

# Overview of the Virginia Department of Health

Supplemental Information for the  
Joint Commission on Health Care  
September 4, 2008

## Agency Overview

- Mission – Promote and protect the health of all Virginians
- Vision – Healthy people in healthy communities
- @3,700 full time classified employees
  - Central Office, 35 local health districts, 119 local health departments
- FY09 Budget - \$591 million
  - 30% general funds/ 26% federal funds/ 44% special funds
  - 41 Service Areas
- 58 Regulatory Titles

# VDH Goals

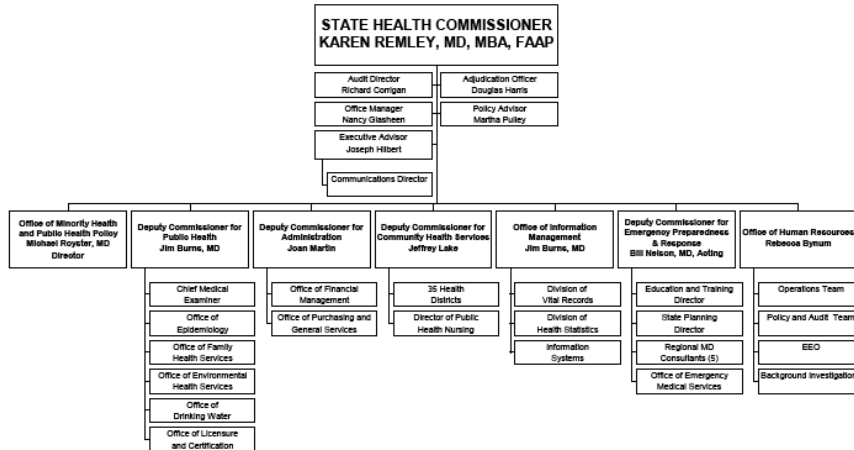
- VDH Has Ten Major Goals

Ensure Clean, Safe Drinking Water 	Ensure Safe Food at Restaurants 	Ensure Access to Healthcare 
Prevent Exposure to Toxic Substances and Radiation 	Prevent and Control Communicable Diseases 	Respond to Public Health Emergencies 
Investigate Suspicious Deaths 	Promote Systems that Improve Health 	Disseminate Public Health Information 
Provide Strong Leadership and Organizational Support to Virginia's Public Health System		

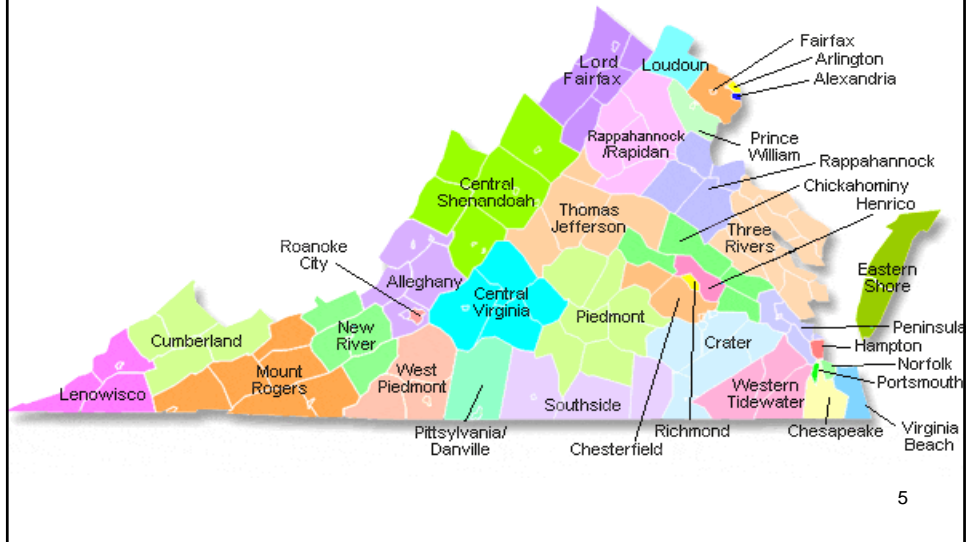


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## VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER AUGUST 2008

