



Virginia
DENTAL HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION

VDHA CURET



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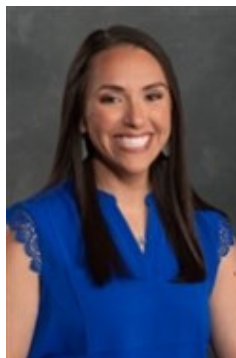
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President's Message

**"We rise by lifting others."
- Robert Ingersoll**

Since the last edition of the Curet, I have spent much time with my family and my ADHA family. April to July has been the busiest of my Presidency with travel. In April, I became a T-Ball Assistant Coach and Team Mom for my youngest son's team and Team Mom for my oldest son's team. I was the mystery guest reader for my youngest son's class to celebrate his birthday. I also was the Site Coordinator at VCU for the ADEX exam and welcomed many of our newest graduates as they completed this clinical examination prior to graduation.

Volunteering is my jam and I worked with VCU students to participate at the Donamatrix Fitness Festival in Petersburg, VA and then VCU Diversity P.A.T.H.S Health Sciences Academy at Cosby High School, Richmond, VA. Towards the end of April I was the Keynote Speaker at VCU's Clinic and Research Day. VPCC invited me to be their Pinning Ceremony Keynote Speaker and present the VDHA Future Leader Award in Hampton, VA and I brought my oldest to join me. The President Elect joined me on a trip to Danville, VA, where we hosted a CE for the Piedmont Component and celebrated the DCC graduates.



May started off with trips to more celebrations of the Class of 2023. I traveled to Norfolk, VA and celebrated ODU's Pinning and Awards Ceremony and presented the VDHA Future Leader Award. I was able to volunteer with my oldest son's first grade spring class field trip. I celebrated with my own seniors at VCU with the VDA President and New Dentist Liaison at the VDA's Senior Toast, the SOD Senior Award Ceremony and then the VCU DH Pinning and DDS Hooding Ceremony. I was the guest speaker for the DH pinning ceremony and it was an amazing moment to share with my own senior class. Then once graduation was over, it was time to work on preparing for the ADHA's House of Delegates. Thankfully, it was virtual and I only had to travel 40 miles for the weekend to be with other VA Delegates and the District III Student Delegate from ODU. I ended the month with celebrations of my oldest son's birthday and my own birthday (we are five days apart).



In June, I engaged in many more meetings for educational purposes, workshops and the ADHA Annual House of Delegates. I enjoyed the LEAP Educator's Platform Conference, a Faculty Alignment Calibration and Education workshop, VCH DH Advisory Committee Meetings, and our council meetings. I ended the month with celebrating VCU winning 1st Place for ADHA's Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year! ODU won 3rd Place for ADHA's Outstanding Student Chapter of the Year! Both schools are my alma maters and I couldn't be more proud of the work of all our student chapters.

Finally, July continued to bring new adventures. Traveling to and from Chicago grew my patience and development for not taking "no" as an answer.

I even survived my first nightmare Uber ride with two of my colleagues. Phew. The conference was fantastic for my own personal development and growth as a leader. The activities to celebrate 100 years of our profession were an absolute blast! I took the second half of the month to spend much needed time with my family and took two vacations to the beach and lake. I hosted my last in-person meeting as President and brought my oldest son along for support.

There is so much to celebrate in the few months I have left of this Presidency. Our membership continues to increase. We are gaining support from you all to continue with legislative efforts. Myself and several of our members are sitting on workforce groups to discuss the imbalance ratio of dentists and dental hygienists and legislative items that affect our profession. We need more membership to have a large voice at the table.

I challenge you, our members. Join us in membership and invite a friend! We are only as strong as our membership numbers. Rise up and lift up your voices. Remember, by working only one full day a year (or use the quarterly plan), you could pay your dues and share your treasurers. Your dues will help us retain the hired lobbyists, lift up the power of our voice when we meet with our legislatures throughout the year, and host our Scientific Session, Ignite!, House of Delegates and Rally Day!

As an individual, I cannot do it alone. We cannot do this alone. We must take turns holding the kite that is this Association and running with the string in hand to RISE IT UP. We must lift each other up when we get tired. It takes teamwork to persevere, have courage, and confidence to RISE UP.

I'm looking forward to celebrating the end of my Presidency at the House of Delegates this October. Please join us at our Annual Business meeting as it is open to all our members. Listen to the discussions, engage with your delegates who are representing you and meet our student delegates. Wishing our student members and educators a productive year. Our leaders in other roles of our profession, I wish you a productive end of the calendar year. Remember all to take breaks when you need them and don't forget to smile! <



Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE!

