



Virginia Department of  
Behavioral Health &  
Developmental Services

# DBHDS Updates and STEP-VA

VALHSO Winter Conference

January 27, 2020

**Alison Land, FACHE**

Commissioner

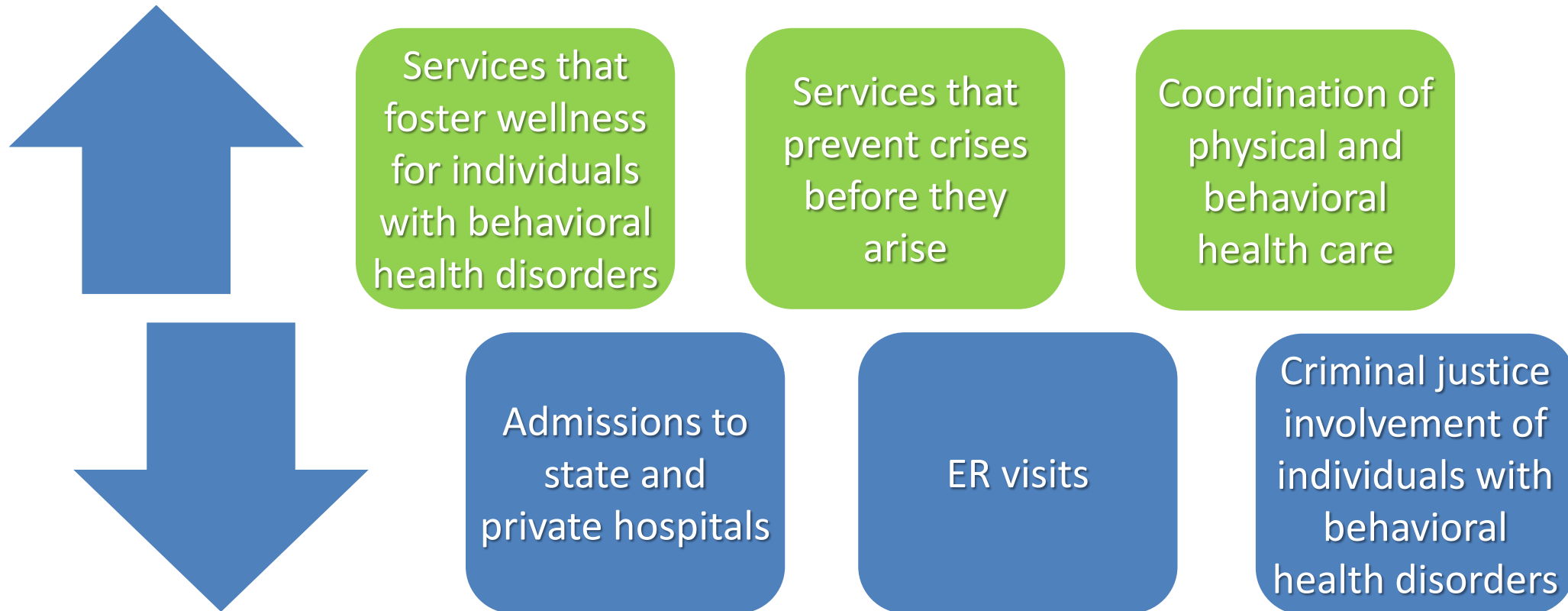
Virginia Department of Behavioral  
Health and Developmental Services

