

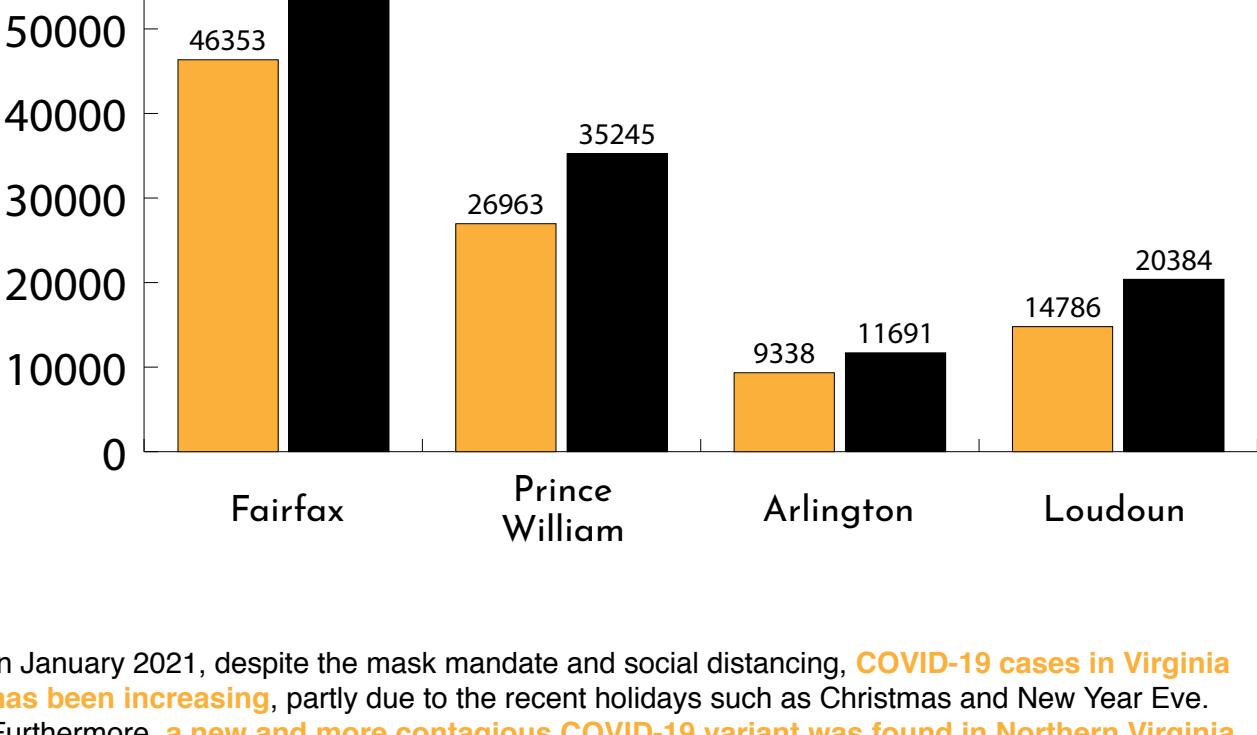


# BPSOS Falls Church NEWSLETTER

February 2021

## COVID-19 CASES IN VIRGINIA as of February 1<sup>st</sup>

LOCATION	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
Fairfax County	46353	59481
Prince William County	26963	35245
Arlington County	9338	11691
Loudoun County	14786	20384
VIRGINIA	372k+	505k+



In January 2021, despite the mask mandate and social distancing, **COVID-19 cases in Virginia has been increasing**, partly due to the recent holidays such as Christmas and New Year Eve. Furthermore, **a new and more contagious COVID-19 variant was found in Northern Virginia**.

The Virginia Department of Health announced in a recent statement that a Northern Virginia resident with no reported recent travel history tested positive for the variant of the COVID-19 virus first found in the United Kingdom last year. In the same statement, the variant is stated to be “associated with increased person-to-person transmission of COVID-19.”

