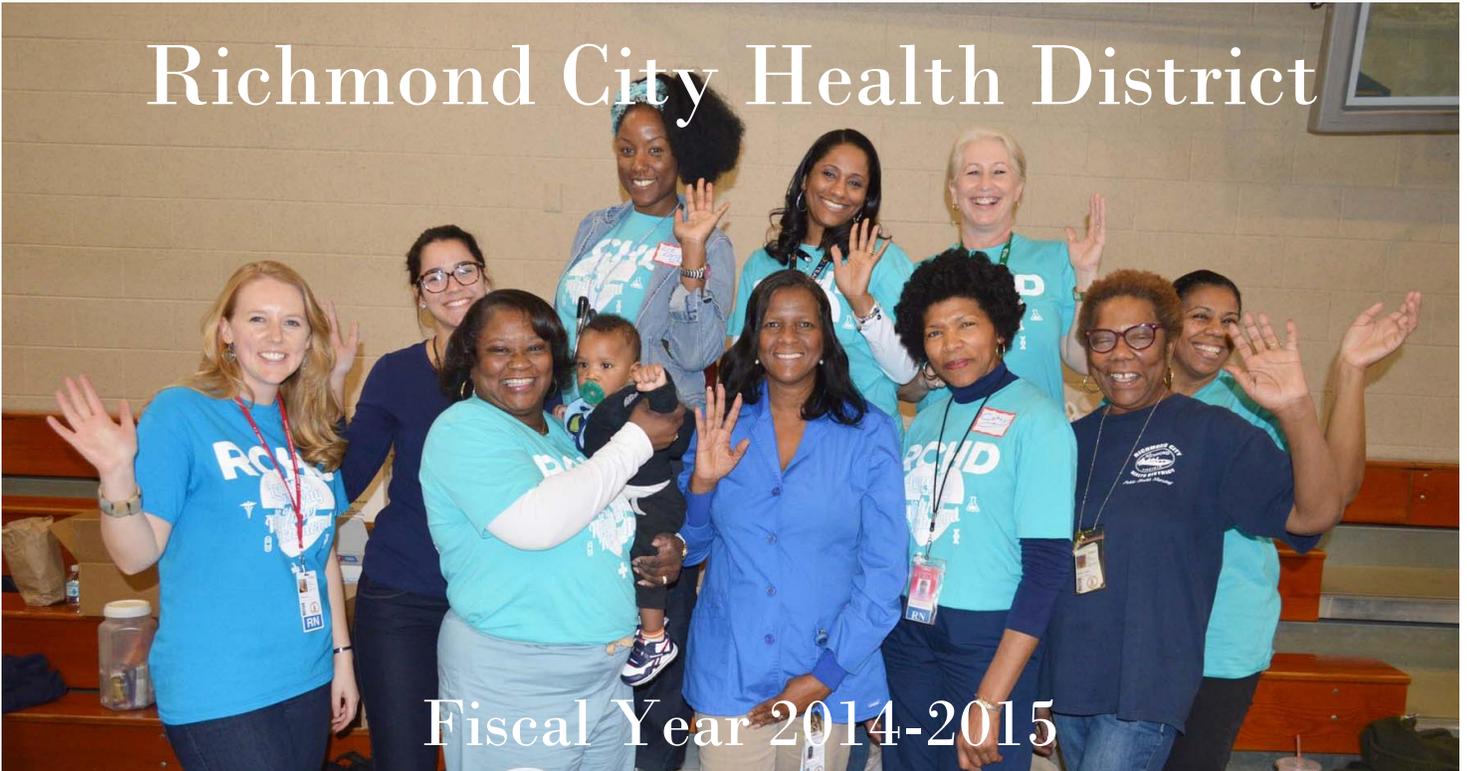


# Richmond City Health District



Fiscal Year 2014-2015

## ANNUAL REPORT



**Donald R. Stern, MD, MPH**  
Health Director

*The Richmond City Health District has worked to develop a strategic plan that is responsive to changes shaping the future of public health. Several trends including new laws concerning health care access, changing patterns in the cultural composition of our community, aging populations, and increasing growth of technology are factors contributing to the evolution of public health. This year, our agency worked with city leaders to establish resolutions to ensure incorporation of health considerations in policies that influence the health of our community. We've continued to expand partnerships and implement initiatives that promote better health and well-being for our residents as we work together for a healthier Richmond.*

