



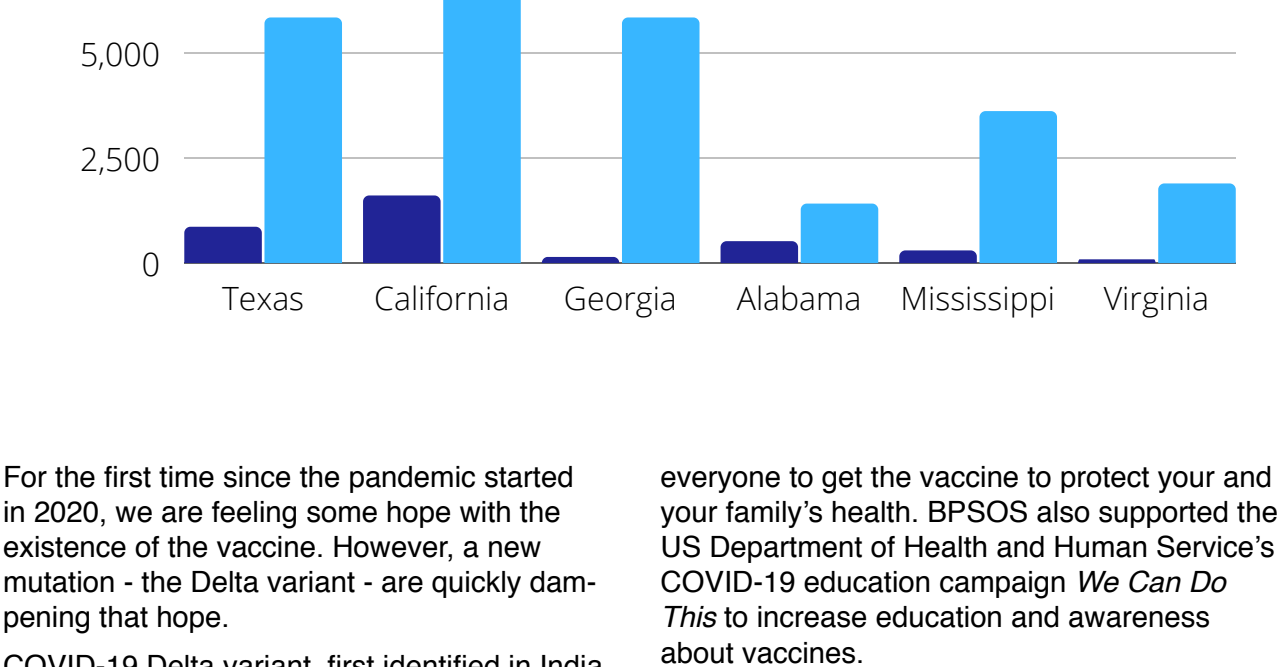
BPSOS Falls Church NEWSLETTER

August 2021

NEW COVID-19 CASES IN AMERICA

June 28, 2021 to July 27, 2021

Location	6/28/2021	7/27/2021
Texas	864	5840
California	1610	12009
Georgia	146	5840
Alabama	517	1403
Mississippi	301	3608
Virginia	89	1883



For the first time since the pandemic started in 2020, we are feeling some hope with the existence of the vaccine. However, a new mutation - the Delta variant - are quickly dampening that hope.

COVID-19 Delta variant, first identified in India, swept rapidly and has reached the US, where it is now the dominant variant. According to the CDC, **Delta variant is a more transmissible than the common cold and influenza, smallpox, Ebola,...** The highest spread of cases and severe outcomes are happening in places with low vaccination rates, and virtually all hospitalizations and deaths have been among the unvaccinated.

The US is feeling the Delta effect, according to the chart above. In previous months, cases have been decreasing steadily due to the arrival of vaccines. However, Delta variant came when not everyone has been or want to be vaccinated. **In June and July, there have been outbreaks in many states, with most new cases occurred in the unvaccinated.** Therefore, BPSOS strongly encourages

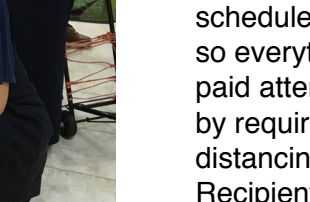
everyone to get the vaccine to protect your and your family's health. BPSOS also supported the US Department of Health and Human Service's COVID-19 education campaign *We Can Do This* to increase education and awareness about vaccines.

