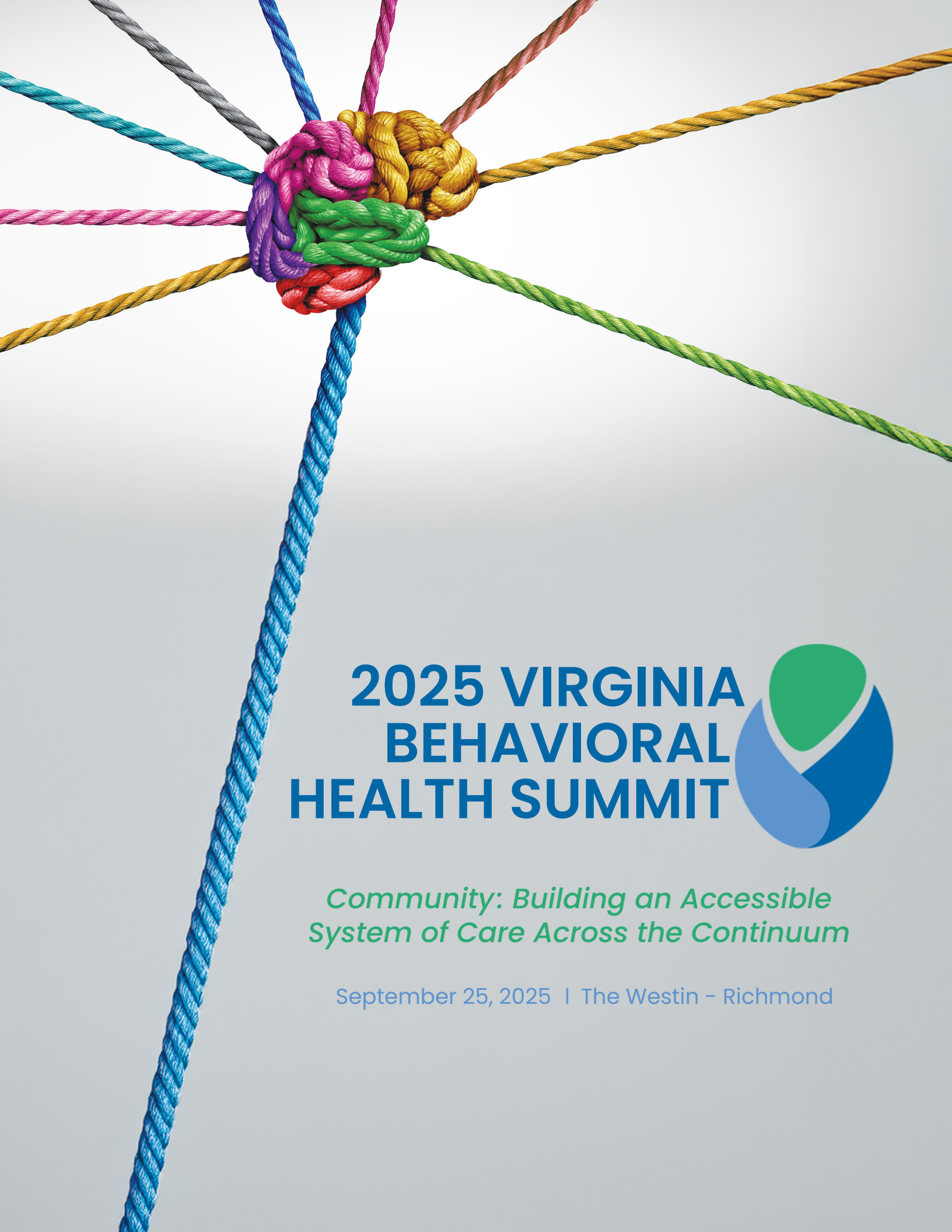

2025 VIRGINIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUMMIT

Community: Building an Accessible System of Care Across the Continuum

September 25, 2025 | The Westin - Richmond

FOREWORD

The delivery of behavioral health care today is increasingly complex and challenging.