### HIGHLIGHTS: (JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015):

#### **Richmond Regional – Virginia Family and Fatherhood Symposium**

The Richmond Family and Fatherhood Initiative's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Richmond Regional – Virginia Family and Fatherhood Symposium was held June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 at the Trinity Family Life Center. The theme was "Factors Influencing the Life Outcomes, Health and Well-being of Children." Opening remarks were provided by 6<sup>th</sup> District Councilwoman Ellen F. Robertson and Richmond Health Director, Dr. Donald R. Stern. A special welcome was extended via video by State Health Commissioner, Dr. Marissa Levine. Keynote speakers were: Dr. Ronald B. Mincy, who is the Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work, and Dr. Allison Sampson-Jackson, the Trauma Informed Care Operations Manager for the Richmond City Department of Social Services. The day's events included eleven morning and afternoon breakout sessions along with a panel discussion. More than 200 people attended the event.



Left to Right: Anthony Mingo, Allison Sampson-Jackson, Councilwoman Ellen R. Robertson, Tauchanna Gregory and Dr. Donald R. Stern



### **Richmond City Health District Hosts the first Youth Violence Prevention Consortium**

The Richmond City Health District Youth Violence Prevention Initiative in collaboration with the Richmond Family and Fatherhood Initiative and the Juvenile Justice Collaborative hosted the 2015 Youth Violence Prevention Consortium on April 28th. The event addressed youth violence prevention in the City of Richmond and was designed for community and faith leaders, social workers, healthcare professionals, government officials, educators, and local youth violence prevention subject matter experts. The goal was to promote urgency of the issue within the community, introduce the public health model of youth violence prevention, discuss the value of the collective impact strategy, and to highlight efforts within the City of Richmond working toward reducing youth violence. Dr. Dana Bedden, Richmond Public Schools Superintendent; Alfred Durham, Richmond Police Chief and the honorable Judge Steven Teske from Clayton County, GA served as speakers for this event.



Dr. Donald R. Stern, Judge Angela E. Roberts and Judge Steven Teske.

### **RCHD joined with City leaders to include health considerations in government planning and programs**

The Richmond City Health District collaborated with City leadership to adopt resolutions that will ensure the incorporation of health considerations into decision-making processes across sectors that influence health. The Health in All Policies (HiAP) and Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) Cities and Towns Resolutions are outgrowths of Mayor Dwight Jones' Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Policy and fall under the auspices of the Mayor's Healthy Richmond Campaign. Oversight and direction for the Healthy Richmond Campaign is provided cooperatively with City Human Services Administrators by Dr. Danny Avula, Deputy Director for Richmond City Health District (RCHD). Dr. Avula along with Dr. Michael Royster, Vice President of the Institute for Public Health Innovation (IPHI), was instrumental in promoting the HiAP concept to city leaders and providing technical assistance in the development and adoption of the HiAP and HEAL legislation.

### **Obesity Prevention Grant targets prevention and reduction of childhood obesity**

The Richmond City Health District (RCHD) received a Public Health and Health Services grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support obesity prevention initiatives. RCHD partnered with Richmond Public Schools, the Greater Richmond Coalition for Healthy Children, the YMCA and Virginia Commonwealth University to implement a number of innovative strategies to reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity. These include "Smarter Lunchrooms" to improve the school food environment, hydration stations in elementary schools to encourage students to drink more water, and healthy eating and physical activity standards for out-of-school programs.

### **WIC grant promotes implementation of strategies for a healthier city**

The National WIC Association (NWA) awarded the Richmond City Health District a Community Partnerships for Healthy Mothers and Children (CPHMC) grant. The \$111,000 grant, which is funded by CDC's Division of Community Health, aims to reduce and prevent chronic disease by improving access to healthy food environments and improving access to prevention and disease management services, like WIC. The grant's first objective is to increase the number of WIC vendors in the city in partnership with the Healthy Corner Store Initiative. Corner stores will focus on creating an environment that is easy for WIC customers to navigate. Storeowners will also receive assistance in marketing and promoting WIC within in their store and community. The next objective is to increase the number of healthcare professionals who receive basic training on WIC messaging and services. The grant's training process will create partnerships with physicians that will encourage prospective WIC families to join earlier, remain in the program longer and employ WIC services more consistently.

