

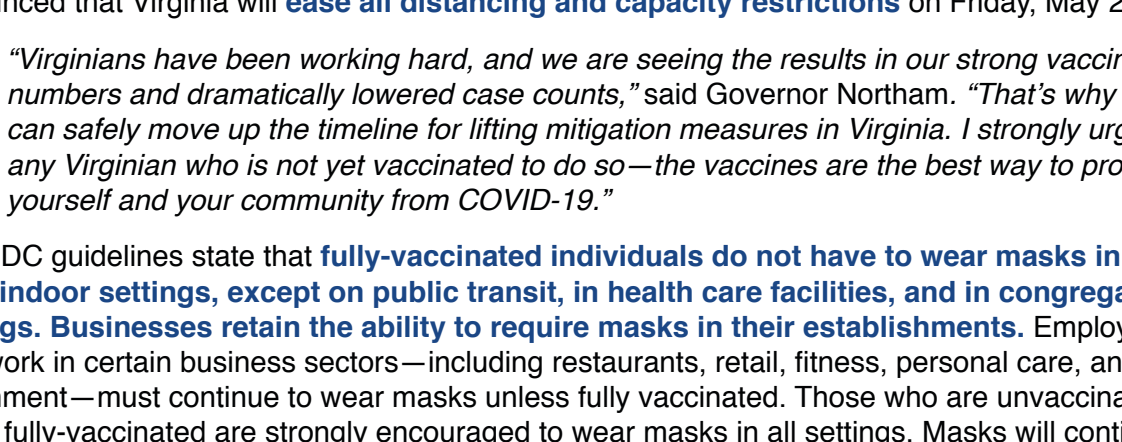
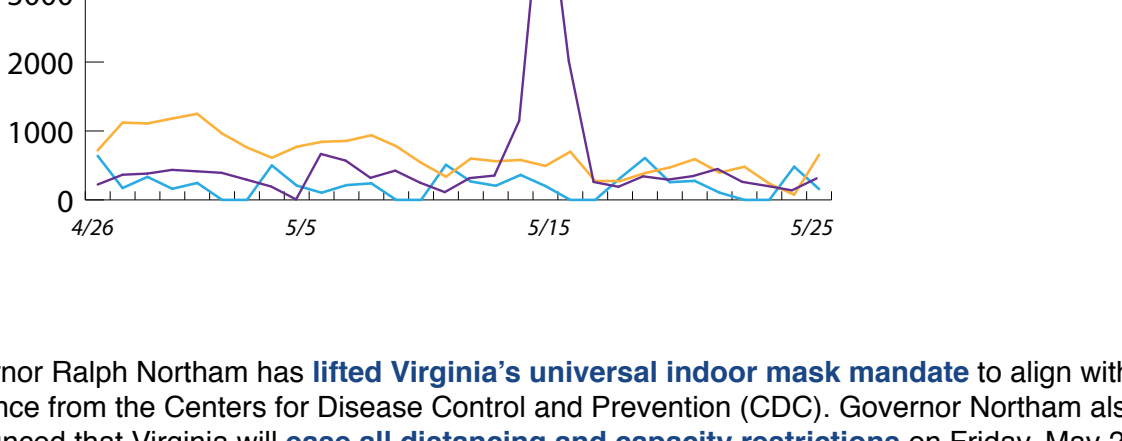


BPSOS Falls Church NEWSLETTER

June 2021

NEW COVID-19 CASES in AMERICA

from April 26th to May 25th



Governor Ralph Northam has **lifted Virginia's universal indoor mask mandate** to align with new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Governor Northam also announced that Virginia will **ease all distancing and capacity restrictions** on Friday, May 28th.

"Virginians have been working hard, and we are seeing the results in our strong vaccine numbers and dramatically lowered case counts," said Governor Northam. "That's why we can safely move up the timeline for lifting mitigation measures in Virginia. I strongly urge any Virginian who is not yet vaccinated to do so—the vaccines are the best way to protect yourself and your community from COVID-19."

The CDC guidelines state that **fully-vaccinated individuals do not have to wear masks in most indoor settings, except on public transit, in health care facilities, and in congregate settings. Businesses retain the ability to require masks in their establishments.** Employees who work in certain business sectors—including restaurants, retail, fitness, personal care, and entertainment—must continue to wear masks unless fully vaccinated. Those who are unvaccinated or not fully-vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear masks in all settings. Masks will continue to be required in K-12 public schools, given low rates of vaccination among children.