# DBHDS Budget Priorities for Behavioral Health

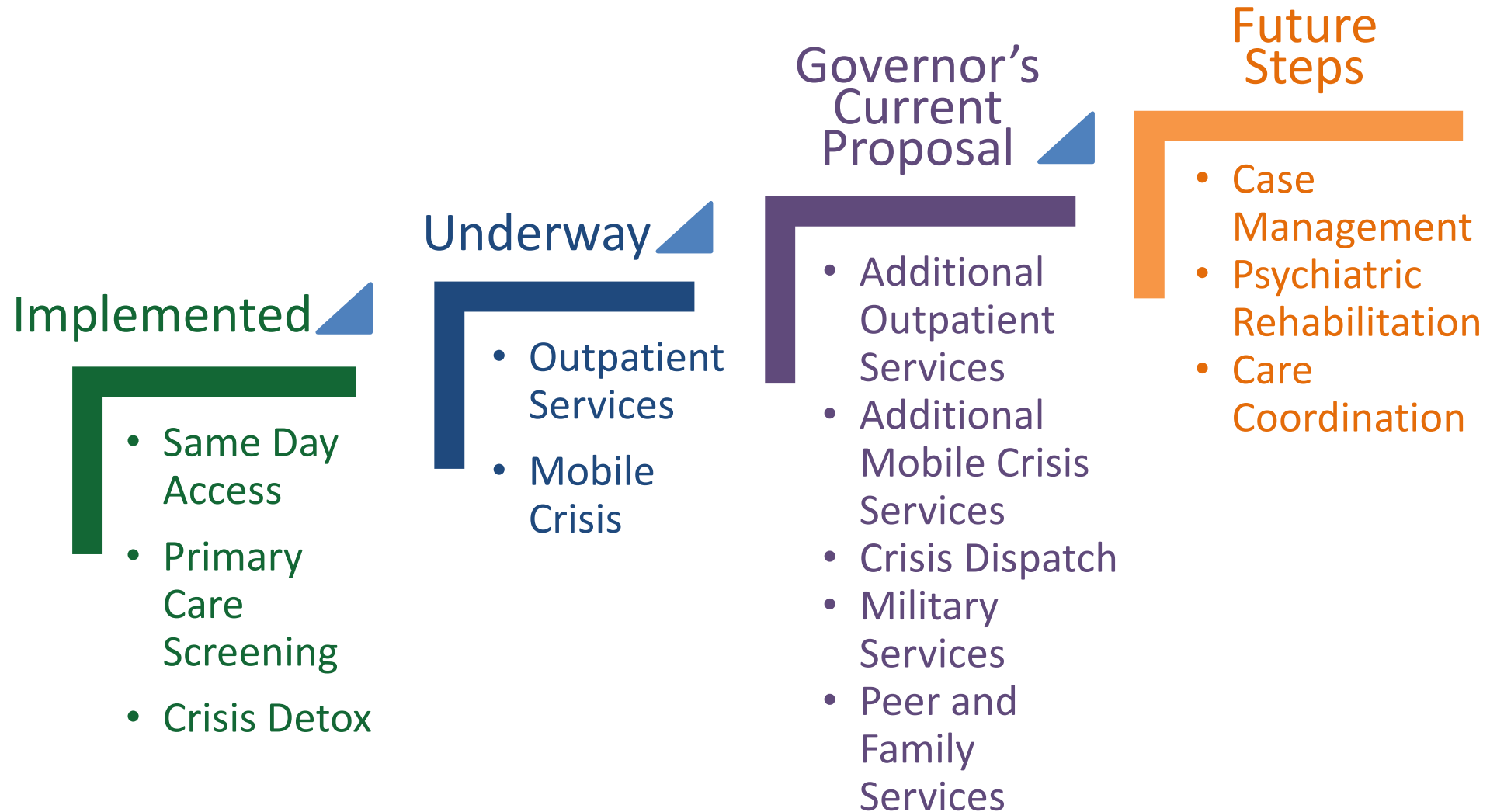
1. Continuing implementation of STEP-VA
2. Addressing high census at state hospitals
3. Investing in children's mental health initiatives
4. Behavioral Health Enhancement

# System Transformation Excellence and Performance (STEP-VA)

To increase **access, quality, consistency,**  
and **accountability** in the public mental health system



# STEP-VA Implementation



# Community Actions to Increase State Hospital Discharges

**Expand forensic discharge planning programs in jails** - Expand program at three jails.

**Increase permanent supportive housing (PSH) capacity** - Funds to house people being discharged from state hospitals; remaining amount may be used for PSH or transitional housing supports.

