

PATERNITY HEADLINES

2023 Quarter 2

Quarterly Incentives

TOP TEN RANKING VIRGINIA HOSPITALS RECOGNIZED FOR STELLAR PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT RATES

AUTHOR: YESENIA SARABIA-PEIKER

Celebrating Excellence:

Richmond, Va.—The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) in conjunction with the Virginia Paternity Establishment Program (VPEP) has announced the top ten Virginia hospitals recognized for excellent performances in paternity establishment rates for 2022. These hospitals, located throughout the Commonwealth, continue to set the industry standard by recording paternity establishment rates greater than 77 percent.

VDSS' Division of Child Support Enforcement sponsors VPEP, which is operated by Veritas-HHS. VPEP is a program which offers unmarried parents the opportunity to establish paternity of their newborns by voluntarily acknowledging fatherhood during their hospital stay. VPEP also supports paternity establishment should unmarried parents decide later that they would like to add the dad to the birth certificate. The Commonwealth has a total of 53 birthing hospitals serving parents statewide that promote paternity establishment.

"The benefits of establishing paternity are vast and vary from increasing a child's self-esteem to establishing a child's health history," stated Yesenia Peiker, VPEP Project Manager. "It is imperative that we continually advocate the idea that paternity establishment is about the child, not about the parents. A child, who has an established bond with his or her father, has greater access to emotional support and social and economic opportunities."

The hospital with the highest paternity establishment rate in 2022 is Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia. At 84.34%, their paternity establishment rates exceed the projected state-mandated levels of more than 80% for the year.

The Commonwealth's current paternity establishment rate averages are 77%, which is up 1% from 2021. The paternity establishment rates are on an upward trend. This is a valuable fact considering that statistics show more unmarried mothers are giving birth, due in part to changing social patterns, social beliefs and changing economic conditions.

1. Sentara Martha Jefferson	84.34%
2. Inova Fair Oaks	83.58%
3. Sentara RMH	83.16%
4. Inova Loudon	82.53%
5. Winchester Medical Center	82.19%
6. St. Francis Hospital	81.92%
7. Johnston Willis	81.83%
8. Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center	81.80%
9. Ballad Health Johnston Memorial	81.43%
10. StoneSprings Hospital	81.11%

VPEP Reminders

- New staff hires need to complete annual training within 30 days of hire
- Send copies of AOPs into our office weekly via fax OR mail
- Contact your Outreach Coordinator when you need more
 - educational materials
- Keep your notary status current and contact OVR to update expiration
- Use the resources on our website www.vapaternity.com
- Keep a Reasons "Why Dads Don't Sign" log

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VA Paternity Establishment

TOP PERFORMERS

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HOSPITALS WITH AN 80% INCREASE OR HIGHER

- Carilion NRV: 80%
- Sentara Williamsburg: 80%
- Centra Virginia Baptist: 80.3%
- Sentara Princess Anne: 80.3%
- Chesapeake Regional Healthcare: 80.8%
- Twin County: 81%
- CJW Johnston Willis: 81.6%
- Sentara Leigh: 81.6%
- Sentara RMH: 82.4%
- Stafford: 82.5%
- Spotsylvania: 83%
- Clinch Valley: 84.6%
- Bon Secours St. Francis: 85%
- Inova Loudoun: 85.7%
- UVA Culpeper: 85.7%
- Mary Washington: 85.8%
- Augusta: 85.9%
- Stonesprings: 86.2%
- Mary Immaculate: 86.3%
- Winchester: 86.4%
- Ballad Johnston Memorial: 87%
- Lewis Gale Montgomery: 87.9%
- Sentara Halifax: 88.6%
- VCU Community Memorial: 89.3%
- Sentara Martha Jefferson: 89.4%
- Fauquier Hospital: 92.1%
- SOVAH Martinsville: 100%

HOSPITALS WITH A 5% INCREASE OR HIGHER

- Southside Regional: 5.2%
- Ballad Norton: 6.4%
- INOVA Fair Oaks: 6.9%
- Fauquier: 7.1%
- INOVA Loudon: 8.4%
- Lewis Gale Montgomery: 9%
- Carilion NRV: 9.4%
- Augusta: 10.4%
- Stafford: 11.1%
- Ballad Johnston Memorial: 11.6%
- Southside Community: 13%
- VCU Community Memorial: 15.8%
- Sentara Halifax: 21.9%
- Clinch Valley: 25.3%

REMINDER

The state benchmark for paternity establishment is 80%. Each hospital should strive to achieve this PEP monthly. Use our paternity establishment calculator located on our website to make sure you are tracking your hospitals performance. Your Outreach Coordinator will monitor your performance and work with you to achieve the desired benchmark.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

LENAI CLEGG CULTURE ETHNIC SHOP

AUTHOR: SHANNON SWANN

We exist to enlighten the minds of all people through self-discovery, exposure to other cultures, and empowering individuals to pursue their dreams through entrepreneurship. "With a mission statement this powerful, you begin to comprehend the great influence of The Culture Ethnic Shop in the Roanoke community.