There is growing demand for services and greater utilization coinciding with workforce shortages and competition to attract, recruit, and retain trained psychiatrists, psychologists, clinicians, and technicians. Stigma, while still a concern, has receded some as public awareness has grown. At the same time, more Americans now say that their overall mental wellness is declining.

Virginia hospitals provide inpatient care to nearly 60,000 behavioral health patients annually, with private hospitals accepting 92 percent of the total patient population across voluntary and involuntary admissions. Two data points help illustrate these overall trends. Recent analyses by the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA) found that annual hospital admissions for patients with an autism diagnosis nearly doubled from 2020-2024, and that inpatient hospital stays involving a depression diagnosis increased 26 percent over that same time. Those examples underscore the rising demand for behavioral health services.

In this environment, collaboration across organizations on sharing lessons learned, best practices, and effective staffing and treatment strategies is critical. That is the purpose of events like the annual Virginia Behavioral Health Summit - to bring clinicians and stakeholders together for the benefit of patients and the broader care delivery system.

By working together, we can explore innovative models of care integration and coordination that harness technology and forward thinking approaches.
These efforts will help bridge gaps in what is often a fragmented or siloed system, advancing our shared goal of building an accessible continuum of care.

Mark Nantz
President and CEO
Valley Health
VHHA Board Chair

Sean T. Connaughton
President and CEO
VHHA

AGENDA

Breakfast and Registration Location: Pre-function Space	7:30-9 a.m.
Conference Welcome Speakers: R. Brent Rawlings, Melissa Garcia Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B, C	9-9:20 a.m.
Keynote Remarks - Compassionate Behavioral Health Speaker: Ryan Campbell Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B, C	9:20-10:25 a.m.
Break - Book Signing Speaker: Ryan Campbell Location: Blue Ridge Room A, B	10:25-10:50 a.m.
Bridging the Gap: Emergency Department Innovations in Behavioral Health Access Speakers: Dr. John H. Burton, Dr. Zeina Saliba, Jessica Shelton, Dr. Keith White, Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B, C	10:50-11:45 a.m.
Buffet Lunch Location: Pre-function Space	11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
Transition to Next Sessions	12:45-1 p.m.
Transforming Behavioral Health with AI: Enhancing Access, Efficiency, and Ethics of Implementation Speaker: Dr. Ken Dunham Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B	1-2 p.m.
Crisis Services Continuum and 988 Impact: The Communities We Serve Speakers: Joseph Getch, Curt Gleeson Location: Chesapeake Ballroom C	1-2 p.m.

AGENDA

Breaking Silos: Advancing Autism Care Through Collaboration — 1-2 p.m.
Speakers: Dr. Emily Bradshaw, Crystal Collette
Location: Blue Ridge Room A, B

Transition to Next Sessions — 2-2:15 p.m.

Practical Tips for Integrating Behavioral Health in Primary Care — 2:15-3:15 p.m.
Speakers: Dr. Ken Dunham, Melissa Garcia, Nedra Moncrief-Craig, Dr. Bergen Nelson, Dr. Christopher Walsh
Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B

Community Relationships: Mental Health Providers and Law Enforcement — 2:15-3:15 p.m.
Speakers: Stacey Johnson, Jason Price
Location: Chesapeake Ballroom C

Employee Engagement in Behavioral Health — 2:15-3:15 p.m.
Speakers: Kurt Hooks, Jaime Lovelace, Erin Karnolt, Joey Trapani
Location: Blue Ridge Room A, B

Transition to Next Session — 3:15-3:30 p.m.

Keynote Remarks - Growing Up Farley: A Tale of Addiction, Love, and Forgiveness — 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Speaker: Tom Farley
Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B, C

Closing Remarks — 4:30-4:45 p.m.
Speaker: Stacey Johnson
Location: Chesapeake Ballroom A, B, C

SPEAKER

Dr. Emily Bradshaw, PhD
Director, Doctoral Psychology Internship Training
Centra Health

Dr. Emily Bradshaw is the Centra Doctoral Psychology Internship Training Director.