27-28
Oct
2023

House of Delegates
Hilton Short Pump
Richmond, VA

adha™

Virginia
DENTAL HYGIENISTS'
ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION
OPENING SOON

Save the Date



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
NOVEMBER 18 10 AM-4 PM
VIRGINIA CROSSINGS HOTEL
RICHMOND VA

Component News

Piedmont (05) and Monticello(06) had no report at this time.

Northern Virginia (01)

NVDHC has exciting virtual continuing education courses lined up for the 2023-2024 year. Here is what is planned so far. Be on the lookout for registration emails. Everyone is welcome!

Tuesday September 19, 7-9pm
Living Pain Free, Sally DeCesare, RDH (2 credits)

Wednesday October 16, 7-9pm
OSHA + BB Pathogens Update, Louise DePaola, DDS (2 credits)

Wednesday January 17, 7-9pm
Sedation Dentistry: The RDH's Role, Jeremy Smith, RDH (2 credits)

Tuesday February 13, 7-9pm
Perio: What Really Works- Seeing is Believing!, Bill Landers (2 credits)

Greater Richmond (02)

Component Contacts

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LaTasha McLee, MSDH, BSDH, RDH- Financial Liaison - lateshamclee@gmail.com
mily.Comia, BSDH, RDH - Secretary.comiaen@vcu.edu

Events:

June 23 – 25th Multiple members of the component were involved in the ADHA House of Delegates meeting. We were lucky to have our head delegate host us at her home, thank you again Emilie Ellis for all you do for all of us. (See picture ->)



Recognition:

VCU class of 2023 won outstanding SCADHA chapter.
LaTasha McLee and Heather Tuthill have been asked to speak at VDA's Showcase this fall at
The Main, Norfolk, VA.

Membership:

Spending time together is one of the aspects of membership that we value most. There are resources and advice that are valuable within or ranks so please come join in the conversation, we would love to hear about your experiences. Please invite your coworkers or fellow classmates to join us for a meeting they are future members waiting to learn the value of the association.

Note: Our Greater Richmond component page is no longer the contact for job postings. Moving forward all inquiries and information can be found on the VDHA home page (membership is not required to view) Listings are \$65 for 30 days, or \$100 for 60 days. Temp or last minute requests can still be posted to the Greater Richmond page.

Next Meeting:

6:30 PM on October 2nd Location TBD

Tidewater (03)

Tidewater Officers:

Co-Chairs: Jessica Suedbeck and Emily Ludwig

Trustee: Kelly Fox

Financial Liaison: Angela Tye

Media Management: Sam Vest

Happy Summer Everyone!! We at the Tidewater Component hope you are all enjoying some time outdoors this summer season. These past few months have been very productive here in Tidewater. ADHA recently had their 100th Anniversary celebration in Chicago, Jessica Suedbeck, Emily Ludwig, and Sam Vest all were present at the celebration and also presented some great research at this year's conference. Way to go everyone!

SAVE THE DATE!!!! We have some exciting CE's coming up, as well as our annual holiday social. Add these dates on your calendar and we cannot wait to see everyone soon!!

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Come join your local component!!! Nervous about how to start, we've got you covered. At Tidewater we are always looking for other hygienists that share the same passion as we all do. The passion for our profession and moving it forward as well as continuous protection to our profession. If we have no members, then we have no Association. Email me @flosswithmerdh2015@gmail.com, We would LOVE to have you!!!!!! No time to volunteer, just become a member!! WE NEED YOU!!!

SAVE	INFECTION CONTROL CE OCT 17
ERGONOMICS CE NOV 14	THE
DATES	END OF YEAR SOCIAL DEC 1

Peninsula (07)

Sweet summertime! We hope everyone is able to enjoy the last few weeks of summer. A couple of our members were able to attend the momentous ADHA Annual Conference in Chicago and celebrate its 100th Anniversary. They gained an immense knowledge from the session, enjoyed networking with professionals from around the country, and the spectacular roaring 20's party theme.

In response to a recent PDHC survey, Fall CE courses will be offered in virtual and in person formats. Both speakers have earned national recognition as award recipients for their research, so we'll be learning from the BEST! These courses will be free for members and SCADHA members and a nominal fee assessed for all other colleagues including dentists, dental team members and related health professionals. Mark your calendars and spread the word!

September 19 at 7pm online. Ergonomics and Diversity: Research Implications for Dental Hygienists. Emily Ludwig, RDH, MSDH, ODU Assistant Professor

November 8 at 6:30pm in person. Pregnancy and Oral Health. Denise M. Claiborne, RDH, PhD, ODU Assistant Professor and Graduate Program Director.



