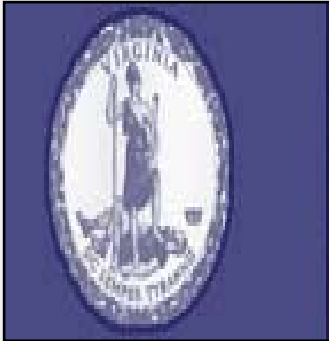




Virginia Commission on Youth

2006 General Assembly Action on Commission on Youth Study Recommendations

2-1-1 **VIRGINIA**

May 17, 2006
Amy M. Atkinson



History of 2-1-1 Commission Initiative

- In Fall 2004, the Commission on Youth (COY), as part of its two-year legislative initiative on Strengthening Families, acted on study recommendations to support the statewide Information & Referral (I&R) System for 2-1-1.
 - During the 2005 General Assembly Session, COY submitted budget amendments to fund the transition of Virginia's current I&R System to 2-1-1 System.
 - Funding was not included in the Conference Report.
- Following the 2005 General Assembly Session, the Commission adopted 2-1-1 as a stand-alone initiative for the 2005 study year.

COY Recommendation for 2-1-1

- In 2005, COY received an update from the Council of Community Services regarding the status of 2-1-1.
- COY agreed to pursue funding for the 2-1-1 initiative during the 2006 General Assembly for the purposes of implementing a statewide 2-1-1 system.



2006 COY Budget Requests for 2-1-1

- For the 2006-2008 biennial budget, COY initiated budget requests for \$1.4 million from the general fund and \$288,201 from the nongeneral fund each year to expand the current I&R System to a 2-1-1 System with expanded hours of operation to 24 hours a day/seven days a week.
- At present, the Senate budget provides \$500,000 from the general fund and \$288,201 from nongeneral funds each year to expand the current I&R System to a 2-1-1 System with service hours from 8:30 a.m. to midnight, 7 days a week.
- There is no appropriation in the House budget.



Current Status of 2-1-1

- On February 10, 2006, 2-1-1 was launched in five of the state's six coverage areas: Roanoke, Staunton, Norfolk, Lynchburg, and Richmond. The number is scheduled to launch in Northern Virginia in 2007.
- Due to current funding and resources, 2-1-1 will have limited access.
- COY is currently awaiting enactment of final budget to determine if funding will be appropriated for the statewide implementation of 2-1-1.