As Training Director, Dr. Bradshaw teamed with Dr. Collette to develop a rigorous internship opportunity for doctoral level psychology interns and looks forward to an APA site visit this Fall. Dr. Bradshaw regularly collaborates with Centra staff and current interns to promote growth and knowledge across a variety of meaningful training topics.

Dr. Emily Bradshaw (she/her) holds dual licenses with the Virginia Department of Health in both Clinical Psychology and School Psychology. She is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist. Dr. Bradshaw received her PhD from North Carolina State University with specialization in School Psychology and worked for several years as a school psychologist in urban, suburban and rural areas, as well as the correctional system in Virginia.

Dr. Bradshaw has expertise in psychological assessment including neuropsychological screening and autism evaluations. Dr. Bradshaw completed her post-doctoral training providing risk assessments for violence toward others within a large school district. Dr. Bradshaw joined Centra in 2015. With focus and specialization in child psychiatric assessment and treatment, Dr. Bradshaw is the psychologist assigned to Bridges Residential and Centra's Autism and Developmental Services Program. Dr. Bradshaw has recently authored a chapter focused on differential diagnosis of Disruptive Mood Disorder. In addition to Training Director, Dr. Bradshaw is also a primary intern supervisor and provides weekly supervision for interns assigned to her.

SPEAKER

Dr. John H. Burton, MD
Senior Vice President and Medical Director
Carilion Clinic

Dr. John Burton serves as Senior Vice President and Medical Director for Carilion Clinic in the area of Patient Advocacy and Clinical Risk Management.

From 2010 to 2023, Dr. Burton was the Chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine for Carilion Clinic.

In the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, Doctor Burton is a Tenured Professor and the Founding Department Chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine.

From 2015 to 2018, Dr. Burton served as the Vice President of Medical Affairs for Carilion Medical Center, Roanoke's Level One Trauma Center.

Dr. Burton earned his BA in Chemistry and Medical Degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He completed his Residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Burton served as Research Director in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Maine Medical Center in Portland, ME from 1998 to 2006. He then served as Residency Program Director, Vice Chair, and Interim Chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine at Albany Medical Center in Albany, NY before accepting the position as Chair of Emergency Medicine at Carilion Clinic in 2010.

SPEAKER

Ryan Campbell
Keynote Speaker on
Mental Health and Resilience

Ryan Campbell is one of the world's leading mental health and resilience keynote speakers.

His gripping story of adventure and adversity leaves audiences in laughter, tears, and inspired into action.

As a teenager, Ryan became the youngest solo pilot to fly around the world and was named one of Australia's 50 great explorers.

But everything changed after a tragic plane crash that left him with a paraplegic diagnosis, told he would never walk again.

Over the next several years, Ryan's incredible recovery back to walking and flying again defied the odds. While he ticked the boxes that defined success, his mental health had never been worse. Like many in today's world, Ryan was struggling with burnout, anxiety, and depression. His missing puzzle piece wasn't found in a massive global expedition or miraculous recovery. Ryan's greatest lesson was parked right in his driveway.

Today, Ryan speaks to organizations around the world about the life-changing power of prioritizing joy. Through the story of his Elvis-inspired 1960 pink Cadillac, he shares accessible and attainable frameworks that will immediately improve mental health, fuel performance, and transform culture. Through harnessing the power of joy, Ryan helps audiences shift their thinking so that they can step back in order to show up better. All by asking one simple question...

What's Your Pink Cadillac?

SPEAKER

Crystal Collette, DHA, FACHE, BCBA, LBA, IBA
Senior Director
Centra Health

Crystal Collette, DHA, FACHE, BCBA, LBA, IBA is a healthcare executive with more than a decade of experience leading multidisciplinary teams and overseeing complex behavioral health operations.

As the Senior Director of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Centra Health, she is committed to building more accessible, equitable systems of care, particularly for children and adolescents.

With a Doctorate in Healthcare Administration and credentials as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE) and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), Dr. Collette brings a data-driven, people-centered approach to leadership.

She is passionate about mentoring emerging leaders, fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration, and driving sustainable innovation in healthcare delivery.

