

The Virginia Diabetes Council Focus Statement

Founded in 1999, the Virginia Diabetes Council (VDC) is a 501c3 nonprofit dedicated to becoming an effective advocate for the issues and concerns of organizations providing diabetes management and prevention programming as well as raising awareness of diabetes and prediabetes.

With the goal of building a collaborative network of comprehensive diabetes management services and diabetes prevention programming throughout Virginia, we will leverage resources by bringing healthcare organizations, service providers, community organizations, stakeholders and funders together in partnership with our mission.

OUR MISSION:

To raise awareness, build connections, and support organizations in order to decrease the rate of diabetes in Virginia.

OUR VISION:

To be a strong collaborative network with accessible diabetes resources throughout Virginia.

WHAT WE DO:

Improve access for individuals trying to prevent or manage their diabetes by supporting, strengthening, and promoting a robust, high-quality collaborative system of diabetes programs throughout Virginia.

HOW WE DO IT:

- **Advocacy & Public Education:** VDC serves as the collective voice representing Virginia's network of diabetes service providers-- championing issues and concerns with legislators, policy makers, state agencies and regulatory boards as well as fostering public awareness, engagement, and appreciation of the work and impact of diabetes management and prevention.
- **Professional & Organizational Development:** VDC supports the continuous enhancement of programs and workforce by connecting program providers to organizations to assist with capacity building opportunities, continuing education, training, and technical assistance resources based on best practices in diabetes

management and prevention as well as ensuring quality of programming through the application of industry standards.

- **Strategic Partnerships & Resource:** VDC works to enhance capacity and sustainability through furthering alliances, collaborations, and resource development to support program sustainability as well as leveraging the collective impact for a greater benefit.

WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS:

Organizations providing diabetes programming to residents of Virginia. This includes service providers and community organizations up to health systems offering diabetes prevention and/or diabetes management/education.

HOW WE WORK:

The Virginia Diabetes Council will serve as a hub to promote collaboration of partners throughout the Commonwealth by connecting partners, funding, and/or training resources to our members in a meaningful and strategic manner. VDC would help coordinate funding alignment from all diabetes related funding sources thereby decreasing duplications in funding/efforts and allowing for a more effective use of resources which will lead to a greater collective impact across the state. Identification of service/program gaps and barriers as well as data collection will also improve as VDC will serve as a single collection/reporting source.

HOW WE ARE DIFFERENT:

Members of the Virginia Diabetes Council have a diabetes focus; however, they cut across organizational lines. Our membership is based on the provision of diabetes programming and not the makeup of the organization providing that service (ie. healthcare system, free clinic, community organization, etc.) nor the profession of the individual providing the service (nurse, diabetes educator, pharmacist, etc.). This allows for a greater opportunity to collaborate across all providers.