#ForwardTogether
#shinelikeadiamond
#ifyoucandreamityoucandoit
#thinkbelievedreamdare

District III taking a break from the roaring 20's dancing party



With Fall approaching, we look forward to seeing everyone at the HOD meeting. Peninsula's Delegation Team is excited to join other components in addressing resolutions and bylaws that help mold our profession.

Delegates: Cailah Christensen, RDH, AAS, 2022 Student Delegate and 2023 PDHC Future Leader Award recipient, Cynthia Flowers, RDH, BS, CDA, PDHC Chair, and Alternate Delegates: Julie Martin, BSDH, RDH, Facebook Manager, and Desiree Turner, BA, RDH, AAS, Membership Chair.

As always, we are looking for more people to join our component! Please reach out to your friends and colleagues in the Peninsula area and tell them all the magnificent reasons to join the VDHA. Stay up to date with our component and join our [Facebook group](#).



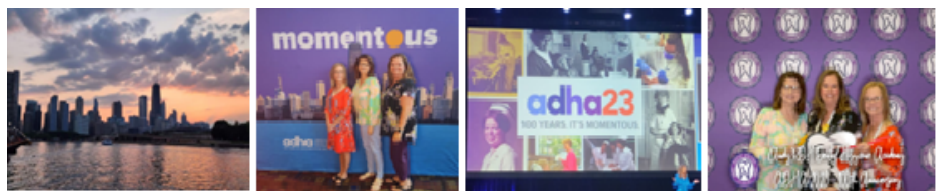
PDHC's Outstanding Member of the Year, Desiree Turner, BA, RDH, AAS will be celebrated at the VDHA president's Luncheon in October.

Southwest Virginia (09)

President – Kara Davis
Chair – Rita Phillips
Financial Administrator – Margaret Martin
Recorder – Margaret Martin
Membership – Amber Shuler
Website Coordinator – Maureen Thompson
Trustee – Kara Davis

Welcome Summer!

During the month of May, a Zoom meeting was formed to appoint officers and delegates for the upcoming year. Thank you to our elected delegates Maureen Thompson and Wendy Oyakawa. We are striving for this small component to reach out and accomplish big things: Increase membership, bringing new ideas, and providing more activities for component and future members. If you like to share your passion for dental hygiene, please join us today by visiting the website.



Pictured: Staci Thomas, Amber Shuler, and Rita Phillips

On June 30, the component had our first in-person meeting/luncheon at the Wooden Pickle in Marion, VA to discuss future activities. Auguste 3 rd SWDHA provided a free 0.5 CE for all ADHA members from BioGaia Probiotics. Katie Scarborough had a wonderful presentation on these products and we are looking forward in working with her again in the near future.

The component is working very hard to provide more and more.

Representatives from the component and Wytheville Community College Dental Hygiene department travelled for continuing education to Chicago, IL to have fun celebrating the 100 th anniversary of ADHA and provide the newest technologist and hottest dental topics to our future dental hygienists.

Upcoming CE is now available to register! “Let’s Talk About Teeth, Baby: Creating opportunities for early intervention and the role of medical dental integration”, with Deirdre Kane, RDH, BBA, MPH, CHES. The 1.5 hour CE will be held via Zoom on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm EST: Free for VDHA members and \$20.00 for potential members.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the House of Delegates in October.

Northwest Virginia (10)

We would like to congratulate our very own member, Karen Avey, on receiving the West Virginia Dental Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award in April. Karen graduated from WVU with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene in 1984, as well as a Master of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene in 2005. Karen currently serves as our component treasurer but has also served in just about every capacity in our component. She is also a past president for VDHA and served several years on the Ways & Means Committee. Karen is a faculty member for Virginia Western/ Laurel Ridge Community College. She is an invaluable member to our component, to the VDHA, and to the dental hygiene profession. Component meetings are held virtually the 3rd Thursday of every month at 7pm.



Our next meeting will be held August 17, 2023.



Continuing Education Update

“Hot enough for you?” Well, it sure is this summer! We had an exciting Scientific Session this past March in Northern Virginia and had terrific speakers this past meeting. The facilities were awesome, and the vendors that participated on Friday and Saturday were impressive. We are so grateful for their attendance that made the event even “hotter”. Thank you to Membership, and Julie Martin, that recruited new members to join VDHA. Way to go Julie and team. Thank you to all who helped plan this event.

Thank you to Maureen Thompson, or Moe for always producing an excellent, professional newsletter for so many years. She has always been so willing to help us provide interesting newsletters and, visually, fun to read. Thank you to Moe for all your years of service!

We look forward to having a “hot” Scientific Session in Richmond in March 2024 so mark your calendars. There will be a variety of subjects and you will be excited to hear the new speakers. We can’t let the cat out of the bag yet before all the final details are completed!