## Richmond City Health District co-sponsors 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual RVA Streets Alive Event

The Richmond City Health District (RCHD), along with Richmond Sports Backers and the Mayor's Healthy Richmond Campaign, sponsored *RVA Streets Alive!* in Byrd Park on June 20th. Created three years ago, the event is inspired by open-streets projects around the world. *RVA Streets Alive!* promotes a healthy and vibrant city experience by closing streets to cars and opening them to the public for one day. Attendees came out for a day of fun, a variety of physical activities and games, health screenings, and health and safety information. The tree-lined streets throughout the park provided welcome shade on what was a hot, but enjoyable sunny day.



MRC Coordinator, Amy Vincent and MRC Volunteers provided educational displays at the RVA Streets Alive

## Richmond City Health District Programs and Services Summary

### REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

The goal of the *Family Planning Program* is to promote reproductive planning through community based and clinical services by providing reproductive health services to women and men. Goals are to prevent unplanned pregnancies by providing counseling and birth control methods. A total of **2,039** at-risk clients received these services this fiscal year. A grant from the Community Foundation allows RCHD to provide LARC (long-acting reversible contraception) to eligible city residents. RCHD also makes Family Planning services accessible within the community through our Resource Centers and partnerships with Capital Area Health Network, Fan Free Clinic and Crossover Healthcare Ministry. Also, The Family Planning Program had two successful site visits by the Virginia Department of Health's Central Office Family Planning Program and the Federal Title X Grant.

The goal of the *Maternal Child Health Program* is to promote healthy pregnancy outcomes and decrease infant mortality by providing early access to quality prenatal care and pregnancy education. A total of **287** Richmond residents were served this fiscal year. All RCHD maternity patients are educated on topics pertaining to their pregnancy, such as signs and symptoms of pre-term labor, nutritional counseling, benefits of breast-feeding, depression screening, providing flu vaccines to high risk pregnant clients, safe sleep for infants and post-partum contraception.

As part of the Maternal Child Health Program, our **Centering Pregnancy Program**, an evidence based model of prenatal care, is completing its 4th year at RCHD. Since the program began, **261** women have been involved in a Centering group. Centering groups are established with an average group size of 7-8 women. The March of Dimes continues to support our Centering Program with small grants to cover the costs of training for our Public Health Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, and other facilitators. RCHD's Strong Start Grant continues to assist with other costs associated with the Centering Program. RCHD continues to provide data to both March of Dimes and the Strong Start Grant which will continue to demonstrate the effectiveness of the Centering model of care. Two very successful site visits were conducted by the Strong Grant administrators.



Laurinda Finn-Davis, RN demonstrates swaddling to Centering Pregnancy group participants.

*Resource Mothers Program* was awarded additional funding for the Promising Practice Research Project. The total award for FY 2015-16 is \$178,290. The goal is to provide Virginia Resource Mothers Program services to an additional 40 pregnant teens this coming year. The program is working with the University of Virginia Research Team to determine the designation of Resource Mothers as an evidence-based practice. The program enrolled **73** pregnant teens this fiscal year, served **144** pregnant teens and graduated **22** girls successfully from the program. Out of 58 participant births, there was one premature birth, no abortions, and one infant death. Resource Mothers also facilitate the

**Safety Seat Distribution and Education Program** at RCHD. Approximately **120** free safety seats were provided to Richmond City residents during FY 2014-15.

**WIC** - The purpose of the **Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** is to provide nutrition education and healthy foods to improve pregnancy outcomes and enable families to make lifelong healthy eating and lifestyle choices. WIC serves pregnant women, breastfeeding and post-partum women, and children up to the age of five. Richmond City Health District was one of seventeen agencies nationwide to be awarded an \$111,000 grant through the National WIC Association “Community Partnerships for Healthy Mothers and Children.” WIC and our Chronic Disease Program are working together to leverage existing resources to better serve WIC families and the community at large.