**Increase funding for statewide discharge assistance plans (DAP)** - Support discharges from state hospitals and for appropriate services to ensure stability in community settings upon discharge.

	Catawba	Central State	Eastern State	Northern Va. MH	Piedmont Geriatric	Southern Va. MH	SW Va. MH	Western State	Average
FY 2015	93%	79%	93%	93%	95%	84%	89%	94%	90%
FY 2019	96%	88%	99%	93%	99%	88%	91%	97%	94%

# TDO Admission Incentives and Reporting

TDO Workgroup (SB 1488) discussed shorter-term financial incentives to stem state hospital census growth while STEP-VA and behavioral health enhancement take effect.

- **Review Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) incentive payments (DBHDS)** – Appropriates funds from provider rate assessments and federal revenue for a position to review DSH payments to encourage TDO admissions at private hospitals. Funding would also support a position in DMAS.
- **Encourage private acute care hospitals to accept more temporary detention orders (DMAS)** – Increases the provider rate assessment charged to private acute care hospitals beginning in FY 2021. Revenue will be used to leverage DSH funding for incentive payments to increase TDO utilization in private hospitals.
- **Mandatory reporting of TDOs by private hospitals (VDH)** – Requires reporting of admissions of anyone meeting criteria for voluntary or involuntary commitment.

# Behavioral Health for Children & Adolescents

## **Increase inpatient services for children & adolescents**

- Allows DBHDS to contract with private entities, or, if private services are unavailable, to open existing state hospital beds.
- Establishes a work group to identify possible alternative treatment services for minors that would be placed at CCCA.

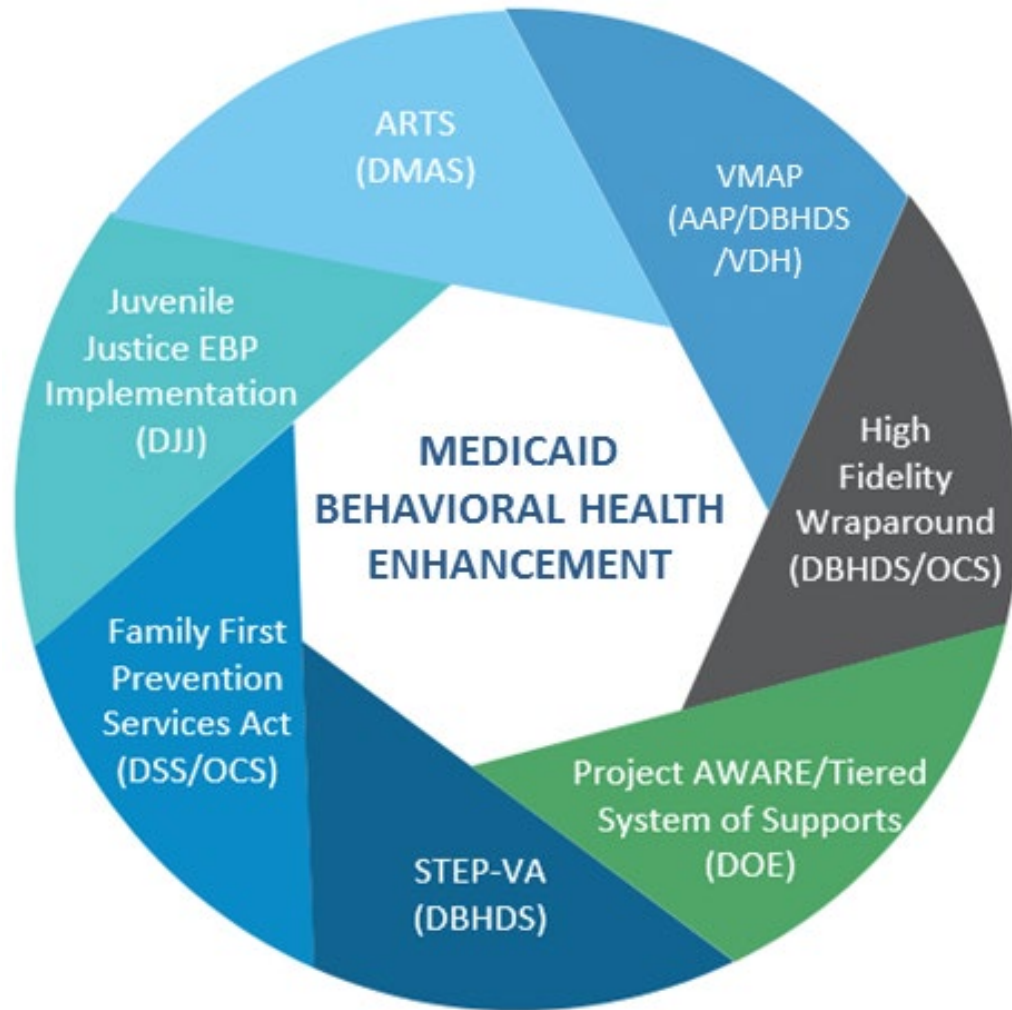
## **Increase funding for Part C – Early Intervention Services -**