Sheila B. Sheats, RDH, Continuing Education Chair

ADHA District 3 News

Hello – For those of you who have yet to meet me, I am Sheri Moore, your District III Director. District III consists of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. I am still coming down from the excitement that happened last month in Chicago for the 100 th celebration of ADHA. I was able to connect with individuals that I have not seen in several years. The celebration was extra special because the ADHA President, Dawn Dean, resides in West Virginia. District III could not have been prouder to celebrate with Dawn at her Presidential Dinner and Bootleggers Ball. The highlight for me was when District III gathered around Dawn on the dance floor and Take Me Home Country Roads was played by the DJ in her honor. West Virginia won the competition for the highest percentage of members to attend the annual conference in Chicago. Virginia Commonwealth University won the student chapter award. Way to go District III.

Thank you to all of you that have put in many hours as volunteers for the VDHA. Your ADHA Delegates and Alternates represented you well. There were some new faces this year. Shout out to Sam Vest as the student liaison mentor to Kellee Dreeson, VCU student. Sam was the perfect person for this position.

At the end of July ADHA held its first Board of Directors meeting for the 2023-2024 calendar year. Dr. Becky Smith, ADHA President, announced that the District Directors may start attending their District events. I look forward to seeing many of you in person this year and not just through zoom meetings.

Thank you for your support, and I am honored to serve District III.

How do you stay connected with the latest information from ADHA? You should be receiving the ADHA Update. If you are not receiving this Update, please contact communications@adha.net to be added to this email.



VDHA Foundation



The VDHA Foundation is proud to announce TWO recipients of our Foundation sponsored Institute of Health scholarship in memory and in honor of our Foundation benefactor Alice H. Williams: Amme Saunders and Melissa Sullivan, RDH, MS. Amme is completing her senior year course of dental hygiene study at the Old Dominion University and Melissa is pursuing her PhD at the Old Dominion University.

The Alice Hinchcliffe Williams, RDH, MS Merit Scholarship is funded by the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association Foundation to honor our deceased colleague and benefactor who helped to establish the VDHA Foundation. It is awarded to a student possessing Virginia residency that is seeking a post licensure or graduate degree. The award amount is \$1,500 and applications become available on October 1 st of each year and are due to the ADHA IOH by 11:59 pm CST on February 1 st of each year.

Please visit the IOH Scholarship and Grant applications page at the ADHA.net website. The Research Grant Application deadline is March 31, 2023 if you have a research project that you wish to pursue.

Respectfully,
Catherine Berard, BSDH, RDH
VDHA Foundation Secretary

All contributions enable VDHA Foundation to continue to make a significant difference in the lives of many. Thank you to all who have contributed this past year to continue the work of the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association Foundation. Your tax-exempt donation will be utilized in performing the charitable, educational, research and scientific activities of the association. If you would like to make a donation, please send it to: Marge Green, VDHA Foundation Treasurer, 1919 Old York Hampton Highway, Yorktown, VA 23692-4143

ADHA INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

LIAISON, Catherine A. Berard, BSDH, RDH

ADHA INSTITUTE FOR ORAL HEALTH FOUNDATION what is it and why should I donate to it?

The ADHA Institute for Oral Health (IOH) was founded to advance the dental hygiene profession and expand access to oral care through scholarships, research grants and community service grants. In collaboration with the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA), IOH helps ADHA members meet educational needs, expand the field of dental hygiene and provide oral health care and education to their communities. IOH will continue to improve the public's total health by increasing the awareness of and access to quality oral healthcare for all. Many thanks to all of you who have donated so generously to IOH this year, the IOH fiscal year runs from July 1st through June 30th.

IOH is dedicated to:

- Empowering hygienists to improve the public health through community service grants
- Supporting advancements in the dental hygiene profession through research grants
- Developing dental hygienists' access to educational programs through scholarships

This year, ADHA will reshape the fundraising initiatives from a state level to a National level, which will help make our efforts have an even greater impact. We will have some exciting campaigns that will run in coordination with National Dental Health Month and Community Service activities in the fall. I will have more information in the next Curet.

Congratulations to Virginia members Brenda Bradshaw, Sam Vest, Jessica Suedbeck and Emily Ludwig who won research funding from IOH Research Grants this year!

Please remember that there are multiple scholarships available on the IOH website, the deadline to apply for them is Feb 1st of each year. [These scholarships](#) include the one funded by the VDHA Foundation and are specific to Virginia resident applicants!

Congratulations to our 2023 Alice Hinchcliffe Williams, RDH, MS Merit Scholarship recipients:

Amme Saunders who is a senior at Old Dominion University and
Melissa Sullivan, RDH, MS who is a PhD student at Old Dominion University!

