OVERVIEW

Public Health in Alexandria

➢ What is Public Health?
➢ AHD Services
➢ Key Alexandria Health Department Foci
➢ How Can YOU Get Involved?
WHAT IS PUBLIC HEALTH?
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**

The science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health and well-being through organized community effort

C.E.A. Winslow, 1920  
The Acheson Report, 1988
What Determines Health?

Social/Societal Characteristics: Total Ecology

- Genes
- Health Care
- Health Behaviors
HOW DOES PUBLIC HEALTH WORK IN THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA?
Alexandria Health Department

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 (1 of 3)
Clinical Services

- BabyCare & Case Management
- Breastfeeding Counseling & Support
- HIV/AIDS Services
- Immunization Clinic
- Newcomer Health Clinic
- Pharmacy (Casey Health Center)
- Sexual & Reproductive Health Clinics (Rainbow Tuesday Clinic)
- Teen Wellness Center
- Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic
- Women, Infants, & Children (Prevention through Nutrition)
AHD Major Services (2 of 3)

• Public Health Emergency Management
  • Prepare for, respond to, recover from public health emergencies
  • Medical Reserve Corps Program

• Environmental Health
  • Food Safety
  • Aquatic Health
  • Vector Control
  • Response to various environmental health issues
• **Epidemiology**
  • Subject matter expertise on communicable disease prevention, control and mitigation
  • Analyzes & interprets data to guide policy & program development

• **Population Health**
  • Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plans
  • Examine and address issues of health equity
  • Support community cohesion and collaboration
  • Improve community health through policy, systems, and programming
PROBLEM SOLVING IN PUBLIC HEALTH

STEPS IN CLINICAL MODEL

- Symptoms
- Signs
- History
- Physical Exam
- Diagnostic Studies
- Differential Diagnoses
- Therapy
- Re-evaluation

DEFINE THE PROBLEM
Who, what, when, and where
NOT why or how

MONITORING & EVALUATION
Measure process and outcome indicators

IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY STRATEGIES
Plan to measure evaluation indicators

DEVELOP INTERVENTION STRATEGIES
- Research current evidence-based strategies
- Develop strategies based on key determinants
- Prioritize strategies using predetermined criteria

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

IDENTIFY KEY DETERMINANTS
Group and organize into a CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

RESEARCH MAGNITUDE
Data Identification
- Direct and indirect indicators
- Vetting data sources

Consider Health Equity Here
Communication and Involvement

ADAPTED FROM B. GLYER AND C. FOWLER, JOHN'S HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
AHD Locations
KEY ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY FOCI
Community Health Improvement Plan

How can Alexandria best improve community health in the next five years?

Community-centered focus on equity and:

- Mental Health
- Housing
- Poverty

For More Information → Website: alexandriava.gov/health Email: healthmatters@vdh.virginia.gov
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
Making a Difference - Action Steps

We need YOU to take an active role on Mental Health, Housing, and Poverty!

- Champion a strategy
- Join a workgroup
- Stay tuned for information about CHIP next steps!

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COVID-19

Alexandria Health Department
Public Health Justice Principles:

• Prioritize science-based recommendations
• Focus resources on saving lives
• Engage and empower Alexandrians most in need

What You Can Do:

• Manifest a culture of safety, compassion and concern for self and others

• Stay informed
  o Alex eNews
  o alexandriava.gov/Coronavirus
  o 703.746.4988

• Sign up to receive COVID-19 vaccine: vaccinate.virginia.gov
QUESTIONS?