In August 2015, during World Breastfeeding Week, WIC staff participated in a citywide social media campaign entitled “RVA Breastfeeds”. The focus of the campaign was to promote breastfeeding and breastfeeding awareness. Life-size photo cut-outs of mothers breastfeeding were strategically placed in public locations throughout the city for the entire week. RCHD staff participated in activities at Capital Square, grocery stores, physician offices, the James Center, and local hospitals. Richmond residents were asked to “join the village” at @RVAbreastfeeds on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Throughout the week, nearly 100,000 media hits were received as a result of the campaign. RCHD WIC has a strong Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program that offers breastfeeding support, encouragement, education and supplies to pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. Breastfeeding classes are offered weekly in the WIC clinics with at least one class offered in Spanish. Richmond City WIC currently serves **5,377** clients, offering services at Richmond Community Hospital, Southside Plaza, and RCHD at 400 E. Cary Street.



**WIC Staff celebrated World Breastfeeding Week**

**Long-term care Pre-assessment Screening** – RCHD’s Pre-assessment Screening Team in collaboration with the Richmond Department of Social Services (RDSS) completed **314** long-term care screenings for city residents. In June 2015, the Long-term care Pre-assessment Screening transitioned to an electronic (ePAS) system. The ePAS system combined with our goal to shorten processing time of citizen’s requests for screening resulted in a greater than 50 % reduction of days from request to completed screening application. RCHD and RDSS have been recognized by the Central Office of Virginia Department of Health for the improvements made as a team.

<b>RCHD Reproductive Health Services – All Sites</b>			
	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
<b>Service &amp; Programs</b>	Number of patients	Number of patients	Number of patients
Maternity	323	275	287
Family Planning	2235	2064	2038
Resource Mothers - number of clients	145	143	144
	Number served	Number served	Number served
WIC – average number of clients served per month	6,300	6,000	5,377

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SERVICES

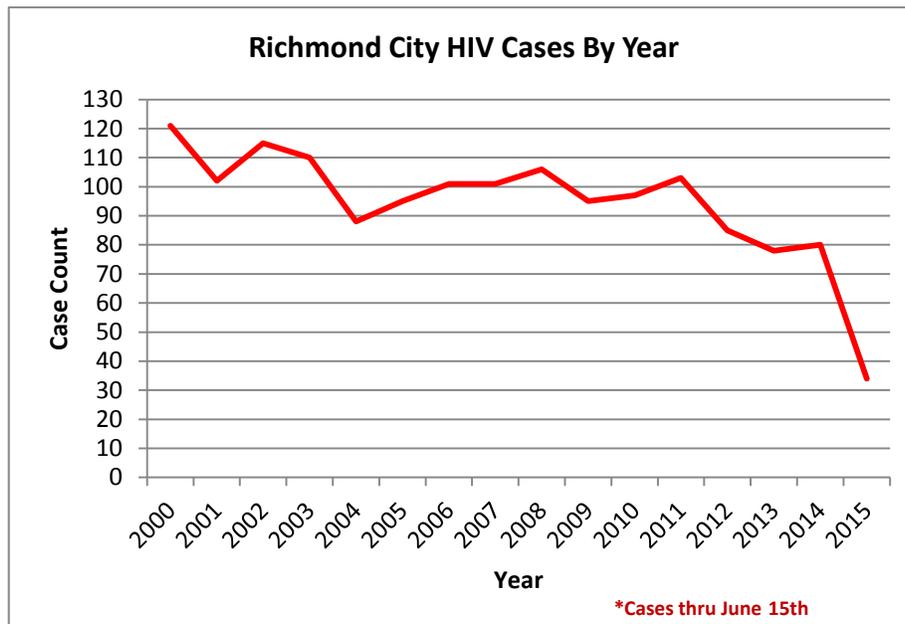
The RCHD **Epidemiology Team** conducts surveillance and investigation to minimize effects of communicable disease outbreaks within the community. The Epidemiology team investigates all reportable disease conditions and works to prevent transmission of disease and to curtail disease outbreaks. This year, our Epidemiology team response included investigation and management of activities in response to an Ebola epidemic in West African that impacted travelers to the United States and the Greater Richmond community. The Epidemiology Team worked collaboratively with the impacted institutions to implement proper epidemiology protocol and conducted monitoring and surveillance for 20 Richmond visitors. The team also investigated other disease outbreaks and worked in tandem with administrative staff at

various long-term care facilities, child care centers, and schools. Throughout the year, the Epidemiology Team successfully implemented infection control guidelines for Influenza, Norovirus, Scabies and Pertussis.