[You can visit our Virginia donor page.](#)

Student Chapter News

No report from Danville Community College, Virginia Peninsula Community College, Wytheville Community College

Germanna Community College

*Submitted by Victoria Dempsey, CDA
Interprofessional Healthcare Student Council President*

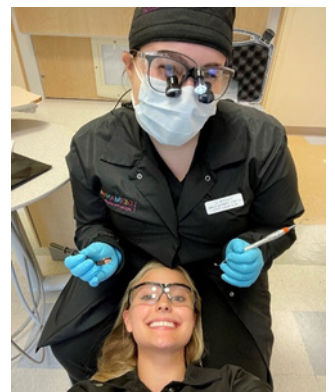
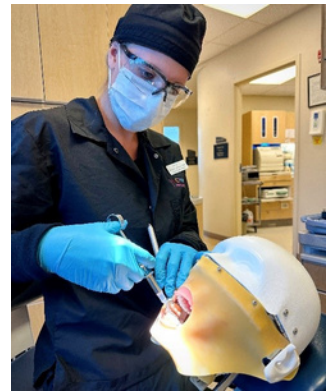
Germanna's Dental Hygiene cohorts have had an amazing summer semester! Our Dental Hygiene students were busy seeing patients during the summer clinic.

The second-year Dental Hygiene Class is getting closer to taking national boards, and our first-year Dental Hygiene students are looking forward to Oral Pathology, Periodontics, and Pharmacology classes! One of our first-year Dental Hygiene students had the privilege to provide dental education to FBI's crime analysts this semester. The education session provided basic dental education and how the dental profession can work with the FBI.

This fall, GCC's dental students have much to look forward to. With Germanna's Interprofessional Council, there are great topic sessions and learning opportunities that will be discussed. We have events based on Title IX, harassment, professional behavior, as well as a disaster simulation, where Dental will work with the Nursing students and EMS students!

This fall, our dental students are giving back to the community by participating in a mission project. Some of GCC's dental students will be volunteering at the Remote Area Medical Clinic (RAM) at West Moreland High School in Montross, Virginia this September. This mission project, including dental, vision, medical providers, and general support, is an opportunity for students, especially health-science students, to see the need for access to quality health care in our region. All our dental program students are ready to make this fall semester sparkle!

Pictures of a couple of our first-year Dental Hygiene students in summer clinic



Laurel Ridge Community College

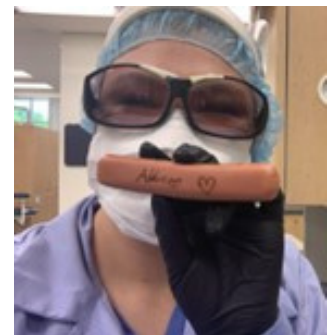
We have had so much going on this spring--the pictures below say it all!



Northern Virginia Community College

Submitted by Addie Cope, Class of 2024

Well, year one of the Dental Hygiene program is over for the Class of 2024 at NOVA and we are ecstatic. We finished up our summer semester in late June which was both very rewarding and very stressful. Dental materials was the bulkiest class of the semester and was full of hands-on learning. I think of the dental materials lab as the “art class” of dental hygiene; we get to make impressions, make models, make temporary crowns and whitening trays. It is a totally new side of dental hygiene than we have had up until this point and it was a lot of fun. In addition to dental materials, our clinic lab hours increased drastically, we were able to see more patients and really demonstrate how far we have come in just one year. The summer was the start of working solo, all of the spring we had partners, this was a major cause of stress going into the summer but we all proved ourselves wrong and were more than capable of seeing patients by ourselves. We are enjoying our hard earned break but are excited to go back and meet the incoming class and to end this year as a licensed dental hygienist!



Old Dominion University

Submitted by Emily Ludwig, RDH, MSDH, Assistant Professor and SADHA Advisor, and Ann M. Bruhn, RDH, MS, Chair and Associate Professor

The ODU SODH hopes everyone has had a great summer! The SODH wrapped up a great semester in May. Congratulations to the SODH Class of 2023, we are so proud and even more proud of a 100% pass rate for the ADEX Clinical Examination!

The Class of 2024 also finished up a wonderful summer semester and just completed their Anxiety and Pain Control course on August 6th. They will be able to provide comfortable local anesthesia to ODU Dental Hygiene Care Facility patients this Fall! Go Class of 2024!

The ODU SODH faculty has also been very busy this summer attending conferences, courses, and presenting research. Several ODU SODH faculty members attended and presented at the ADHA's 100th Annual Conference in Chicago, IL. SODH faculty presented three courses; "Scenario-based learning to improve practices for children with ASD" by Adjunct Assistant Professor, Kimmie Cenzone, Associate Professor and Graduate Program Director, Denise Claiborne, and Associate Professor and Chair, Ann Bruhn; "Analyzing and combatting bias in dental hygiene care" by Assistant Professor Emily Ludwig and Assistant Professor Jessica Suedbeck; "Antemortem dental record-keeping practices" by Assistant Professor, Brenda Bradshaw and Professor Marsha Voelker (KC Care Health Center).