Funds to meet the needs of the growing number of children who receive services each year.

**Provide additional funds for the Virginia Mental Health Access Program** - Funds to complete statewide implementation of the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP).



# Behavioral Health Enhancement



**Train workforce in preparation for behavioral health enhancement** - Provides funds to conduct a behavioral health workforce study and train the workforce for changes in the delivery system.

**Align DBHDS licensing with Medicaid behavioral health services** - Promulgates emergency regulations related to the licensing of services impacted by behavioral health enhancement services.



# Community Needs Assessment

DBHDS is working with JBS International to conduct a comprehensive Virginia Behavioral Health System Needs assessment on Virginia's publicly funded behavioral health system at the state and community level. Goals include:

Assess the needs of Virginians for publicly funded behavioral health services

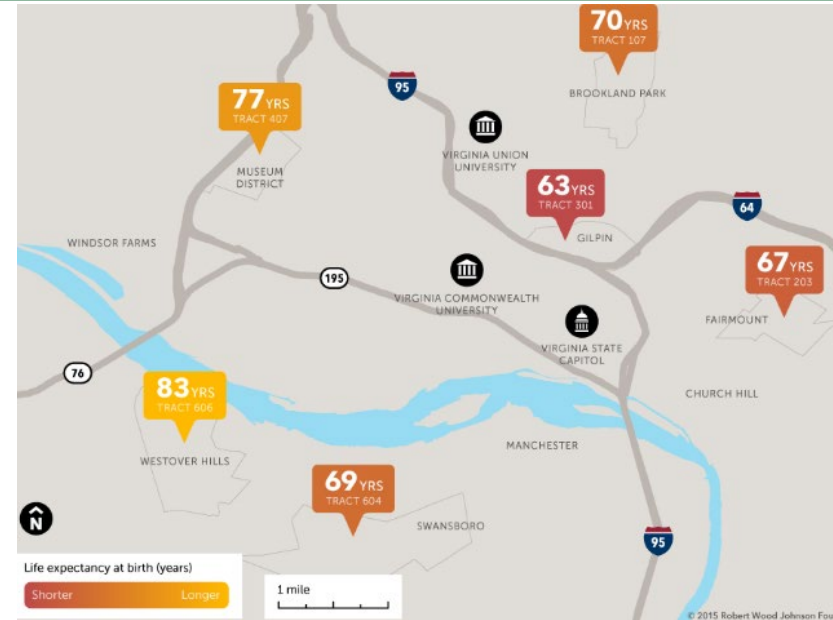
Assess current capacity of Virginia's behavioral health system to meet the needs

Recommend system changes to increase access to care and monitor progress toward that goal