The **Immunization Program** promotes and provides childhood and adult immunizations to prevent disease outbreaks in the city of Richmond. The immunization team took part in RCHD’s annual Emergency Planning & Response exercise which provided more than 500 free flu vaccinations within just a few hours at two community store locations. RCHD worked closely with community partners - the Salvation Army and the Healing Place, to offer Hepatitis B and Influenza vaccines to their clients and employees. In addition, RCHD partnered with Maymont Park, The Department of Game & Inland Fisheries, The Department of Forensic Science and Tiffany Manor to ensure that their employees and clients had the immunizations needed to prevent communicable diseases. Also, in conjunction with Richmond Public Schools, RCHD offered flu vaccines to students and faculty at 4 school locations.

The **Tuberculosis Control Program**. The Tuberculosis Control Program protects Richmond from tuberculosis by offering screening, testing, contact investigations and treatment. The TB program staff identifies, assesses, monitors, and treats individuals with tuberculosis disease. RCHD managed 6 active TB cases; 4 of them were newly reported in the year, and five people completed treatment with an average of 6-months direct observed therapy (DOT).

**Sexually Transmitted Infections** – The RCHD HIV/STI Program works to address the high rates of sexually transmitted infection (STI) and HIV disease in the city. Efforts this year focused on strengthening relationships with community-based agencies, partners, key stakeholders, and members of the community. Through collaboration with the RCHD STI Coalition and Community Advisory Board, interventions and activities were implemented to address social determinants related to risk behaviors in high risk populations, particularly African-American males, and men-who-have-sex-with-men (MSM). Numerous behavioral intervention trainings and community outreach/screening events were conducted, including social media projects to promote awareness and reinforcement of positive sexual health education.



Numbers of newly reported HIV infection and AIDS diagnoses have been trending down. For example, new AIDS cases in Richmond City decreased from 91 in 2007 to 31 in 2014. For the same period, newly diagnosed HIV cases decreased from 102 to 81. Increasing access to medical care for HIV is a key component of efforts to reduce AIDS numbers and new cases of HIV.

RCHD continues to provide a lead role with the Regional STI Group. This group is a collaboration of surrounding health districts, VDH STI Program staff and regional stakeholders, to assess the cause and transmission of STIs, and to

evaluate regional efforts aimed at addressing STI/HIV issues including resources for referral/linkages to mental health, substance abuse and HIV care, data sharing, and community engagement strategies.

The RCHD *Newcomer Refugee Program* provides initial health assessment and immunizations for refugees coming to Richmond. RCHD provided services for 39 refugees this fiscal year.

RCHD Communicable Disease Services			
	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15
Program/Service	Clinic Visits	Clinic Visits	Clinic Visits
STD Clinical Services visits	6,016	6,210	6,330
Outreach HIV Screening (field tests)	263	435	215
Immunization (children)	1,644	1,457	1,327
Immunization (adults)	1,588	1,823	1,564
Immunization Clinic visits	1,588	929	952
TB Clinical Services visits	1,443	1,690	1,603
Refugee client visits	158	120	46

## PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

The RCHD *Adolescent Health Program* strategically focuses on teenage pregnancy prevention by motivating young people to develop life skills to enable them to make healthy lifestyle choices that will benefit them throughout their lives. Through the Helping Youth Prevent Pregnancy (HYPP) Program, educational services including a curriculum-based life skills and sexuality information program is provided to adolescents in Richmond Public Schools and within the community. This program is credited, in-part, for the substantial drop in teen pregnancies in the City of Richmond.

In addition to classroom instruction, youth-centered health fair events are conducted in high schools. Social media is utilized to engage parents and students; health messages are disseminated through text messaging; social-norming messages are promoted through billboard advertising; and youth are engaged through participation in the Teen Advisory Board. The Adolescent Health Program also conducts activities and provides curriculum for the Mayor’s Youth Academy during the summer months. Stress management and nutrition education sessions are offered upon request. Collaborative work is performed with the RCHD Chronic Disease Prevention Program and community partners to establish school gardens.