Additionally, ODU MSDH student, Emily Smith, also placed second in the Densply Graduate Student Clinician's Research Program for her on chelioscopy! Way to go, Emily!

Finally, Assistant Professor, Emily Ludwig, was also honored to receive the ADHA Standout Seven Award, Researcher!

We look forward to the upcoming Fall semester! Keep up with accomplishments of ODU SODH students and faculty on Instagram @Odu_dental hygiene and on Facebook @Old Dominion University School of Dental Hygiene!



ODU SODH MSDH Student, Emily Smith receiving her Densply Graduate Student Clinician's Research Program Award.

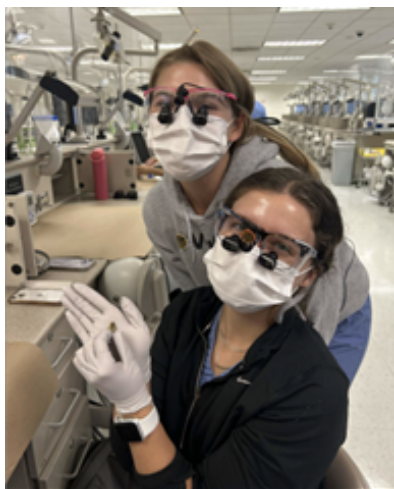
Virginia Commonwealth University

The VCU students started their summer as ADHA's First Place Student Chapter winners!!! Three of our chapter's members were thrilled to have the opportunity to attend this year's annual conference for the ADHA! These classmates express substantial gratitude toward all those that contributed in making this experience possible. The student members reported this weekend to be an unforgettable one full of limitless knowledge, caring individuals, and excitement. Seeing such passionate members in our field, including our own faculty members take action to advocate for and improve our profession on a national level is immensely encouraging. As future dental hygienists we are so inspired to be advocates for the profession.



Our now senior class is very proud to be so! The class of 2024 has hit the ground running with an orientation week jam packed with junior mentoring, presentations regarding mental health and ergonomics, lectures on maintenance of professionalism, board preparation, and much more. Our excitement is impossible to contain as we start tackling the next nine months prior to graduation.

Orientation week is not a lazy one, but we're still having fun! The class of 2024 spent their first official day as senior dental hygiene students in the lab learning about and implementing the placement of SDF material. We are grateful to have another skill under our belts that may be especially beneficial with our pediatric, special needs, and geriatric patient populations.





The dental hygiene class of 2025 is here and ready! Our junior members have been introduced to our chapter, its purpose, and the duties of the positions within it. These students are already exploring where they may best fit in to help advocate for the dental hygiene profession!

Virginia Western Community College

Dental Hygiene Students Break Down Language Barriers in Annual Service-learning Project

VWCC students were featured in an article in the latest issue of the Bulletin of Dental Education (ADEA). [Read the full article.](#)

Second-year students in the Virginia Western Community College's Dental Hygiene Program annually develop a service-learning program plan as part of their public health experience. This past year, student Ashley Rodriguez-Zacarias identified how language barriers reduce access to care for the local Hispanic population. Driven by her own experience, reducing the language barrier was personal.

The Virginia Western Community College Educational Foundation awarded the grant for the project, allowing students to access the tools they needed to effectively communicate with Spanish-speaking patients.



Ashley's passion and drive continued spreading and drew the attention of Virginia Western's Commencement Committee. She was chosen as the student speaker for the 2023 Virginia Western Commencement Exercises, where she shared her personal story and details about how she and her classmates were implementing translation services to remove language barriers. A dental insurance company reached out to Virginia Western and are actively collaborating to foster this program's growth. A local Hispanic organization also reached out about collaborating on several projects



Virginia Public Health Clinic News



Northern Neck Middlesex Free Health Clinic is pleased to announce the employment of a full-time Registered Dental Hygienist. “The addition of a dental hygienist to the Dental Clinic staff is a first for NNMFHC, and we are pleased to add this important preventive provider to enhance services for our patients” says CEO Jean Nelson. “We know how fortunate we are to find a dental hygienist who wants to work full-time and is motivated to join us in the mission of providing the highest level of healthcare to all those who lack access to it in our community.” Having a dental hygienist on staff has been a goal since 2018 and was included in the Clinic’s Strategic Plan. Funding for the position is provided in large part by a grant from the Virginia Health Care Foundation to increase the capacity of the Clinic for provision of oral healthcare to the population served by NNMFHC.

