

Commonwealth of Virginia

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Announcement

Franconia District Supervisor Rodney Lusk

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Fire and EMS Pharmacy Wins 2025 Achievement Award by the Virginia Association of Counties

I am excited to recognize the Fire and EMS Pharmacy as one of four Fairfax County programs honored with a 2025 Achievement Award by the Virginia Association of Counties in the "Regional Collaboration" category.

In 2024, Fairfax County launched the Fire and EMS Pharmacy to modernize the storage, tracking, and distribution of emergency medications. The first of its kind in Northern Virginia, the pharmacy uses a hub-and-spoke model anchored at Public Safety Headquarters and supported by 11 fire stations that serve as "spokes" for operational field units. These strategically located sites enable rapid, decentralized access to restock medications and supplies, ensuring effective coverage over more than 400 square miles and serving one of Virginia's largest Fire and EMS agencies. This approach enhances patient safety, reduces waste, and fosters collaboration across the Northern Virginia region.

Key operational improvements include real-time dashboards to track expiration timelines and usage trends, comprehensive inventory tracking, and data-informed decision making to anticipate future needs. By centralizing procurement and optimizing inventory management, the program has significantly reduced medication waste and yielded measurable cost savings for the agency. The pharmacy is also integrated with the Department's Community Response Team (CRT), enhancing outreach and field readiness during behavioral health and public health emergencies. More than a local success story, this program is a scalable model for others across the Commonwealth.