The *Richmond Family & Fatherhood Initiative (RFFI)* is a city-wide initiative involving members of the Richmond community in a mission to empower fathers and mothers to improve the well-being of their children by aligning activities, mobilizing resources, advancing public policy, and measuring impact. The goal is to help ensure that more of Richmond’s children will have an opportunity to grow up in a healthy, nurturing, and safe family environment. As an intermediary, RFFI helps to build capacity, catalyze new initiatives, and bring together successful public-private partnerships focusing on strengthening families – with fathers and mothers working cooperatively and responsibly to raise healthy children.

Highlights for RFFI this fiscal year include establishment of weekly **Fatherhood and Motherhood Weekly Training and Support Groups** at **14** locations throughout the city, including **7** churches, the Richmond City Jail, District One Probation and Parole, Richmond Department of Social Services, and downtown at RCHD. Overall, **35** mothers have graduated from this year’s Motherhood Program. RFFI had a total of **255** fathers graduate from our 16 week curriculum program. RFFI continues to train approximately **120** incarcerated fathers and **10-15** incarcerated mothers each week in the Richmond City Justice Center. The **Motherhood & Co-Parenting Initiative** has expanded to include locations in the Rubicon Substance Abuse Treatment Center and with the Carol Adams Foundation located in Mosby Court for single mothers. Supported through a new partnership with the RCHD Resource Centers, RFFI will soon be offering Motherhood and Fatherhood weekly trainings in RRHA housing communities across Richmond. The **“Boyhood to**

**Manhood” Rites of Passage Program** was again implemented in partnership with Communities-In-Schools (CIS) and Richmond Public Schools at Elkhardt, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Albert Hill Middle Schools, along with Fisher, Stuart and Blackwell Elementary Schools where RFFI worked with over **108** young males.

Again this year, RFFI supported and participated with Camp Diva’s Date with Dad Father-Daughter dance in the Richmond City Justice Center. RFFI continued its rich tradition of providing training opportunities during its quarterly consortium meetings and during the 2nd Annual **Family and Fatherhood Symposium** held June 2015. RFFI has continued to expand community engagement through partnering with the Mayor’s Early Childhood Taskforce, Juvenile Justice Taskforce, and RCHD’s Youth Violence Prevention Initiative. To find out additional information on RFFI and its mission and activities, we invite you to visit us at: [www.richmondfatherhood.org](http://www.richmondfatherhood.org).



RFFI Coordinator, Anthony Mingo presents certificate at the Fatherhood Symposium.

RCHD *Resource Centers* are operated in collaboration with Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority in the Creighton, Fairfield, Whitcomb, Mosby, Hillside and Gilpin public housing communities. In FY15, the Gilpin Resource Center was opened and is the first site north of the river. Additionally, a partnership with the City of Richmond was formed to bring a seventh Center to the Broad Rock Richmond City Community Schools initiative adjacent to Broad Rock Elementary school. Funding was received for FY16 from the Virginia Health Care Foundation for both the Gilpin and Broad Rock sites. The Resource Center model is a broad interagency partnership that increases access to basic health services and links community residents to a medical home. Funding sources and partnerships include the City of Richmond, Bon Secours Health System, Virginia Health Care Foundation, Richmond Memorial Health Foundation, the Community Foundation, the Jenkins Foundation, VCU Health Systems and the Institute of Public Health Innovation.

Additionally, in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Community Wealth Building (City of Richmond), the Richmond City Health District established a program of Housing Advocates that operate in each of the major RRHA communities (Creighton, Fairfield, Gilpin, Hillside, Mosby, Whitcomb). These Advocates work directly with residents to provide education on lease compliance issues, develop solutions to problems preventing lease compliance, and general information on guidelines, resources, and opportunities relevant to RRHA residents. The Advocates work in tandem with the existing Community Advocates in the Resource Centers located in RRHA communities.

The *Lead-Safe & Healthy Homes Initiative Program (LSHHI)* focuses on childhood lead-poisoning prevention and empowering of citizens and communities in the City of Richmond to properly maintain a healthy and safe living-environment through education and intervention.