The Clinic, located in Kilmarnock, provides medical, dental and pharmacy services to residents of the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula who are uninsured or under-insured and is the only free/charitable clinic in this large geographic region providing preventive and restorative dental services and denture fabrication. During 2022, the Dental Clinic served 1,315 unduplicated patients and provided 7,612 procedures in 3,332 appointments for a value of service of \$1,106,595. Patients with Medicaid are accepted, and those without Medicaid coverage pay a modest sliding fee for dental services. Dental Clinic services are currently provided Wednesday-Friday by VCU School of Dentistry senior Dental and Dental Hygiene students during the academic year. Students are supervised by a staff dentist. The Clinic also employs two dental assistants and a dental coordinator.

The new dental hygienist will join the staff on September 1 st . For more information about the Clinic please visit www.nnmfhc.org.

VDHA 2023-2024 Calendar

Spring Scientific Session
2024 TBD

House of Delegates and Professional Development Workshop
2023 October 27-29 Hilton Richmond Hotel & Spa/Short Pump

Executive Board Meetings
2023 October 29 8am-12pm Richmond, VA
2024 January 20 9am-1pm ZOOM
2024 March 31 9am-1pm Scientific Session
2024 July 20 9am-3pm TBD
2024 October 27 8am-12pm TBD

Ignite VDHA Leadership Workshop
2023 November 18 Virginia Crossings Hotel and Conference Center, Glen Allen, VA
2024 November TBD

Quarterly Reports Submission Deadline: (two weeks prior to Executive Board Meetings)
2023 October 14
2024 January 6
2024 March 16
2024 July 13
2024 October 12

HOD Reports/Year-End Reports Submission Deadline:
2023 August 19
2024 August 17

Awards Nominations Deadline
2024 July 13

Curet Article Submission Deadline: (two weeks following Executive Board Meetings)
2023 November 11
2024 February 3
2024 April 13
2024 August 3
2024 November 9



Council Meetings: Council meetings should take place online, and reports should be submitted two weeks prior to Executive Board meetings.

VDHA Foundation

2024 January 19 Richmond, VA

2024 April 12 ZOOM

2024 July 19 ZOOM

ADHA Annual Conference/Business Meeting:

2024 June 28-30 ADHA House of Delegates ZOOM/virtual

2024 July 26-28 Ernest N. Morial Convention Center New Orleans, LA

2025 July 25-27 Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center Long Beach, CA

ADHA District III Meetings

ADHA D3 Trustee Delegation Chairs only January 25, 2024 7:30-8:30 pm ZOOM online

ADHA D3 Delegates Orientation February 18, 2024 2-4 pm ZOOM online

ADHA D3 Reference Committee A June 1, 2024 9:00-11:00 am ZOOM online

ADHA D3 Reference Committee B June 1, 2024 9:00-11:00 am ZOOM online

ADHA D3 Reference Committee C June 1, 2024 9:00-11:00 am ZOOM online

ADHA D3 Constituent Meetings June 1, 2024 11:00am-12:00pm ZOOM online

ADHA D3 HOD Delegation Workshop June 1, 2024 12:30-2:30 pm ZOOM online

ADHA Executive Board Meetings:

ADHA Winter Board of Trustee Meeting TBD

ADHA Spring Board of Trustee Meeting TBD

ADHA Annual Conference BOT Meeting TBD

Virginia Health Catalyst Summit (formerly VOHC)

2023 2023 October 6 Richmond, VA

Virginia Board of Dentistry-Regular Board Meetings:

2023 September 29 9:00 am Richmond, VA

2023 December 8 9:00 am Richmond, VA

2024 March 8 9:00am Richmond, VA

2024 June 21 9:00am Richmond, VA

2022 MOM Projects: (see VDAF.org for details)

2023 Piedmont October 7 Fauquier High School Warrenton, VA

**2023 Appalachian Highlands Community Dental Center Mini-MOM October 19-20
Abingdon, VA**

2023 Central Virginia Mini-MOM November 11 Petersburg, VA



VDA Annual Session

2023 September 21-24 The Main Norfolk, VA

ADA Annual Session

2023 October 5-9 San Francisco, CA

2024 Oct 23-27 Seattle, WA

2025 Oct 23-25 Washington DC, VA

ADEA Annual Session

2024 March 9-12 New Orleans, LA

2025 March 8-11 National Harbor, MD

2026 March 21-24 Montreal, Canada

International Federation of Dental Hygienists / International Symposium on Dental Hygiene (biannual)