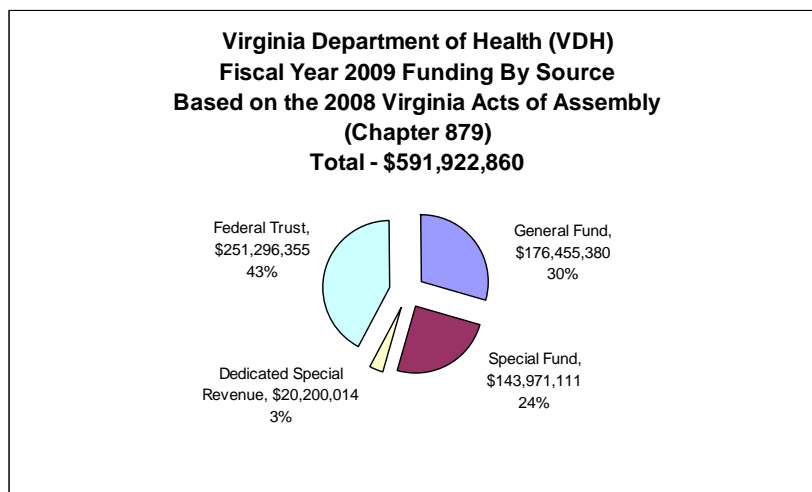


## VDH Has 35 Local Health Districts in Addition to the Central Office



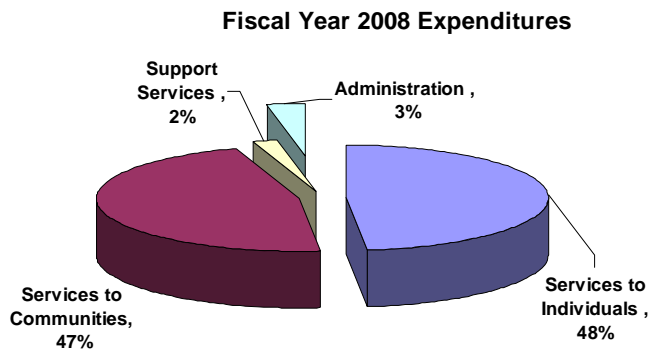
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## VDH Budget – Funding Sources



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## VDH Budget - Expenditures



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## VDH Services

- **Communicable Disease Prevention, Treatment and Control (TB, STD, HIV, AIDS, Outbreak Investigations, Rabies)**
- **Emergency Preparedness and Response**
- **Coordination of Comprehensive State EMS System**
- **Medical-legal death investigations- Office of the Chief Medical Examiner**
- **Newborn Screening**
- **Immunizations**

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## **VDH Services (continued)**

- **Regulation of Health Care Facilities- COPN**
- **Radiation Control – Regulation of X-Ray Machines**
- **Health Promotion, Education, and Injury Prevention**
- **Protection of Public Drinking Water**
- **Onsite Sewage Disposal and Well Permits**
- **Restaurant Inspections**
- **Public Health Data - Vital Records**
- **Sanitary Control of Shellfish Harvesting and Processing**
- **Sanitary Control of Bedding and Upholstered Furniture**

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## **Services Targeted to Low Income Individuals**

- **Prenatal**
- **Family Planning**
- **Dental Health**
- **Primary Health Care**
- **Pharmacy for Patients with Acute Illness or Chronic Conditions**
- **Laboratory for Primary Care**
- **Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)**

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## What is Public Health?

- **Public Health** is the Science and Art of Protecting and Improving the Health of **Communities** Through
  - Community Assessment and Planning,
  - Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles,
  - Prevention of Disease and Injury, and
  - Emergency Preparedness & Response.

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## Current Public Health Challenges

- Obesity & Physical Inactivity,
- Tobacco Use,
- New & Resistant Strands of Infectious Diseases
- Poverty,
- Chronic Disease, and
- Emergency Preparedness & Response.

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## **Current Public Health Challenges (continued)**

- Workforce Development & Diversity
- Building Public Health Infrastructure Capacity
- Developing Statewide Partnerships for System Change
- Sustaining Public Health System Improvements