In addition to her executive role, Dr. Collette teaches undergraduate courses in Healthcare Administration and contributes actively to the broader healthcare community.

She currently serves as Sponsorship Director for the Central Virginia Healthcare Executives Group (CVHEG), participates in the Western Region Care Navigation Committee with the Virginia Mental Health Access Program, and leads a special interest group with the Council of Autism Service Providers focused on multidisciplinary partnerships.

Outside of work, Dr. Collette finds balance through travel, Broadway shows, reading, and spending time outdoors with her family.

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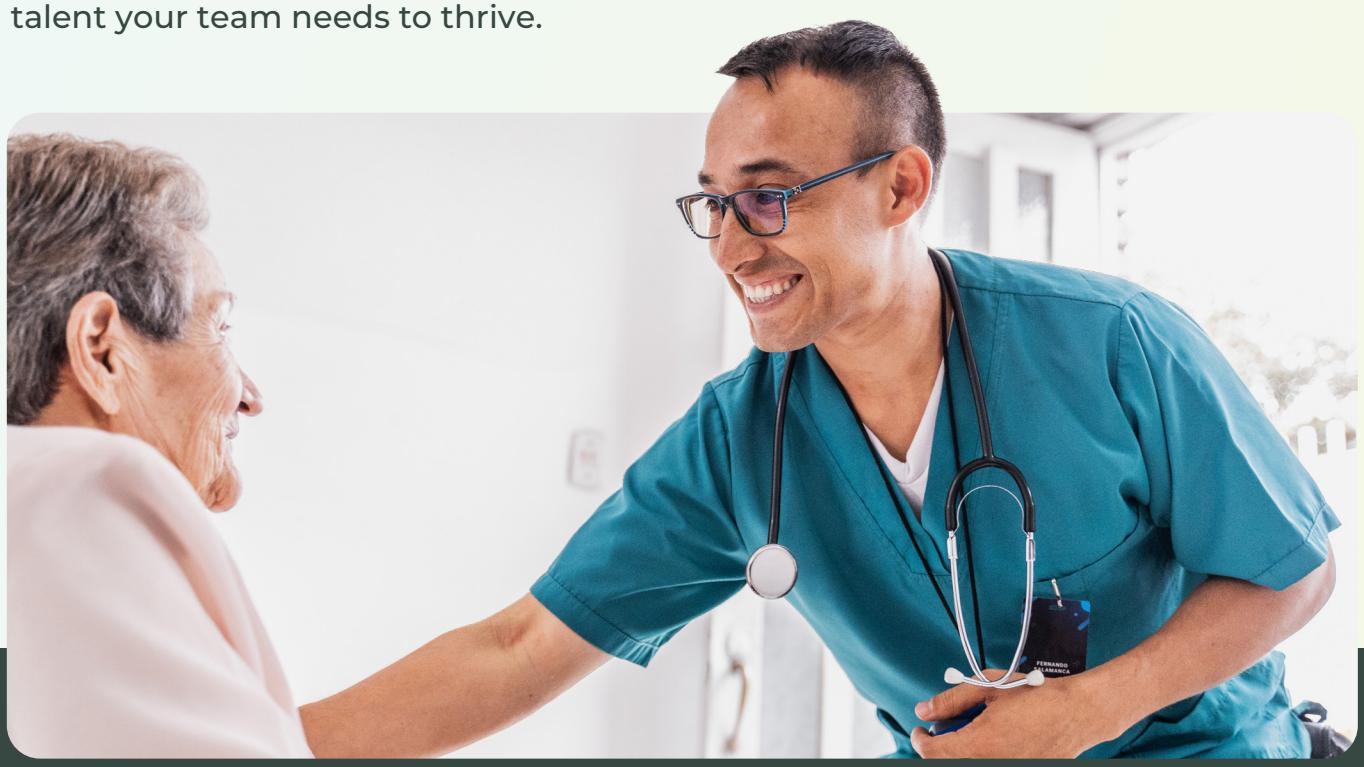

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SPEAKER

Dr. Ken Dunham, MD, FAPA, CPE
Executive Director Medical Operations, Behavioral Health
Sentara Health

Dr. Dunham is board-certified in psychiatry and internal medicine.