2024 July 11-14 Seoul, Korea

2026 July 9-11 Milan, Italy

2028 June 2028 Dubai, United Arab Emirates

RDH Under One Roof

2024 July 18-20 Denver, CO

2022 – 2023 Officers, Councils & Committee Chairs

Officers	Administrative Council: Chair (President Elect): Kristen Robbins
President: Heather Tuthill	President: Heather Tuthill
President Elect: Kristen Robbins	IPP: Tracey Martin
Immediate Past President: Tracey Martin	Budget and Finance: Emilie Ellis
Vice President: Heather Fonda	Treasurer: Trish MacDougall
Treasurer: Trish MacDougall	Vice President: Heather Fonda
Recording Secretary: Samantha Smith	Policy, Bylaws and Resolution chair: Julie Simms
Speaker of the House: Kate Hoffman	Procedure Manual: Heather Fonda
Alternate Speaker of the House: Ryan Maphis	Corresponding Secretary: Samantha Smith
	Recording Secretary: Samantha Smith
	A.H. Williams Fund: Abby Geiser
	Speaker of the House: Kate Hoffman
	Alternate Speaker of the House: Ryan Maphis
Trustees:	Planning and Development Council: Chair: Tonya Mortensen
01-Northern Virginia: Julie Simms	Continuing Education Chair: Sheila Sheets
02-Greater Richmond: Marlene Rhodes	Ways and Means Co Chairs: Jessica Suedbeck & 2 nd vacant
03-Tidewater: Kelly Fox	House of Delegates Chair: Mimi Magyar
06-Monticello: Nancy Dragovitch	HOD Secretary: Amanda Kimball
07-Peninsula: Marge Green	Foundation Director: Chair Tracey Martin
09-Southwest Virginia: Sharon Kennedy	Foundation liaison: Irene Connolly
10-Northwest: Meghan Glago	
2021 ADHA Delegates	Public Health, Education, and Professional Affairs: Chair: Cathy Berard
Tracey Martin, IPP, 1 st delegate	Advocacy and Legislation: Maureen Sawin
Heather Tuthill, Pres, 2 nd delegate	BOD Liaison Tyler Craddock and Troy Garrett, LSG Firm
LaTasha McLee, 3 rd delegate	Lobbyists: Legislative Strategies Group (BOD Liaisons)
Emilie Ellis, 4 th delegate	Public Health Committee: Brooke Crouch
Kristen Robbins (PE), 1 st alternate delegate	Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority Liaison: Vacant
Cathy Berard, 2 nd alternate delegate	VA Health Catalyst: Dr. Denise Claiborne & Susan Pharr
Sam Vest, 3 rd alternate delegate	Free Clinic Liaisons: Sherry Basham
Pam Boyer, 4 th alternate delegate	Head Start Liaison: Regina Dixon
	VA Rural Health Association Liaison: Dr. Rita Phillips
	VA Department of Health Liaison: Brooke Crouch
Leadership Development Services Committee: Chair: Kelly Tanner	VDHA Foundation Directors: Chair: Tracey Martin, IPP
Leadership Mentoring Chair: Emilie Ellis	Chair Elect: Heather Tuthill, VDHA President
Educational Com. Chair: Marion Manski Leadership	Secretary: Cathy Berard
Sustainability Chair: Dr. Kelly Tanner	Treasurer: Marge Green
Nominations Committee: Tracey Martin, Susan Reid-Carr, Mimi Magyar	VDHA Liaison: Irene Connolly
Leadership Development Chair: Misty Mesimer	Ways and Means: Jessica Suedbeck
SCADHA Liaisons: Pamela Boyer, Samantha Smith	Continuing Education: Sheila Sheets
SCADHA Consultant/VDHA Foundation Liaison: Irene Connolly	VDHA Treasurer: Trish McDougall
Student Member: Cailah Belvin (VPCC Student)	
	Member Services Council Chair- Julie Martin
	Membership Committee chair: vacant
	Directory: OMG
	Newsletter Editor: Moe Thompson
	Awards: Meghan Glago
	Historian: Julie Martin
	Website Manager: OMG
	ADHA IOH Liaison: Cathy Berard

Our Mission

The Mission of this Association is to improve the public's total health, and to advance the art and science of dental hygiene.

Our Vision

The vision of this Association is oral health professionals promoting total health.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association is an inclusive organization that continues to encourage diversity within the profession of dental hygiene. We will not discriminate against race, gender, sexual orientation, or religion. We will be courteous, respectful and encourage positive dialogue. We will work towards more equitable access to quality oral health care and increase public awareness of the benefits of prevention, education, and research. We will continue to embrace diversity and an inclusive environment that encourages curiosity, innovation, and accountability.

**Deadline for submission for
the Fall Curet is Saturday,
NOON, November 11, 2023.**