

VIRGINIA DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM MILESTONES

- 1916 Virginia was the first state to pass legislation appointing a dentist to the State Board of Health. Dr. Guy D. Harrison served until 1948.
- 1920 Dr. E. J. Applewhite appointed by Dr. E. G. Williams, State Health Commissioner, to conduct a statewide dental survey as recommended by the Virginia Dental Association; 76 of the 100 counties were visited.
- 1921 Dr. N. Talley Ballou appointed Director, Bureau of Mouth Hygiene - Dental Care in Wise County schools begins.
- 1948 Topical fluoride demonstration program of the United States Public Health Service begins in Virginia in cooperation with the Bureau of Dental Health and the Virginia Dental Association.
- 1948 Lactobacillus Acidophilus (decay producing bacteria) program for the control of dental decay offered to all the dentists by the Bureau of Dental Health in cooperation with to Consolidated Laboratories.
- 1950 Dental Rural Health Scholarship Program initiated.
- 1951 Lynchburg becomes first Virginia community to fluoridate public water supply for the prevention of dental decay.
- 1956 The first cleft-lip, cleft palate program was initiated at Children's Hospital.
- 1958 First Dental Public Health Educator employed by the Division of Dental Health.
- 1960 Stannous fluoride for application to children's teeth to prevent dental decay offered to all dentists in the state
- 1962 Oral Cytology Program for the detection of oral cancer offered to all dentists in the state by the Division of Dental Health in cooperation with the Medical College of Virginia (MCV) School of Dentistry.
- 1968 First organized Oral Cancer Detection Screening Program in the state held in Virginia Beach by the Division of Dental Health in cooperation with the Virginia Beach Dental Study Club. Annual screening throughout the state is held in cooperation with MCV School of Dentistry, the Virginia Cancer Association, the Virginia Dental Association and the Division of Dental Health.

- 1968 Dental Hygiene Scholarship Program begins with six scholarships - increased to 12 in 1972.
- 1971 Dental Hygiene Extramural Program initiated by MCV School of Dentistry Department of Dental Hygiene in cooperation with the Division of Dental Health.
- 1973 Dental Student Extramural Program initiated by the MCV School of Dentistry in cooperation with Division of Dental Health.
- 1974 Combined Supplemental Fluoride Demonstration Program begins with the National Institute of Dental Research (NIDR) in Nelson County, Virginia.
- 1976 National Fluoride Mouth rinse Program funded by NIDR begins in Charles City County, Virginia.
- 1977 Joseph M. Doherty, D.D.S., M.P.H. appointed dental director succeeding Dr. Peter A. Triani, D.D.S.
- 1978 First fluoride mouth rinse program initiated by the Division of Dental Health begins in Buckingham County, Virginia. School fluoridation study initiated by NIDR in cooperation with the Division of Dental Health begins in Cumberland, Amelia and Mathews Counties.
- First Continuing Dental Education Conference held for public health dental personnel.
- 1980 Categorical Dental Fluoridation Grant awarded to the Division of Dental Health by the Centers for Disease Control(CDC).
- 1981 First Waterworks Operator Training Course for fluoridation initiated by the Division of Dental Health in cooperation with the Division of Water Supply Engineering.
- 1986 First sealant grants awarded to local health department dental programs.
- 1994 Division of Dental Health receives the World Health Day Award presented by the American Association for World Health.
- 1994 Dr. Elizabeth Bernhard appointed Dental Director.
- 1996 Division of Dental Health completes Final Report on Availability of Dental Health Services Item 311.

- 1996 Dr. Karen Day appointed Acting Dental Director and Dental Director in 1997.
- 1996 Statewide Dental Advisory Committee of Local Health District Dentists appointed.
- 1996 First statewide oral health needs assessment for school age children initiated.
- 1999 Three-year grant of \$100,000 per year for fluoridation awarded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- 2000 Coalition of Virginians for Improving Access to Dental Care (VIADC) formed.
- 2000 Surgeon General of the United States issues first report on Oral Health.
- 2000 Study of Dental trailers completed (Legislative Item 308D).
- 2000 Study on Access to dental care in Dental Public Health Programs (HJR 227) completed.
- 2000 Scholarship program amended to include Loan Repayment Program for service in underserved areas.