Virginia has administered nearly 7 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines. More than 4 million people have received at least one dose of the vaccine, representing over 63 percent of Virginia's adult population. Governor Northam has said he remains confident the Commonwealth will meet President Biden's goal of having 70 percent of adults vaccinated with at least one dose by July 4th.

During this pandemic, BPSOS supports the U.S Department of Health and Human Service's COVID-19 education campaign *We Can Do This* to increase education and awareness about vaccines. Find your vaccine at www.vaccines.gov or call BPSOS at (703) 538-2190.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR WATER AND INTERNET BILLS

Fairfax Water will provide financial assistance to reduce your burdens and hardship in this pandemic. Please call BPSOS **before November 1st** to see if you qualify:

The Emergency Broadband Benefit program will provide financial assistance of **\$50 per month** for Internet bill and a **one-time \$100** for a computer purchase if you qualify.

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Your drinking water and wastewater bill is overdue.
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You have experienced economical hardship due to COVID-19.
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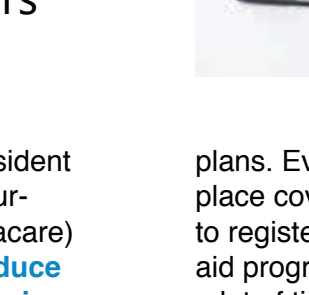
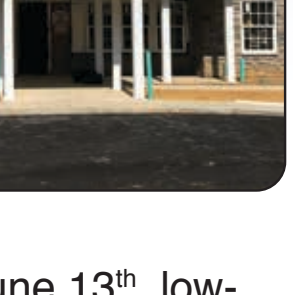
You have not yet received any CARES Act assistance regarding water bills.
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You have low income or qualify for benefits like SNAP or Medicaid,...
- 

You were awarded a federal Pell Grant in the current award year.
- 

You were eligible for free or reduced school lunch program since last year.

CALL BPSOS (703) 538-2190



HOUSING WAITLIST OPENING

FOR PUBLICLY OWNED HOUSING



Apply from **JUNE 7 – JUNE 13**
Call BPSOS **(703) 538-2190**

From June 7th to June 13th, low-income residents can register in this waitlist to receive financial assistance regarding housing. Qualified participants can received a voucher which can **reduce their rent up to 70%** for selected publicly owned housing.

YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE IS GETTING CHEAPER

if you call our navigators before August 15th!



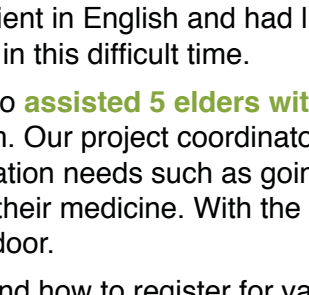
Under the CARES Act signed by President Biden, until August 15th, individuals currently enrolled in Marketplace (Obamacare) coverage are able to **change and reduce their premium when they update their information and income** on healthcare.gov. Uninsured individuals can also sign up and enroll into Marketplace coverage with no restriction during this period.

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.

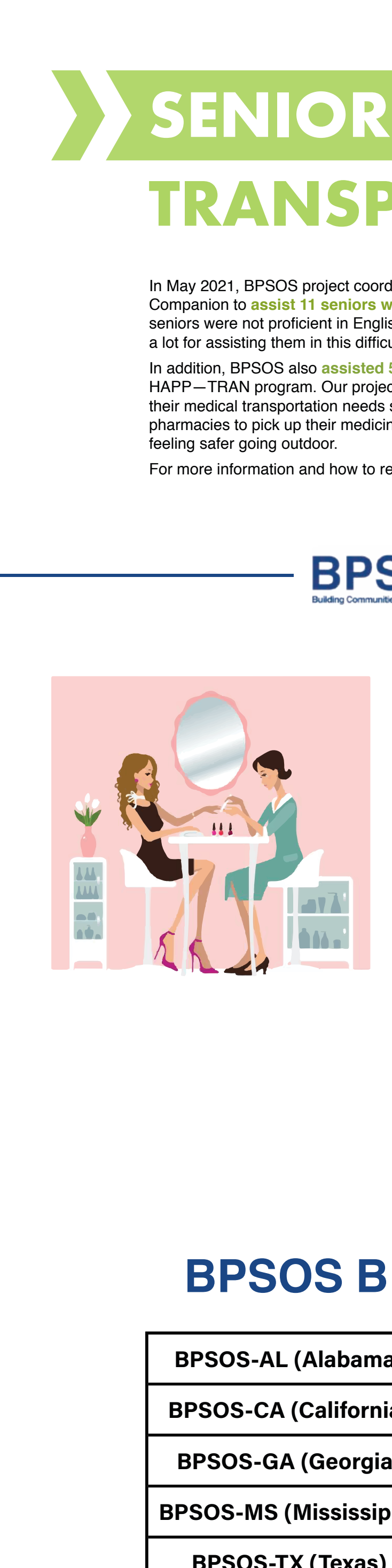
In May 2021, BPSOS navigators successfully **enrolled more than 80 individuals and families** into qualified and affordable health