His role as Sentara's lead clinical psychiatrist is to define, develop and implement strategic programs for behavioral health across the enterprise.

He has served in leadership roles in academics, state owned hospitals, non-profits, and health plans.

Dr. Dunham is a certified physician executive who continues in clinical practice.

SPEAKER

Tom Farley
Keynote Speaker on Substance Use Addiction and Recovery

Tom Farley grew up in Madison, WI and graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in Marketing.

He began his career in the banking and finance industry before running The Chris Foundation (1999-2012), a nationally recognized non-profit focused on substance abuse prevention.

In 2008 he wrote “The Chris Farley Show,” a *New York Times* bestseller about his late brother, comedian Chris Farley.

He has appeared on *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, and *Larry King Live* to discuss addiction and recovery.

Now in recovery himself, Farley is a passionate advocate for mental health and addiction treatment. He works at Recovery.com, connecting people with the resources they need to heal.

As a speaker, he shares his journey to break stigma, inspire hope, and foster connection. He lives in Madison, WI.

SPEAKER

Melissa Garcia, LCSW, MBA
Division Director of
Hospital Based Operations
VHC Health

Melissa Garcia, LCSW, MBA, is the Division Director of Hospital Based Operations with VHC Health, located in Arlington, VA.

Garcia is a dedicated healthcare leader and LCSW and is passionate about transforming the lives of individuals and communities through high-quality care.

She has extensive experience in clinical practice, leadership, and program development and has worked in various settings in both the public and private hospital sector.

In her leadership roles and her role as VHHA Behavioral Health Steering Committee Chair, she fosters collaborative environments, reduces barriers to care, and bridges her clinical expertise and strategic mindset to support those we serve and deliver meaningful results.

SPEAKER

Joseph Getch, MS, MBA
Chief Executive Officer
HopeLink Behavioral Health

Joseph Getch has been HopeLink Behavioral Health's Chief Executive Officer since July 2020, where he has worked since 2005.

He previously served as HopeLink's Chief Operating Officer and, before that, Chief Financial Officer.

As CEO, he provides the leadership, management, and vision necessary to ensure that HopeLink meets its mission and strategic priorities. HopeLink delivers an array of programs and services, including psychosocial rehabilitation day programs, mental health skills-building, mental health outpatient, transition to independence process, coordinated specialty care, individual supported employment and education, supportive housing, care navigation, and several peer programs.

HopeLink is also one of the largest contact centers in the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Network, which is comprised of over 200 centers nationally.

On a national level, HopeLink is a National 988 Back-up Center – answering 988 calls from other states when they are unable to answer their calls, and a National 988 Text and Chat Center.

In Virginia, HopeLink is answering state 988 call volume as well as chats and texts and is contracted as the Regional Crisis Call Center in Virginia Health Planning Regions (HPR) 1, 2, 4, and 5 – responsible for between 85% and 90% of total crisis call volume in Virginia.

HopeLink's contact center handles more than 300,000 contacts annually.

SPEAKER

Curt Gleeson, MEd, LPC
Assistant Commissioner,
Crisis Services
Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

Formerly a middle and high school teacher, Gleeson completed his Master of Education degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Lynchburg College in 2012.

He began his clinical career that year with Region Ten Community Services Board as a full-time prevention specialist and a part-time Certified Preadmission Screening Clinician and became a Licensed Professional Counselor in 2017.

Finding his passion in crisis intervention, he ultimately became the Director of Emergency Services at Region Ten in 2016. While in that role he served as chair of the VACSB statewide Emergency Service Council and participated in numerous statewide policy and practice workgroups.

In January 2023, he moved to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) as the Assistant Commissioner of Crisis Services. Gleeson believes in service and feels privileged to serve in this role to help change the paradigm of how we serve and care for each other in times of crisis.