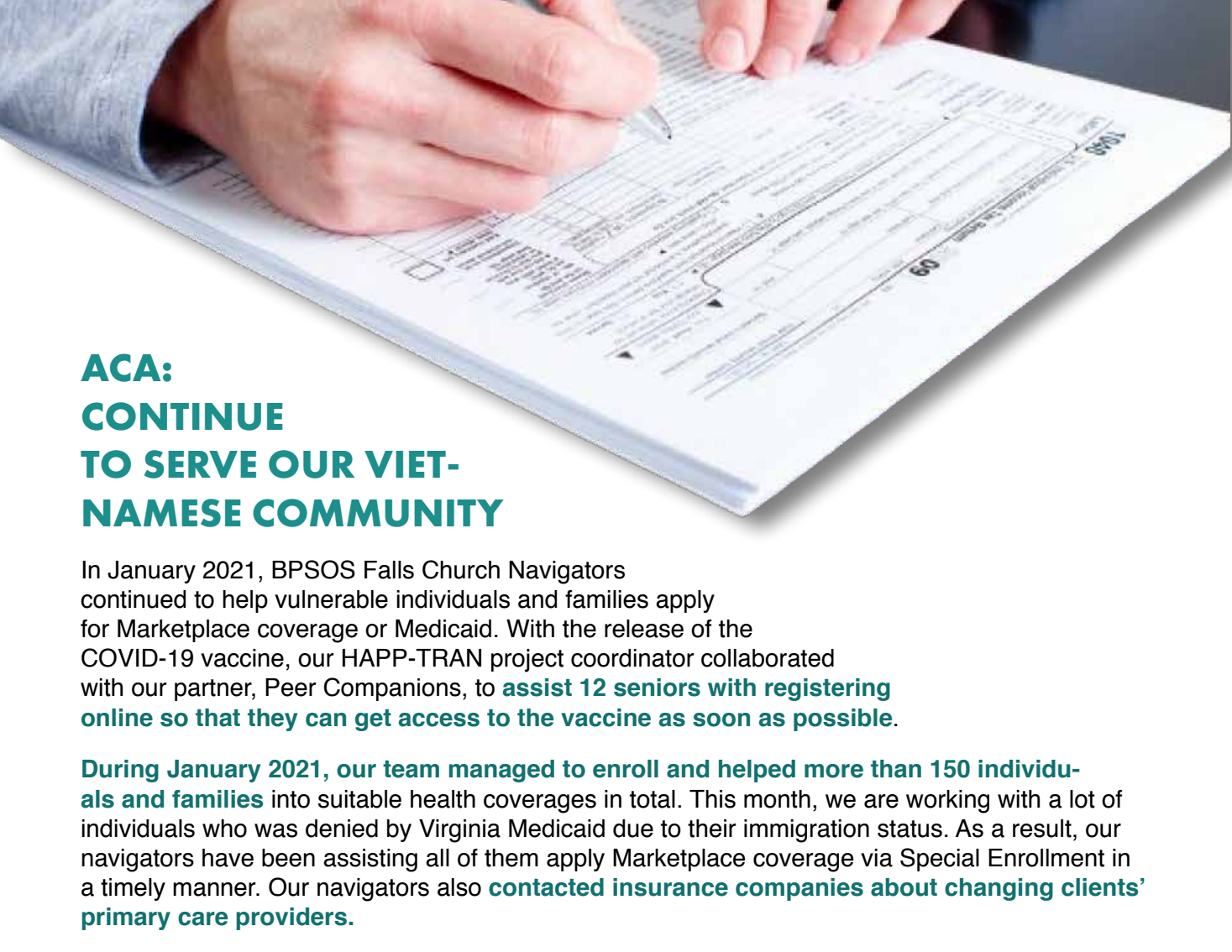
State Health Commissioner Dr. Norman Oliver urged Virginia residents to continue working to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

*“We know this variant strain spreads more quickly between people than other strains currently circulating in our communities, but we still have more to learn about whether it causes more severe illness. As our state public health officials closely monitor the emergence of the B.1.1.7 variant in our Commonwealth, it is important that all Virginians continue following mitigation measures,”* Dr. Oliver said in the statement.