The Culture Ethnic Shop is a hub of activity. Optimally situated in proximity of the Black, Hispanic and White communities, this shop not only serves as a resource for organic self-care but is partnered with a hair salon/barbershop that cater to the diverse community's comprehensive needs.

Lenai Clegg, Owner/Operator, recognizes the influence that she and her partners have and agreed to support Virginia Paternity Establishment Program by providing brochures and business cards. Ms. Clegg was willing to listen to the program initiatives as well as the intricacies of educating the public.

This Community Partner attracts a clientele base as eclectic as its inventory. Lenai Clegg, Owner/Operator, has advocated for mentorship since the beginning of her entrepreneur journey and creates, to this day, a learning environment within. Lenai Clegg and The Culture Ethnic Shop are a celebrated community partner in the Western region of Virginia for education/mentorship and holistic health & beauty.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

VISION DRIVEN 757

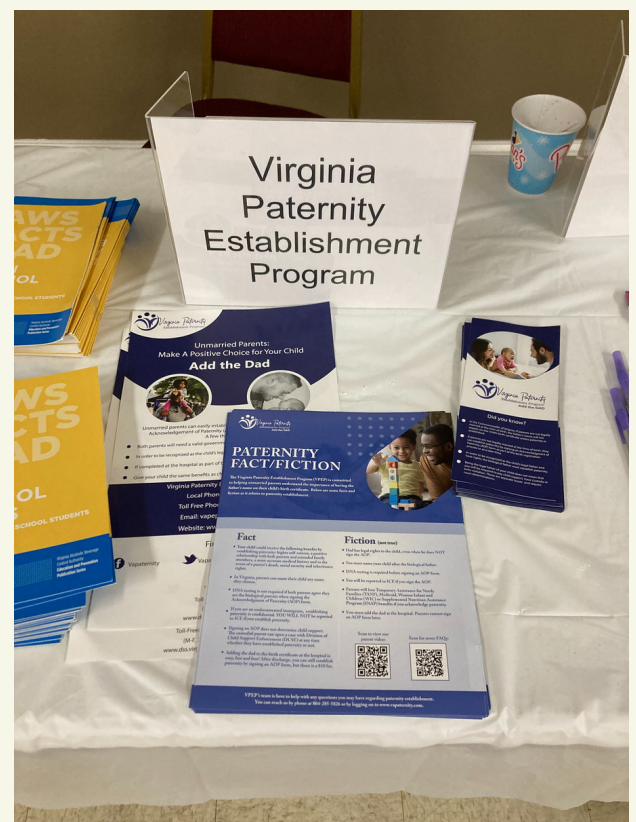
AUTHOR: LAPHILDA DAVIS

As a proud non-profit organization aiming to support Hampton Roads youth, Vision Driven 757 creates a positive and safe space where youngsters can continue their growth in leadership. The services provided help mold healthy individual to adulthood. This type of support for the community is what VPEP stands behind.

Therefore, at Vision Driven 757's latest back-to-school at Portsmouth, VPEP had educational materials available to the public and donated two \$25 Amazon gift cards. There were other donations made by Vision Driven 757, like school supplies.

There were notebooks, backpacks, pencils, highlighters, erasers, folders, white-outs, and much more, for guests to liberally choose from. Everyone student had a great time; made obvious by the dancing, the smiles while choosing from the free snacks, vegetables, and fresh fruits.

VPEP will continue to encourage a partnership with Vision Driven 757. During the raffle of the Amazon gift cards, VPEP's objective to educate unmarried parents on establishing paternity, the website vapaternity.com, and available educational materials, was announced.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

CHESTERFIELD PEDIATRICS

AUTHOR: UMIAH WILLIAMS

Chesterfield Pediatrics focuses on providing healthcare services to infants, children, and adolescents to a crucial role in the overall health and well-being of our younger population. The staff create a warm and child-friendly environment to help alleviate any fears or anxieties that children may have about visiting the doctor. At Chesterfield Pediatrics, the providers work diligently to address various aspects of a child's health, including physical, emotional, and cognitive development and are trained to conduct thorough examinations and screenings to ensure that children are growing and developing properly. These dedicated professionals also provide routine immunizations, manage chronic ailments, and offer guidance on a broad range of issues such as nutrition, sleep habits, and mental health. By focusing specifically on the unique healthcare needs of children, the staff at Chesterfield Pediatrics are able to provide comprehensive and individualized care to ensure optimal health outcomes for our youngest population. Chesterfield Pediatrics serves as an essential center for the health and well-being of children and adolescents because of their specialized knowledge and expertise. They address the specific needs of children and contribute to their overall growth and development. Their commitment to creating a child-friendly environment helps build trust and rapport with young patients, making it easier for children and their families to seek and receive the necessary medical care. By prioritizing the health and happiness of our children, Chesterfield Pediatrics plays a vital role in shaping a healthier future generation.



BACK TO SCHOOL CONFERENCES

Richmond - September 27th

Norfolk - September 28th

Abingdon - October 4th

Roanoke - October 5th

Fairfax - October 11th

Keep an eye out for invitations with more details from your Outreach Coordinator!



Vapaternity



Vapaternity



VA Paternity Establishment