If you have already been vaccinated, there is still a very small risk of catching the Delta variant, but **the vaccine will prevent severe symptoms. Vaccinated people should still exercise wearing mask indoors and in certain facilities.** While the vaccines are not 100% effective, the pros outweighs the cons and we still believe vaccination is the best weapon against COVID-19.

In order to encourage vaccination, in July, BPSOS Falls Church **hosted a series of COVID-19 workshops with 43 participants total.** They learned about COVID-19 in general and the Delta variant in particular. They were thankful about us providing up-to-date information to the underserved and vulnerable communities. For more information, please contact **(703) 538-2190.**



*Participants in COVID-19 workshops at BPSOS



FREE FOOD EVERY FRIDAY!

In July 2021, BPSOS Falls Church **reopened the Food Bank program, where low-income individuals could receive food for free every Friday.** We have partnered with Capital Food Bank to purchase and deliver a large amount of non-perishable food.

We distributed food to **45 individuals** on Friday July 30th. Our staff screened, scheduled and organized them in advance so everything went smoothly. In addition, we paid attention to safety when distributing food by requiring vaccination, masks and social distancing according to our office's policies. Recipients were thankful for the help during this difficult time.

For more information or to register for the Food Bank program, please contact BPSOS at **(703) 538-2190.**



Can you and your family afford health insurance?



BPSOS can help! (703) 538-2190

You may qualify now for affordable health coverage.

ONLY 2 WEEKS LEFT FOR EASY SPECIAL ENROLLMENT!

President Biden's executive order and American Rescue Plan Act extended the **deadline to August 15th for Marketplace special enrollments.** During this period, an individual can enroll, update or change their Marketplace health insurance plan freely if their income is below federal poverty guideline. There is no requirement of a special event, unlike pre-COVID special enrollment. During this period, individuals can also get lower premium on their current health coverage if they update their information on the application.

After August 15th, all individuals must have a recent qualifying special event in order to be eligible for a Marketplace special enrollment. Otherwise, they must wait until the yearly Open Enrollment - November 1st - to be able to enroll into Marketplace health coverage for next year 2022.

BPSOS strongly encourages both insured and uninsured people to contact us to enroll into a suitable health coverage and lower your premium if you have already enrolled. In July 2021, BPSOS navigators successfully **updated and enrolled more than 75 individuals and families** into qualified and affordable health plans like Marketplace and Virginia Medicaid. Our navigators spent time educating our clients and keeping them informed about their health insurance options.

Additionally, our senior navigator Duc Truong also handled **10 complicated cases** this July, where he investigated and helped clients submit appeals and contacted Virginia Medicaid and Marketplace. Mr. Truong stood up for them because all of us at BPSOS believed that more than anyone else, our vulnerable and underserved community deserved good health coverages. For more information, please call BPSOS at **(703) 538-2190.**



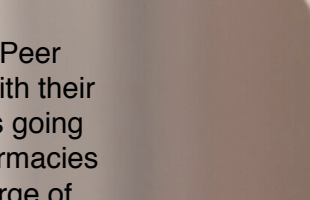
FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In July 2021, case managers of the Community Against Domestic Violence (CADV) program helped **3 clients with unemployment benefits, 2 clients with affordable housing, 2 clients with food stamp and 1 client with citizenship application.**

Additionally, we partnered with Just Neighbors and Loy Law, PLLC to help **1 client with applying a green card and another with a divorce and child support.**

All clients were very thankful to learn that we were committed into helping other domestic violence survivors until they have self-sufficient lives in happiness, freedom, and dignity.

For more information, please contact BPSOS at **(703) 538-2190.**



SENIOR TRANSPORTATION

In July, BPSOS assisted 8 seniors with non-emergency medical transportation, 5 of which were e-referred via our online system. This e-referral system was developed by BPSOS in order to connect local health providers and non-profit organizations. This network allows easy referrals and follow-ups for patients.

Our project coordinators and partner Peer Companions assisted local seniors with their medical transportation needs such as going to their doctor appointments and pharmacies to pick up their medicine. With the surge of COVID-19 Delta variant, we have advised our seniors to limit outdoor activities.

For more information and how to register for vaccination please call **(703) 538-2190.**



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BPSOS-GA (Georgia)	(770) 458-6700
BPSOS-MS (Mississippi)	(228) 436-9999
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