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**Release Date:**

December 3, 2024

Virginia Rural Health Association Announces 2024 Award Winners

The annual VRHA Awards honor individuals and organizations for their outstanding contributions to the health and well-being of rural Virginians

The Virginia Rural Health Association (VRHA) is proud to announce the recipients of the 2024 VRHA Awards, recognizing individuals, organizations, and lawmakers for their outstanding contributions to the health and well-being of rural Virginians. Commitment and service to the advancement of rural health in Virginia may be in the form of direct provision of health care services, governmental or educational advocacy, and activities or research that improve the health of communities or populations.

"As always, the awards committee had an abundance of high-quality nominations," said VRHA Executive Director Beth O'Connor. "Selecting winners is difficult because so many people are doing amazing things for rural Virginia."

CHARLES CROWDER JR AWARD

An outstanding individual commitment and service to the advancement of rural health in Virginia

[Yvonne H. Frazier](#) - Director, Healthy Families of Page/Shenandoah Counties
Program Coordinator, JMU Rural Engagement & Capacity-Building Hub (REACH)
Jackson, VA

KEN STUDER FRIEND OF THE ASSOCIATION AWARD

Program, institution or individual that has advocated for or aided the Association in support of the mission

[Heather Karr Anderson](#) - Former Director, Virginia State Office of Rural Health
Simpsonville, SC

BEST PRACTICES IN RURAL HEALTH AWARD

Program or institution that exemplifies commitment and service to the advancement of rural health in Virginia

[Bay Rivers Telehealth Alliance](#) - non-profit telehealth network that supports virtual health projects to improve health and health care in eastern Virginia communities
Tappahannock, VA

LAWMAKER OF THE YEAR

An elected official at any level who has demonstrated support for improving health in rural Virginia

[Delegate Rodney Willett](#) - House District 58
Chair, House Select Committee on Advancing Rural and Small-Town Health Care