Healthy Homes Initiative services include Healthy Homes assessments; client education; community-training on Healthy Homes concepts, and client education on landlord and tenant responsibilities. The program also partners with the Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority (RRHA) to conduct “*healthy and safe living*” presentations during its New Tenant Orientation sessions. LSHHI conducted/participated in **65** outreach events and trainings to the public by imparting information to **1,166** individuals. **176** Healthy Homes assessments were performed with more than 65% pertaining to clients with asthmatic conditions. **367** low-cost, low-toxic intervention materials were given to families in need to control home-based health and safety hazards.

In FY 2014-15, LSHHI continued to conduct vacant properties inspection as a strategy to identify potential lead-hazard rental properties; **266** vacant properties were inspected. LSHHI also continues with metro-wide pediatric physician outreach to assess providers’ capacity to conduct surveillance and additional primary preventions. Findings from the provider assessment led to a collaborative process where LSHHI will conduct a cursory property screening for lead paint hazards triggered by physician referrals for children who have blood-lead test results of between 5 microgram (ug) of lead/deciliter (dl) of blood to 9 ug/dl. Physicians are provided with lead inspection results to help determine the

appropriate course of patient monitoring and education to avoid lead-poisoning. As a result of our proactive physician outreach, during this fiscal year, 12 physician referrals were received for cursory property screening and 3,860 blood lead testing were prescribed by physicians to monitor Richmond children. Of the 3,860 blood lead testing, 596 testing were prescribed by our partnered physicians. Based on number of blood lead testing prescribed and number of children found to have elevated blood lead level, that rate has been fairly steady between FY 2013-2014 to FY2014-2015. This fiscal year, **21** children were identified to have elevated blood lead level and received comprehensive case management, coordination, and intervention.

The *Chronic Disease Prevention Program RCHD* received a \$99,000 Preventive Health and Health Services block grant from VDH. In collaboration with the Greater Richmond Coalition for Healthy Kids, Fit4Kids, the YMCA and VCU, the Chronic Disease team implemented innovative childhood obesity strategies to create supportive nutrition and physical activity environments to encourage youth to adopt healthier lifestyle behaviors. Project partners introduced Smarter Lunchrooms in all 42 RPS schools to equip school nutrition staff with strategies and tools to promote healthier items and guide student consumption of healthier foods; installed 25 hydration stations in RPS elementary schools to increase student access to fresh water; and trained 19 childcare sites in the YMCA’s nationally recognized “Healthy Eating Physical Activity Standards” to increase the number of students that adopt healthy eating behaviors and engage in physical activity in out-of-school program settings.

RCHD continued its partnership with Sports Backers to implement the Fitness Warriors program. In its first year, the Warriors program successfully trained 17 new instructors to lead free group exercise classes in the Richmond community. The Warrior classes have received 865 unique visits. Of those participants surveyed (N=50), Eighty-four percent (N= 42) reported increased energy/mood, 52% (N=26) reported weight loss, 50% (N= 25) reported greater endurance, 38% (N=19) reported improved flexibility, and 4% (N=2) reported reduced medication. The Warriors program also received a RVA Creativity Award for “breaking boundaries” award for “defying traditional boundaries, stretching a genre or industry, and setting a new tone or precedent.”

<b>RCHD Public Health Programs</b>			
<b>Program</b>	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
<b>Resource Centers</b>			
Patients served	2,783	2,693	2910
<b>Adolescent Health/Teen Pregnancy Prevention</b>			
Sessions held	650	881	1,114
Adolescents served	2,324	2,921	4,099
<b>Lead-Safe &amp; Healthy Homes Initiative</b>			
Blood-lead testing to children and pregnant women	614	344	598
Properties tested for lead paint hazard	213	271	266

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Environmental Health Specialists inspect all City food establishments and food vendors to ensure compliance with State Food Regulations. Complaints and cases of food borne illness are investigated to determine and eliminate causes. Environmental Health Specialists provide training for food handlers, issue temporary health permits, and inspect street food-vendors. Environmental Health Specialists inspect the local dairy plant under federal guidelines and State statutory authority. The Specialists also inspect public swimming pools and marinas, conduct animal bite/rabies investigations, conduct Foodservice Worker Classes and ServSafe Managers certification classes and investigate complaints of rodent infestation.