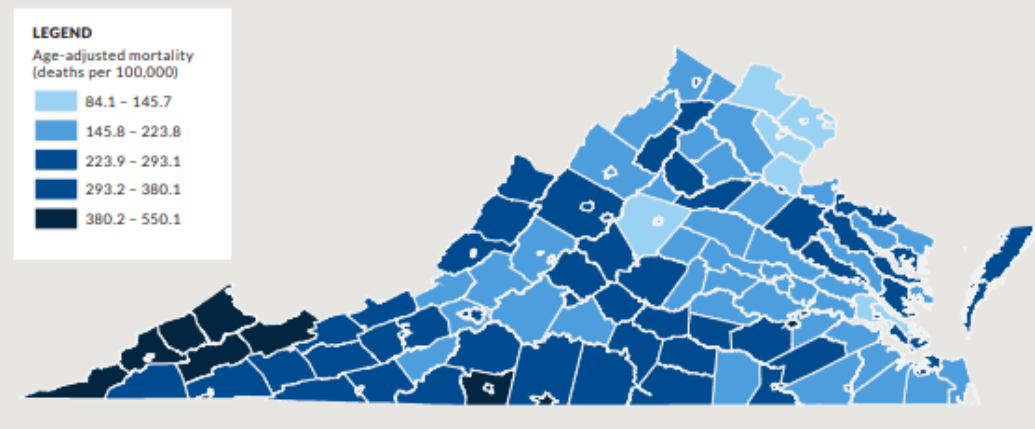
Support STEP-VA and broader system initiatives such as behavioral health redesign, and state hospital census

# Health Equity Index with VCU Society & Health

- VCU will create a “behavioral health index” to improve method for allocating fiscal resources.
- The index will factor in the prevalence of “stress related conditions” and various social determinants of health.
- The goal is to spread our resources more equitably, moving beyond population based allocations.



**Figure 2. Age-adjusted all-cause mortality, non-Hispanic whites ages 25-54 years, by locality, Virginia, 2010-2014**



# Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement Agreement

- Required by the federal government, the Settlement Agreement will lead to a system that integrates people with developmental disabilities into community life.
- Virginia must demonstrate compliance with all provisions no later than June 30, 2020, with a period of compliance of about 12 months.
- Negotiations with DOJ are complete for the “compliance measures” to evaluate Virginia’s compliance with remaining provisions.



# DOJ Settlement Agreement

## Ten-Year Settlement Agreement Implementation Progress:



### Current areas of focus include:

1. Integrated Settings
2. Training Center Discharge Planning and Transition
3. Risk Management, Quality and Improvement
4. Case Management
5. Individual and Family Support Program
6. Document Library

### Challenges include:

- Spreading integrated service options statewide, increase number of behavior support and nursing providers, improve provider quality
- Building of the quality and risk management systems
- Insufficient data, information management capacity, and personnel

