & Case Management
- Breastfeeding Consultation
- HIV/AIDS Services: HIV Testing, Case/Contact Investigations/PrEP Initiation
- Immunization Clinic
- Newcomer Health Clinic and Case Management
- Sexual Reproductive Health (Family Planning, STI, Wellness) Clinics and Case Management
- Teen Wellness Center
- Tuberculosis Clinic and Case Management
- WIC: Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children

AHD Major Services (cont.)



- **Public Health Emergency Management**
 - Prepare for, respond to, recover from public health emergencies
 - Medical Reserve Corps Program
- **Environmental Health**
 - Food Safety Program // Aquatic Health
 - Vector Control // Response to various environmental health issues
- **Epidemiology**
 - Communicable disease prevention, control, and mitigation
 - Analyzes & interprets data to guide policy & program development
- **Community Health**
 - Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plans
 - Improve community health through policy, systems, and programming
 - Examine and address issues of health equity

AHD Locations



Local Public Health System

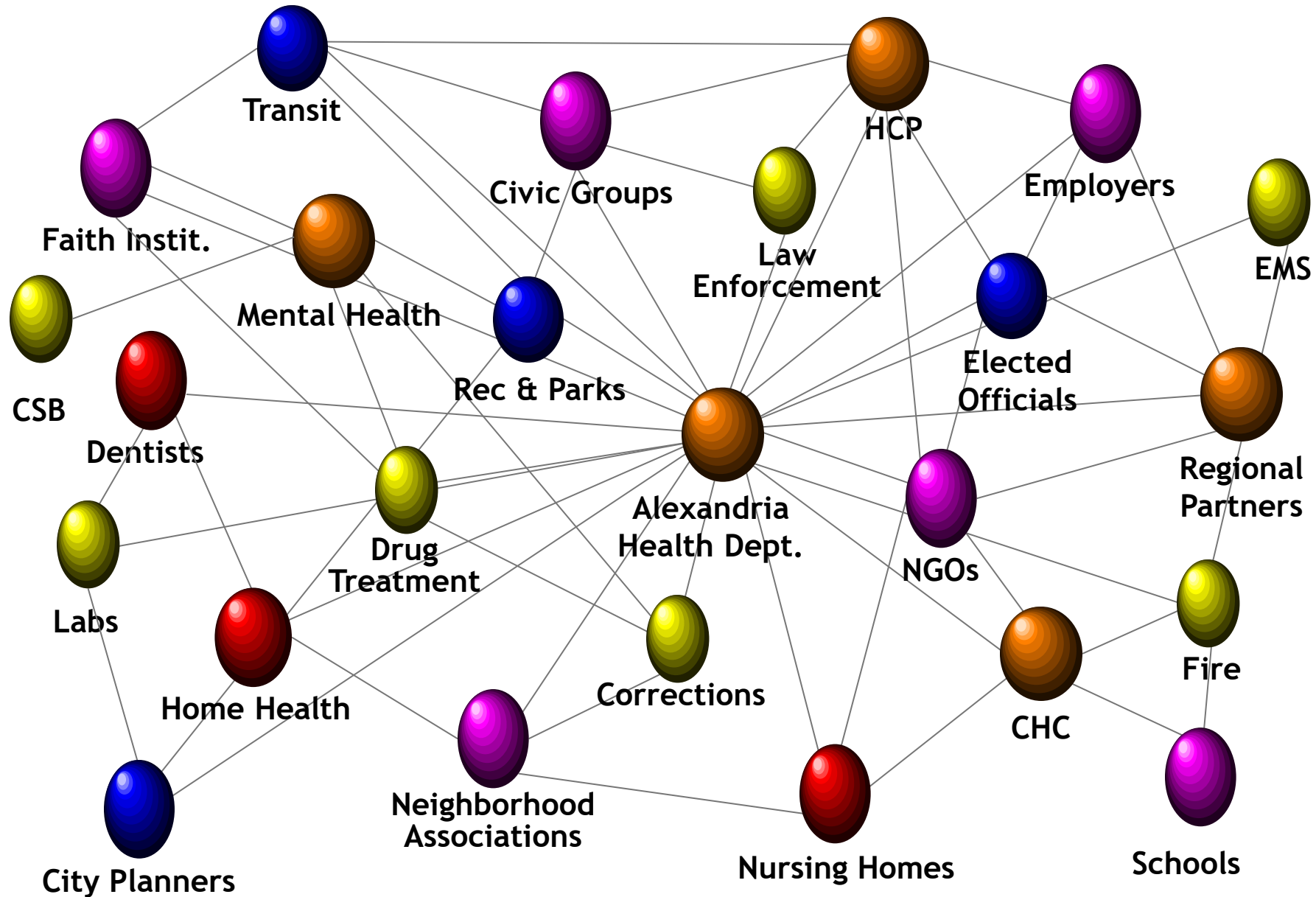


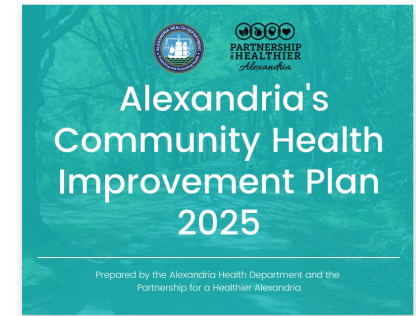
Photo Credit:
National
Association of
County and City
Health Officials



KEY ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY FOCI



Highlights from Current Work Plan



Community Health Improvement Plan

- July 2019 - July 2021 process
- Collaborate with Partnership for Healthier Alexandria, community organizations, and other agencies to address mental health, poverty, housing

Unite Us

- Referral system to treat people holistically

Healthy Homes Initiative

- Addressing environmental triggers for asthma and COPD; helping seniors age in place; reducing the impacts of mold and poor air quality on health

Relocation to 4850 Mark Center Drive

- Move planned early 2023
- Co-location with DCHS, Neighborhood Health, City services

HOW TO GET INVOLVED TO IMPROVE HEALTH IN ALEXANDRIA



6 Ways to Making a Difference

- Attend community health meetings and help champion a strategy
- Apply for a seat on a Commission
- Get involved with the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria
- Join the Medical Reserve Corps
- Direct yourself toward complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being
- Get to know your neighbors

What You Can Do:

- Manifest a culture of safety, compassion and concern for self and others
- Stay informed
 - Alexandria eNews
 - www.alexandriava.gov/Health
 - 703.746.4988/alexhealth@vdh.virginia.gov
- Assure personal preventive care
 - Stay up-to-date with COVID-19, Flu

QUESTIONS?

