FYI Weekly
HEALTH CARE NEWS FOR VIRGINIA'S HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS

You are receiving this e-mail from VHHA because you requested a subscription. Questions and content submissions may be sent to jtwalker@vhha.com.

FEATURED CONTENT

VHHA in Action

News Updates

- White House Issues Executive Order on Developing Six Month Supply of Ingredients for Key Drugs
- Responses Sought for Survey on Impact of Childcare Access on Employers
- CDC Data Indicates COVID-19 Cases Are Rising Across the Nation
- Texas Announces Measles Outbreak Has Ended

Events

- Registration is Open for VHHA 2025 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit on Sept. 25
- Carilion to Host Aug. 26 Webinar on Pregnant Patients with Substance Use Disorder
- Register for Sept. 17 In-Person Workshop on Clinician Satisfaction, Patient Experience

Podcast

- VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features Paramedic Turned Nurse from Valley Health

Around the State

VHHA in Action

Each day, VHHA actively works on behalf of its members, their employees, and Virginians to advance the interests of Virginia's hospitals and health care systems. In the past week, these are some developments of interest to Virginia hospitals and health systems:

VHHA Hosts 'HVIP Day' Gathering for Hospital Teams

- VHHA recently hosted an in-person event at its offices in Glen Allen, VA for teams from several hospitals around Virginia that are home to hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIP). These specialized, evidence-based programs support survivors of serious violence and their families during and after hospitalization with individualized services focused on healing and preventing future injury. HVIPs have successfully reduced re-injury rates among survivors of

community violence and saved tens of millions of dollars in health care costs. Funding for HVIPs flows through the **VHHA Foundation** to support staff positions and the work of 12 HVIPs across 10 health systems serving patients from Southwest Virginia to Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia to Central Virginia. Teams from all funded HVIP sites participated during the recent in-person event: **Ballad Health's Johnston Memorial Hospital**, the **Bon Secours Richmond Market**, **Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital**, **Chesapeake Regional Medical Center**, **Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters**, **Inova Fairfax Hospital**, **Riverside Regional Medical Center**, **Sentara Norfolk General Hospital**, **UVA Health University Medical Center**, and **VCU Health**. More than 40 hospital team members attended a day of programming focused on building relationships with other HVIPs, lessons learned about program implementation, and managing patient caseloads.

VHEMP Hosts Webinar on Healthcare Cybersecurity, Extended Downtime Assessments

- This week, the **Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program** (VHEMP) hosted a webinar to share results from the Healthcare Cybersecurity Assessment and Extended Downtime Healthcare Delivery Assessment, which were conducted in May and June of 2025. Questions about the webinar content may be directed to preparedness@vhha.com.

VHHA Hosts Meeting of Payor Advisory Committee

- This week, VHHA held a meeting of the **Payor Advisory Committee**. The Committee is a forum for hospital payor relations and revenue cycle leaders to discuss priority issues and ongoing payor-related challenges. Contact **Craig Connors** at cconnors@vhha.com to inquire about the committee.

VHHA in the News

- VHHA actively engages with the news media to share public messaging and coordinate member media appearances to showcase the important work done by Virginia hospitals. That work is reflected in recent coverage from Cardinal News, WVTF, the Prince William Times, Cville Right Now, the Virginia Independent, multiple articles from WMRA, and WHRO.

News Updates

White House Issues Executive Order on Developing Six-Month Supply of Ingredients for Key Drugs

U.S. President Donald J. Trump recently issued an executive order directing the **Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response** (ASPR) under the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** (HHS) to develop a list of 26 drugs that are critical to national health and security interests for the purpose of stockpiling the necessary active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) needed to maintain a six-month supply of such resources to place them in the Strategic Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients Reserve (SAPIR). The order also instructs ASPR to update a 2022 list of 86 key medicines and develop a plan to obtain and store a six-month supply of the ingredients.

Responses Sought for Survey on Impact of Childcare Access on Employers

The **Virginia Early Childhood Foundation**, the **Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond**, and the **Virginia Chamber of Commerce** are seeking responses to a brief survey to help better understand how childcare availability impacts employers across the state. The survey is focused on the effects of childcare challenges on workforce recruitment, retention, and productivity as well as employer strategies to support access to childcare for working families. Survey responses are being collected to help inform policy recommendations aimed at strengthening Virginia's childcare system, addressing labor shortages, and ensuring the Commonwealth remains one of the best places for business. Take the survey through this link. The survey deadline is Aug. 27.

CDC Data Indicates COVID-19 Cases Are Rising Across the Nation

The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC) estimates "that COVID-19 infections are growing or likely growing in 34 states, declining or likely declining in 0 states, and not changing in 14 states," according to a recent data assessment. Virginia is among the 34 states with estimated infection growth. National wastewater monitoring to detect virus spread indicates the "viral activity level for COVID-19" is low.

Texas Announces Measles Outbreak Has Ended

This week, the **Texas Department of State Health Services** (DSHS) declared the end of the 2025 measles outbreak concentrated in West Texas because more than 42 days have passed since a new case was reported in any county that previously showed evidence of ongoing transmission. The state will continue to monitor for new cases. As of this month, 762 cases of measles have been confirmed during the outbreak dating to late January, with more than two-thirds of the cases occurring in children. During the outbreak, 99 people were hospitalized and there were two fatalities among school-aged children. Across the U.S., the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC) has reported 1,356 confirmed measles cases in 41 jurisdictions: Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York City, New York state, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. There have been 32 outbreaks reported in 2025, with 87 percent of confirmed cases (1,177 of 1,356) outbreak-associated. For comparison, 16 outbreaks were reported in 2024 and 69 percent of cases (198 of 285) were outbreak-associated.