# DOJ Waiver Slots

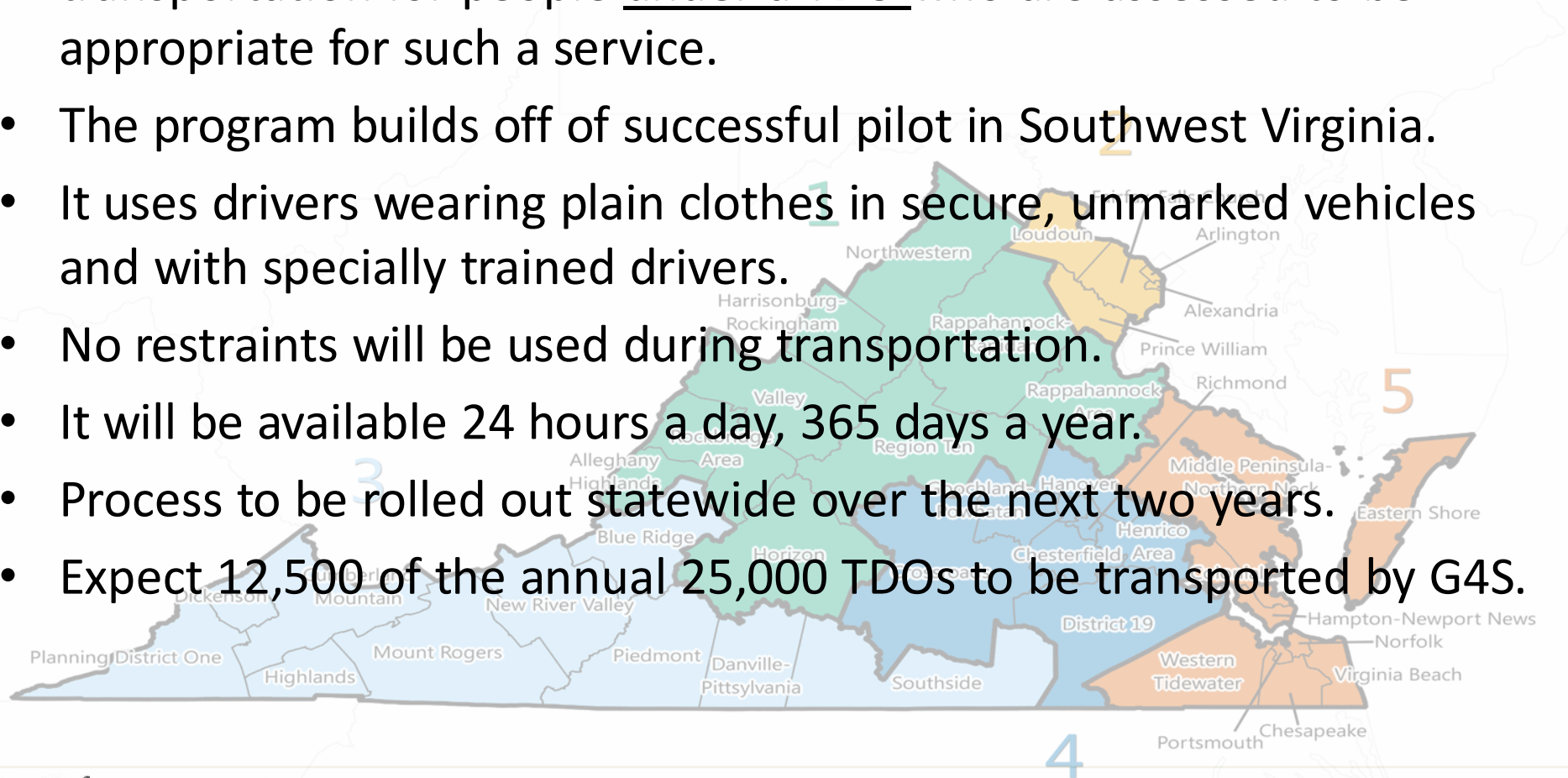
The Governor's Proposal appropriates \$17M GF in FY2021, and \$25M GF in FY2022 in DMAS' budget to support 1,135 new waiver slots to the Community Living (CL) and Family and Individual Supports (FIS) waivers over the course of the biennium.

Waiver Slots Governor's Budget								
	FY21				FY22			
	CL Slots	FIS Slots	GF	NGF	CL Slots	FIS Slots	GF	NGF
DOJ Slots (w/ Remix)	125	635	\$ 15,372,653	\$ 15,372,653	75	200	\$ 21,603,590	\$ 21,603,590
Facility Transition Slots	20	5	\$ 862,440	\$ 862,440	20	5	\$ 1,724,880	\$ 1,724,880
Emergency/ Reserve Waiver Slots	15	10	\$ 750,168	\$ 750,168	15	10	\$ 1,500,335	\$ 1,500,335
<b>Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>\$ 16,985,260</b>	<b>\$ 16,985,260</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>\$ 24,828,805</b>	<b>\$ 24,828,805</b>

