

Mental Wellness Focus Area Voting

February 13, 2026

From November 2025 – January 2026, community members submitted potential focus area options for the Mental Wellness coalition. These options were organized into the 19 focus areas below. From January February 2026, community members were able to vote on their top three options for the coalition to work on using an online form or voting in-person on February 4, 2026. Results are listed in order below.

Focus Area	Online Votes	In Person Votes	Total Votes
Reduce access barriers for services and care (cost, availability)	19	6	25
Create safer spaces for vulnerable communities (unhoused, immigrants)	10	13	23
Strengthen community connections, support systems, and belonging	11	10	21
Expand early intervention and screening for child and youth mental health	12	6	18
Improve crisis and serious mental illness services	9	8	17
Create or expand green spaces that promote activity and community engagement	5	8	13
Expand school-based mental wellness services	7	4	11
Meet basic needs to reduce stress	8	3	11
Coordinate and co-locate care in community spaces	5	5	10
Strengthen trauma-informed crisis response capabilities among first responders	4	6	10
Provide family-focused supports and resources	6	3	9
Address community safety for youth	3	5	8
Normalize open conversations about mental health and recovery	5	3	8
Promote culturally appropriate mental wellness services	4	4	8
Create a dementia-friendly community (community awareness, supportive environments)	2	4	6
Reduce opioid overdoses	4	2	6
Improve economic security for older adults	1	3	4
Promote mental wellness services and supports for the LGBTQIA+ community	2	2	4
Support caregivers of older adults	3	0	3

Alexandria Community Health Improvement Plan 2030

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2030 will work on the top five options (highlighted). To learn more, email healthmatters@vdh.virginia.gov.