In a positive note, **Virginia has received its supply of the COVID-19 vaccine and is distributing them to its residents in 3 phases:**

- **Phase 1a:** healthcare personnels, residents of long-term care facilities
- **Phase 1b:** frontline essential workers, people age over 65, people age 19-64 with underlying conditions, people who lives in correctional facilities, homecare shelters, and migrant labor camps.
- **Phase 1c:** other essential workers

Virginia is currently conducting phase 1a and 1b. For more information, please check <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/covid-19-vaccine/>



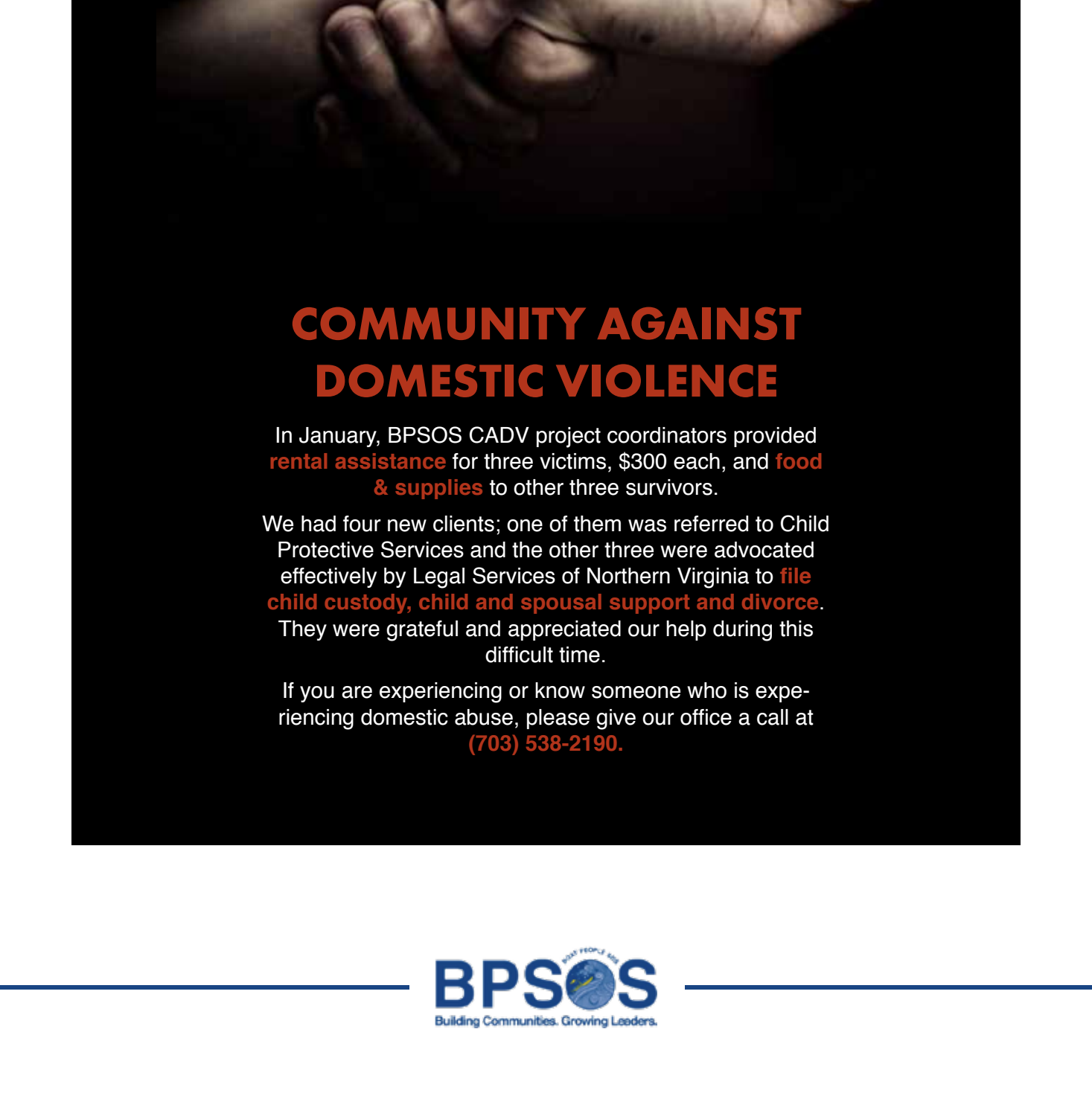
## ACA: CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR VIET- NAMESE COMMUNITY

