

NEWSLETTER

HISTORIC TRIANGLE DRUG PREVENTION COALITION



RACISM & RACIAL TRAUMA

Racism is a form of prejudice based on race, ethnicity, or skin color that can lead to harmful or unfair treatment. It is different from simply “disliking” someone because it requires one group or person to have more control or some advantage over another based on their race. Racism negatively impacts mental health and well-being. Those who experience acts of racism may show signs of racial trauma. Racial trauma is the mental and emotional harm caused by experiencing racism.

It is also sometimes called race-based traumatic stress (RBTSS). Racial trauma affects individuals, families, neighborhoods, and entire communities. Racial trauma can happen because of a single event, many small acts of discrimination that add up over time, or by witnessing racism. It can happen in person, online, or through media. Experiencing racism can have lasting impacts on mental health. If someone is struggling to feel better and the experience has affected relationships and daily responsibilities, it's important to talk to a mental health professional who understands the culture to help create a safe, supportive space for healing. Learn more with this [fact sheet from Resources to Recover](#).

For the 2026
Black,
Indigenous,
and People of
Color (BIPOC)
Mental Health
Month Toolkit
[Click Here](#)

JULY IS NATIONAL MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

PREVENTION & EDUCATION

MDPV (methylenedioxypropylvalerone), also known as "**Monkey Dust**", has recently resurfaced as a prominent topic of interest within online communities. "Monkey Dust", is a synthetic cathinone belonging to the pyrovalerone class, which functions as a dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor. Typically found in crystalline powder or tablet form and is primarily distributed through online research chemical markets and localized illicit supply chains. Distinct adverse effects from "Monkey Dust" or MDPV consumption, include cardiovascular strain, rapid onset of paranoia, and acute psychosis. [Click here](#) for more information.

POLICY & LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Under a budget compromise announced Tuesday, June 16th by Gov. Abigail Spanberger, Sen. Lashrecse Aird, and Del. Paul Krizek, **Virginia's legal retail cannabis market will open July 1, 2027**. [Click here](#) for more details.

Key details of the compromise:

- **Licensing:** Cap of 350 retail licenses statewide, but licenses will be phased in based on demand and geographic balance as determined by the Cannabis Control Authority (CCA).
- **Public consumption penalty:** \$250 civil fine
- **Product safety:** Strict testing, labeling, and regulation of intoxicating hemp products sold outside licensed cannabis stores.
- 75% of first-year license fee revenue will go to the Cannabis Equity Business Loan Fund to help entrepreneurs in communities harmed by prior cannabis laws.

YOUTH & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Nearly a half-million young people are given some form of probation annually and it serves as a critical gatekeeper to determine whether young people are placed in residential institutions. Probation plays a significant role in perpetuating the vast over representation of African-American, Latino and other youth of color in our nation's justice systems. In this executive summary by the **Annie E. Casey Foundation** it delivers the evidence and rationale for two interdependent approaches. [Click here](#) to read and/or download the report.

TRAUMA & RESILIENCY

The Lighthouse is a **first responders** wellness infrastructure. Public safety agencies carry a responsibility to the people who serve them — not just when something goes wrong. Lighthouse gives the person leading first responder wellness at your agency the tools, structure, and staying power to build something that lasts.

This is a resource written for first responders — not the general public. Free articles and guides on the health challenges specific to this work, plus education and courses for those who want to go deeper. [Click here](#) for now.



HISTORIC TRIANGLE DRUG PREVENTION COALITION

COMMUNITY CORNER

Here is a photo of our First Place winner in the 2026 Coffee Sleeve Design Contest! This young person submitted the only digital design in the contest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be hosting a CADCA Advocacy & Policy training at the next general membership meeting. Please register for this **in-person only** training by [clicking here](#). This training is designed to teach the attendees how to clearly communicate the problem, solution, and desired policy change as well as understand how politics, public opinion, and community engagement influence policy. If your agency would like to sponsor lunch at this meeting please contact the HTDPC Coordinator, Joi Tramuel via email jtramuel@colonialbh.org

Please [click here](#) to review the **Funding Opportunities** webpage for new grants to support your programs!

Upcoming Meetings

Prevention & Education Committee Meeting

July 7, 2026 | 10 - 11a ([Join Here](#))

General Membership Meeting

Williamsburg Police Department
615 Lafayette St. Williamsburg, VA 23185
July 27, 2026 | 9a - 3:30p ([Register Here](#))

FOLLOW US ONLINE!



@htdpc757