<b>RCHD Environmental Health Services</b>			
	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>FY 2013-14</b>	<b>FY 2014-15</b>
<b>Activity/Service</b>	<b>Service numbers</b>	<b>Service numbers</b>	<b>Service numbers</b>
Number of restaurant inspections	3,345	3,331	2,619
Total number of food service inspections	4,161	4,170	4557
New food permits issued	88	109	145

Animal bite/rabies investigation	374	279	246
Positive rabies in animals	1	4	7
Hotel/motel inspections	61	56	57
Swimming pool inspections	52	68	134
Environmental complaint investigations	121	59	57
Training classes conducted	24	28	40
Food handlers trained	215	572	1242

## PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

The goal of the *Public Health Preparedness Program (PHP)* is to enhance the Richmond City Health District’s ability to respond to public health emergencies and to create resilient communities. RCHD co-leads Emergency Support Function-8 (ESF-8) for coordinating all public health and medical services in Richmond City during times of emergency and disaster as outlined in the City’s Emergency Operations Plan.

RCHD continues to develop and refine its plans for the operational aspects of disease outbreak control and management. RCHD will apply for re-accreditation as “Public Health Ready” through the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). RCHD participates in numerous exercises with our response partners throughout the year as a way to exercise and test our plans and procedures. A major part of this year’s efforts centered on preparing for the 2015 UCI Road World Championships. RCHD also prepared for how the event would impact our department operations as the route came across RCHD’s front door. RCHD made extensive preparations and implemented our Continuity of Operations Plan to ensure mission essential functions for Richmond’s citizens.

The *Richmond City Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)*, housed under the PHP program, is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to responding to public health emergencies. Members of the MRC are given opportunities to be trained in preparedness, response, and recovery. They also assist with public health community outreach events. In FY 2014-15, MRC membership remained steady at **470** members. They assisted in **38** events and incidents in the city with those man hours valued at \$11,125. The MRC is continuing to expand its capabilities by participating in monthly statewide training sessions with topics ranging from emerging Public Health Outreach for MRC Volunteers to Isolation & Quarantine Overview. If a City emergency occurs, the MRC will be ready to support the efforts of RCHD.

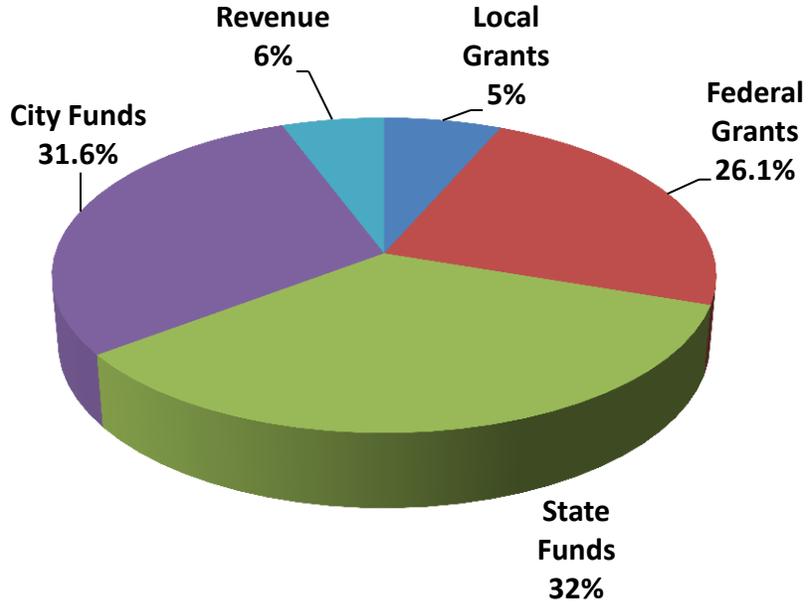
## VITAL RECORDS

The RCHD *Office of Vital Records* maintains a record of all deaths that occur in the City of Richmond; the office issued **17,819** death certificate copies in fiscal year 2014-15 related to deaths that occurred in Richmond. This year vital records were made available electronically across the State of Virginia which has made access to vital records available at state agencies such as DMV.

**FUNDING & OPERATIONS**

The Richmond City Health District FY 2014-15 was budgeted at **\$11,682,916** which is comprised of several funding sources.

**RCHD Funding Sources FY 2014-15**



**RCHD Expenditures - FY2014 - 15**

