



# INVIGORATE

## ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

### **Expanded Access to Health and Human Services**

**Focused Action Plan Initiatives Referenced: 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9**

- The Department of Human Services (DHS) expanded both same-day access and early-intervention-type mental health and substance use programs, increasing immediate access for residents.
- The Mobile Crisis Co-Responder Team Maintained 95%+ diversion from arrest/hospitalization, now fully staffed with clinicians, supporting more consistent operations.
- In a partnership with Emergency Communications and Citizen Services (ECCS), DHS behavioral health clinicians were embedded at 911 centers to both improve triage and bridging individuals to 988 crisis services.
- An Aging in Place pilot program to aid in empowering older adults to stay safely in their homes launched and expanded dramatically, with 342 referrals and new digital tools (Julota) for coordination.
- Strengthened opioid response through a collaboration of a “Wellness on Wheels” mobile outreach van (in partnership with Sentara, Mission Mobile Medical and various Hampton Roads localities) and six Virginia Opioid Abatement Authority funded local initiatives — including a youth peer mentoring program, opioid education in recreation centers, a Prevention Community Engagement Van and expanded school-based outreach — enhancing prevention, treatment and public engagement across the city and regionally.

### **Proactive Youth and School Support**

**Focused Action Plan Initiatives Referenced: 3.3, 3.5, 3.8**

- Expanded trauma-informed services and embedded clinicians in public schools including expansion into Renaissance Academy and creation of 12 “calm rooms.”
- Since launching the Rapid Response Program in February 2023, the program has referred over 180 students for timely behavioral health assessments and support, ensuring responsive care for youth in crisis.
- DHS partnered in major youth-focused events such as the Champions for Change summit and Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS) Wellness Expo, emphasizing peer education and access to care.

### **Wellness, Parks, and Recreation Investment**

**Focused Action Plan Initiatives Referenced: 3.6, 3.15, 3.16, 3.17**

- Piloted Tranquil Trails & Mind Over Miles mindfulness walks and launched a monthly walking club to promote social connection and mental health through nature. Included mindfulness, journaling and partnerships with medical professionals, reflecting strong resident demand for park-based health initiatives.
- Conducted and presented results from the robust community survey Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment that guides in shaping a strategy for equity-driven capital planning.
- Design efforts for Rudee Park advanced with over 4,000 residents engaged in Phase 1 planning to turn the area into a premier green space.
- Exploration of a bond referendum for parks revealed moderate public support and set the stage for future funding alignment.

## **Arts, Identity, and Cultural Access**

### **Focused Action Plan Initiatives Referenced: 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14**

- New sustainable arts funding stream (20% of amusement tax) operationalized to expand access and support cultural programs.
- As part of this funding stream, a new Creative Neighborhoods Grants launched and funded 13 placemaking projects across eight districts in hopes of fostering local pride, creative expressio, and deeper community engagement.
- Public art is now present in all 10 districts, including “Seagrass and Lily” in District 7 and the Historic Kempsville sculpture in progress.
- Expanded cultural programing initiatives such as VBGIGs, Arts All Over and museum-based events to blend arts, history and culture — bringing multicultural performances and neighborhood arts engagement to all parts of the city, including nontraditional spaces.

## **Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness**

### **Focused Action Plan Initiatives Referenced: 3.18, 3.19, 3.20, 3.21, 3.22**

- ECCS modernized operations with Artificial Intelligence (AI)-assisted call handling, new Watch Desk capabilities, and ongoing facility resiliency upgrades.
- Emergency Management (EM) delivered school-based disaster readiness training to all 55 elementary schools, launched new hurricane preparedness materials, and expanded outreach through public dashboards, civic group partnerships and university collaborations — broadening community resilience and awareness across age groups and sectors.
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) expanded operations through its mobile health services and pharmacy services while outlining and strategizing for the Compassionate Billing program to launch in FY26.
- Fire Department (FD) prioritized responder wellness through mental health programming and the launch of a new Therapy Dog Program — while also enhancing operational readiness with upgraded thermal imaging equipment, new apparatus procurements, and expanded marine and rescue training.
- Police Department (PD) achieved a 17% reduction in violent crime in 2025 compared to 2024 while also expanding Real Time Crime Center tools and Flock camera integrations.



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