**Note:** DMAS Average Waiver Rate: CL = \$77,977; FIS = \$33,068

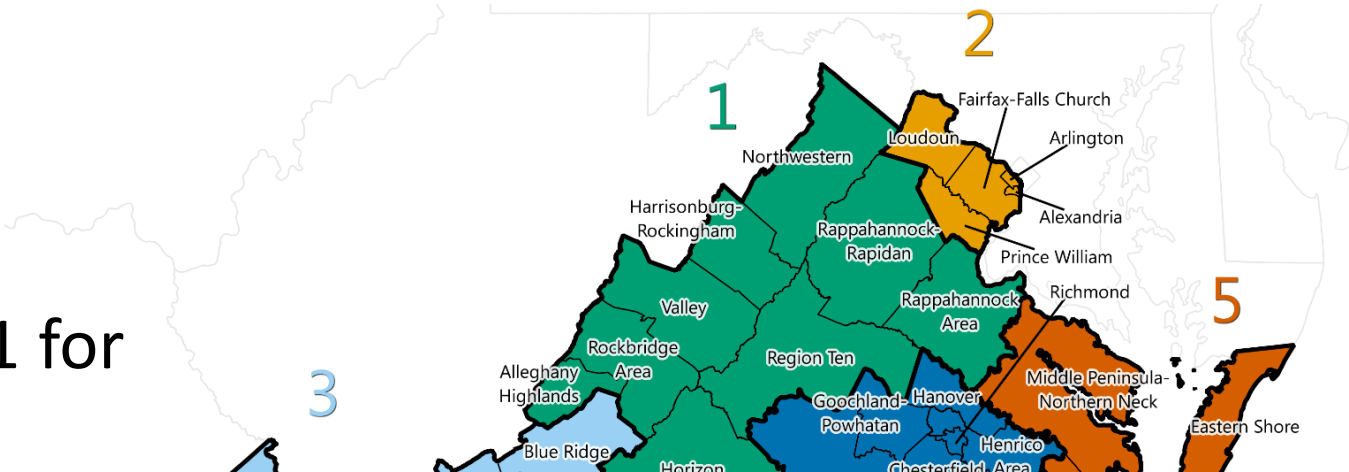
# What Is Statewide Alternative Transportation?