Events

Registration is Open for VHHA 2025 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit on Sept. 25

Register now for the **2025 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit** scheduled for Sept. 25 as an in-person event at The Westin – Richmond. "Community: Building an Accessible System of Care Across the Continuum" is the theme for the event that will feature innovative behavioral health models, patient-centered strategies, an overview of the expansion of the crisis system across the state, and the opportunity to learn about advances in technology that can improve behavioral health resources. The Summit programming lineup includes keynote remarks on compassionate behavioral health and addiction care as well as sessions on emergency department innovations in behavioral health access, the role of AI in enhancing care, crisis services, autism care, primary care integration, employee

engagement, and law enforcement community relationships. View the program agenda here and register through this link.

Carilion to Host Aug. 26 Webinar on Pregnant Patients with Substance Use Disorder

Clinical leaders from **Carilion Clinic** will lead an upcoming webinar on the topic of "Fentanyl, the Fetus, and the Front Line: Bridging the Gap to Recovery for Pregnant Patients with Substance Use Disorders in the ED." The one-hour webinar is scheduled for noon on Aug. 26 and will feature **Dr. Arthur Ollendorff**, **Dr. Kimberly Simcox**, and **Dr. Madeleine McSpadden** from Carilion. This webinar is the latest in a series that is part of a statewide effort to expand emergency room adoption of best practices in the treatment of addiction across Virginia and to continue progress toward getting patients the evidence-based treatment that they need starting in hospital emergency rooms. The webinar qualifies as CME-based addiction treatment training that can count towards eight hours of DEA-required education when a physician or ACP renews DEA registration. There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required. The session is being offered via Teams webinar. Register through this link. Registrants will receive a unique invitation link that should not be shared.

Register for Sept. 17 In-Person Workshop on Clinician Satisfaction, Patient Experience

Registration is open for an upcoming in-person workshop called "Beyond Burnout: Bridging Patient Experience and Clinician Engagement for Sustainable Healthcare Excellence." The workshop is scheduled for Sept. 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at VHHA offices in Glen Allen, VA. It will be facilitated by **Stacy Palmer**, Senior Vice President and COO at **The Beryl Institute**. Event programming will focus on providing actionable insights on creating a culture that elevates patient and provider voices, mitigates burnout, and drives system-wide transformation. Register through this link.

Podcast

VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features Paramedic Turned Nurse from Valley Health

This episode of VHHA's *Patients Come First* podcast features **Amanda Feaster**, a nurse with **Valley Health's Shenandoah Memorial Hospital** who is a former paramedic with **Valley Medical Transport**. She joins us for a conversation about her work, her career journey from EMS to bedside care, and more. Listen to the episode here and hear past episodes through this link. Podcast episodes are also available through these podcast apps and networks: Apple Podcast, Amazon Music, Spotify, Pandora, Stitcher, TuneIn, SoundCloud, Blubrry, iHeart Radio, Deezer, Podbay, Pocket Casts, the Virginia Audio Collective, and the World Podcast Network. The podcast can also be heard on the radio airwaves – episodes air Sundays at 9 a.m. on 100.5 FM, 107.7 FM, 92.7 FM, and 820 AM across Central Virginia and 1650 AM in Hampton Roads. Send questions, comments, feedback, or guest suggestions to pcfpodcast@vhha.com.

Around the State

Crystal Aiken, RN, with **VCU Health**, and **Haley Daniel**, MRI Technologist with **Bon Secours Southside Medical Center**, have been named recipients of the "Virginians Speak Up for Safety Award" for the second quarter of 2025. Since 2017, the Speak Up Awards have been presented by the **VHHA Center for Healthcare Excellence** in recognition of individuals and teams at Virginia hospitals who speak up to prevent potential harm to patients or other staff members. Aiken was recognized for actions taken in response to a high-risk situation involving a neonatal patient with a Neo-PICC line in place. Daniel was recognized for actions taken in response to a potential unsafe condition for a patient scheduled for an MRI.

Erin Hodson, MSN, Vice President of Revenue Cycle for **Inova**, has been named to the *Becker's Hospital Review* 2025 list of 80 health IT and revenue cycle up-and-comers. In just one year as vice president of revenue cycle at Inova, Hodson has led sweeping change across five hospitals and Inova's medical group, building alignment among previously siloed departments. Despite being new to the revenue cycle field, she orchestrated a high-impact collaboration with health care management consulting company Impact Advisors, driving approximately $100 million in net revenue gains through denial management, accounts receivable reduction, and hierarchical condition category recapture. She has championed data-driven improvements in coding, billing, and patient access.

More than 80 physicians working in Virginia hospitals have been named to the *Newsweek* Top Doctor's list for 2025. The health systems represented on the list include: **Bon Secours**, **Centra Health**, **Chesapeake Regional Healthcare**, **Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters**, **HCA Virginia**, **Inova**, **Mary Washington Healthcare**, **Riverside**, **Sentara Health**, and **VHC Health**. Congratulations to all the physicians recognized on the list. Visit this link to view the full list.