In January 2021, BPSOS Falls Church Navigators continued to help vulnerable individuals and families apply for Marketplace coverage or Medicaid. With the release of the COVID-19 vaccine, our HAPP-TRAN project coordinator collaborated with our partner, Peer Companions, to **assist 12 seniors with registering online so that they can get access to the vaccine as soon as possible**.

During January 2021, our team managed to enroll and helped more than 150 individuals and families into suitable health coverages in total. This month, we are working with a lot of individuals who was denied by Virginia Medicaid due to their immigration status. As a result, our navigators have been assisting all of them apply Marketplace coverage via Special Enrollment in a timely manner. Our navigators also **contacted insurance companies about changing clients' primary care providers**.

Here at BPSOS—Falls Church, we understand the American health insurance systems are very complicated and are a challenge to most of our community, which is why everyday, we try to make a difference by explaining and educating clients about the best way to obtain health coverage.

For more information about enrolling in health coverage, call **(703) 538-2190**.



## COMMUNITY AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In January, BPSOS CADV project coordinators provided **rental assistance** for three victims, \$300 each, and **food & supplies** to other three survivors.

We had four new clients; one of them was referred to Child Protective Services and the other three were advocated effectively by Legal Services of Northern Virginia to **file child custody, child and spousal support and divorce**. They were grateful and appreciated our help during this difficult time.

If you are experiencing or know someone who is experiencing domestic abuse, please give our office a call at **(703) 538-2190**.

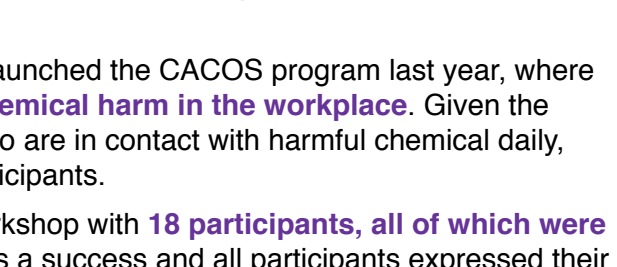


## ASSISTING SENIORS WITH TRANSPORTATION

During this winter and pandemic, many of our elderly members living in nursing homes or assisted facilities are having serious trouble getting to their doctor appointments or getting grocery. Realizing that, earlier this year BPSOS Falls Church launched HAPP-TRAN and RISE-TRAN to **assist with medical and non-medical transportation**.

In January 2021, BPSOS program coordinator assisted **21 elders (11 in RISE-TRAN and 10 in HAPP-TRAN) by taking them to grocery shopping, exercise and doctor appointments**. They were grateful for our services and promised to tell their friends and acquaintances to join.

For more information, please call **(703) 538-2190**.



## CACOS — SAFETY AT WORK

As a effort to improve community health, BPSOS launched the CACOS program last year, where participants were instructed on **how to prevent chemical harm in the workplace**. Given the great number of Vietnamese nail salon workers who are in contact with harmful chemical daily, this program has gathered many interests and participants.

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, BPSOS conducted a CACOS workshop with **18 participants, all of which were nail salon workers of all ages**. The workshop was a success and all participants expressed their appreciation and eagerness to join future workshops.

## BPSOS BRANCHES

BPSOS-AL (Alabama)	(251) 517-3011
BPSOS-CA (California)	(714) 897-2214
BPSOS-GA (Georgia)	(770) 458-6700
BPSOS-MS (Mississippi)	(228) 436-9999
BPSOS-TX (Texas)	(281) 530-6888
BPSOS-VA (Virginia)	(703) 538-2190



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