plans. Even if one is not eligible for Marketplace coverage, our navigators were still able to register and enroll them into Virginia Medicaid program. Furthermore, our navigators put a lot of time and emphasis on educating our clients and keeping them informed about their health insurance options.

Additionally, our senior navigator Duc Truong also handled **10 complicated cases** this May, where he investigated and helped clients **submit appeals** to 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 was in need and eligible for a good health coverage. For more information, please call us at **(703) 538-2190**.



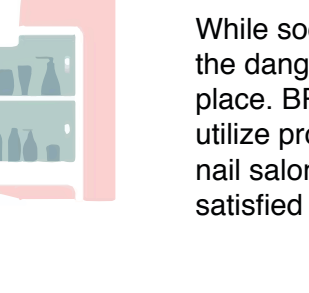
FIGHT AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



In May 2021, BPSOS case managers continued to provide assistance to **3 clients with their divorces and child support**. The client appreciated very much our explanation about their rights.

Our case managers also explained to three clients and their friends about how to **apply online for publicly owned housing** with Fairfax County from June 7 to June 13, 2021.

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



SENIOR TRANSPORTATION

In May 2021, BPSOS project coordinators collaborated with our partner Peer Companion to **assist 11 seniors with registering for vaccination online**. Many seniors were not proficient in English and had limited mobility so they appreciate us a lot for assisting them in this difficult time.

In addition, BPSOS also **assisted 5 elders with medical transportation** via the HAPP—TRAN program. Our project coordinators and partner assisted seniors with their medical transportation needs such as going to their doctor appointments and pharmacies to pick up their medicine. With the rise in vaccination, our seniors are feeling safer going outdoor.

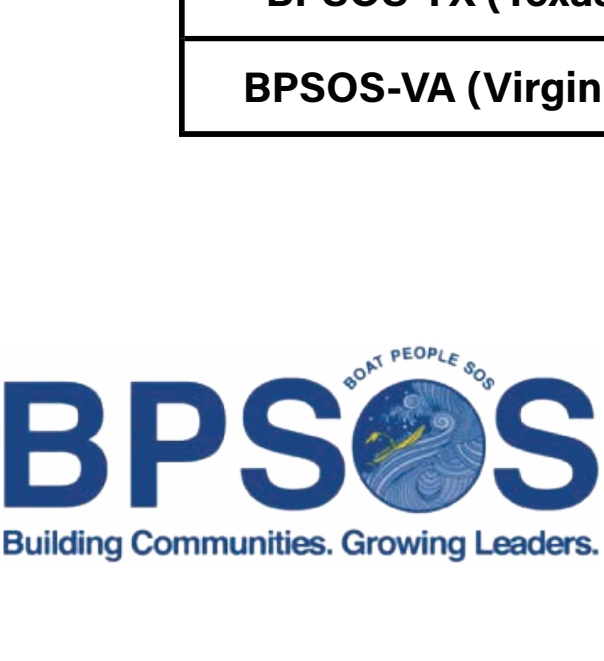
For more information and how to register for vaccination please call **(703) 538-2190**.



SAFETY AT WORK

Throughout April, BPSOS has **conducted 2 CACOS training workshops with a total of 20 participants**, all of whom were local nail salon technicians.

While social distancing, we discussed about the danger of harmful chemicals in the workplace. BPSOS presented how to correctly utilize protective equipment and keeping the nail salon well-ventilated. Participants were satisfied and appreciated this training a lot.



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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