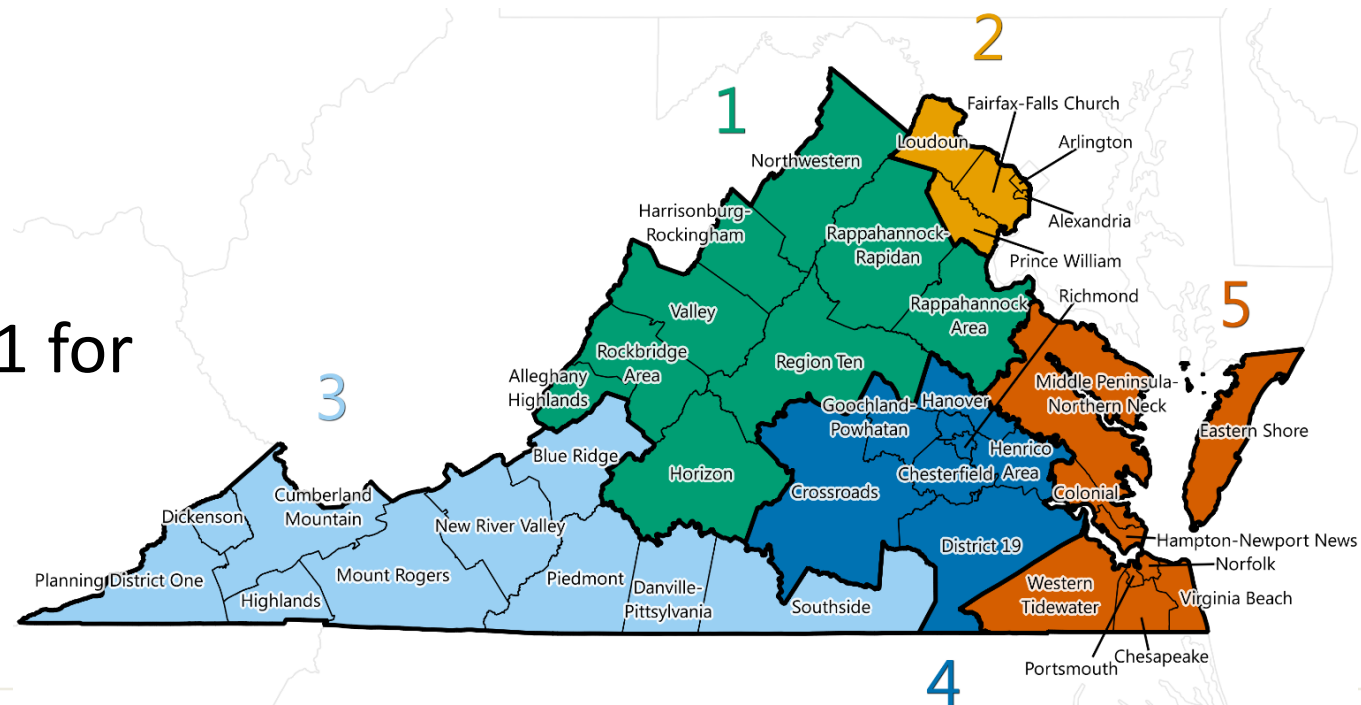
- G4S, a nationally recognized contractor for behavioral health security and transportation services, will provide alternative transportation for people under a TDO who are assessed to be appropriate for such a service.
- The program builds off of successful pilot in Southwest Virginia.
- It uses drivers wearing plain clothes in secure, unmarked vehicles and with specially trained drivers.
- No restraints will be used during transportation.
- It will be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Process to be rolled out statewide over the next two years.
- Expect 12,500 of the annual 25,000 TDOs to be transported by G4S.





# The Roll Out Schedule for Alternative Transportation

- DBHDS anticipates a three to four month roll out period for each region. It will begin with adults. A schedule for children and adolescents is under development and will begin after the adult program is running statewide.
  - The preliminary roll out schedule for adults is:
    - First rollout Region 3
    - Second rollout Region 1
    - Third rollout Region 2
    - Fourth rollout Region 5
    - Fifth rollout Region 4
  - Completed by June 2021 for Adults and Children.
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- A map of Virginia divided into five numbered regions for the DBHDS rollout. Region 1 (green) covers the western and central parts of the state, including Loudoun, Arlington, Alexandria, Prince William, Fairfax-Falls Church, Rappahannock, Rapidan, Valley, Rockbridge, Alleghany Highlands, Blue Ridge, and Horizon. Region 2 (yellow) is in the north-central part, including Loudoun and Arlington. Region 3 (blue) is in the southwestern part, including Alleghany Highlands, Blue Ridge, and Horizon. Region 4 (orange) is in the southeastern part, including Goochland-Hanover, Powhatan, Chesterfield, Henrico, and Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck. Region 5 (brown) is in the eastern part, including Eastern Shore. The map also shows the locations of various counties and areas, with labels for Loudoun, Arlington, Alexandria, Prince William, Fairfax-Falls Church, Rappahannock, Rapidan, Valley, Rockbridge, Alleghany Highlands, Blue Ridge, Horizon, Goochland-Hanover, Powhatan, Chesterfield, Henrico, Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck, and Eastern Shore.



# Virginia's Veterans: Addressing Suicide and Access to Care

- Virginia 1 of 7 States to join the **Governor's Suicide Prevention Challenge** - Sponsored by Veterans Health Administration and SAMHSA
- STEP-VA enhancements for Military Service Members, Veterans and their families (SMVF) in CSBs.
- Consistent **identification** of SMVF at intake (and electronic health record documentation) – Staff ask *“Have you or a family member served in the military?”*
- **Military culture training** for CSB workforce.





# QUESTIONS?



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Commissioner

DBHDS

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