SPEAKER

Kurt Hooks, PhD, LPC-S, MPH
Chief Executive Officer
Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center

Dr. Kurt Hooks has 25 years of behavioral health professional experience including executive administration, program development, clinical supervision, direct clinical care, collegiate educator, and community advocacy for behavioral health enhancement and reform.

Dr. Hooks currently is the CEO of Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center – the largest capacity, acute care, private, free standing behavioral health facility in Virginia. He received his PhD from ODU in Counseling and Behavioral Health Leadership, is a Licensed Professional Counselor, and certified as a LPC Supervisor to provide supervision for individuals seeking licensure.

Dr. Hooks serves on the Board of Directors for the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association and is the former Chair of the VHHA Behavioral Health Steering Committee. In both roles, he has worked with stakeholders to identify behavioral health priorities for Virginia and advocated for crafting legislative language to positively impact outcomes for Virginians in need of behavioral health services. He also serves as an invited member of the Virginia Beach 5/31 Memorial Committee. The Committee is responsible for creating a permanent memorial commemorating the 5/31 mass shooting at the Municipal Center in 2019.

Some areas of expertise and research include jail diversion for individuals in mental health crisis, emergency room diversion for individuals in mental health crisis, and immediate opioid interventions for individuals in substance use crisis.

He has developed and implemented multiple public-private stakeholder program partnerships to positively impact these issues. It is a privilege to continue to work with dedicated stakeholders to bring awareness and improvements to systems of care for behavioral health in Virginia.

SPEAKER

Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA
Hospital President
Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center

Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA, is the Hospital President and Vice President of Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center (RMHRC) in Hampton, VA.

RMHRC is part of the Riverside Health System that offers a comprehensive range of medical services.

Johnson is originally from Connecticut before moving south. She has more than 15 years of experience in the behavioral health field with prominent authority on the development and operation of behavioral health and addiction treatment programs.

She started her career as a social worker, which provides a unique perspective now that she works primarily in administration. Johnson's passion is to be able to meet the mental and behavioral health needs of all individuals as well as reducing stigma associated with mental illness.

She hopes to break down the barrier to treatment and open the door to discuss mental health in a positive way while working to provide innovative and community centered treatment options.

SPEAKER

Erin Karnolt, MSN, RN
Nursing Manager, Adult Psychiatry
VCU Health

Erin Karnolt, MSN, RN, has had a notable career at VCU Health spanning nearly two decades.

She has served in multiple nursing capacities since 2006.

Karnolt began as a nursing tech before graduating into a bedside nurse. She has also served as a Clinical Coordinator, Nurse Clinician, and Nurse Manager.

Karnolt earned her Master's Degree in Nursing and Healthcare Administration in 2016.

When she is not at work, she spends most of her time with her husband and kids. She stays busy watching her kids in various sporting events or relaxing at the lake.

SPEAKER

Jaime Lovelace, MSN, RN, PMH-BC
Nursing Director
Virginia Treatment Center for Children

Jaime Lovelace serves as the Nursing Director at the Virginia Treatment Center for Children, part of the VCU Health System in Richmond, VA.

With more than two decades of experience in behavioral health nursing, she is recognized for her commitment to delivering compassionate care to children, their families, and the professionals who serve them.

Over the past decade, she has held a variety of nursing leadership roles focusing on strategic initiatives to strengthen workforce development, enhance clinical operations, and drive quality improvement across the care continuum.

Lovelace is ANCC board certified in psychiatric-mental health nursing and holds a Master of Science in Nursing degree from Duquesne University.

She is an active member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association and currently serves as Member-at-Large for the Virginia Chapter.

SPEAKER

Nedra Moncrief-Craig, BS, MBA, PhD, LNHA, ALA, LBSW, CDP, HACP, CMDCP
System Director of Behavioral Health Services
Sentara Health

Nedra Moncrief-Craig is the System Director of Behavioral Health Services for Sentara.

She started her career in behavioral health as the Chief Executive Officer for the State of Alabama Department of Mental Health and has worked as interim director, behavioral health consultant, clinical consultant, compliance surveyor, nursing home administrator, and assisted living facilities and specialty care assisted living facilities executive director.

Moncrief-Craig is a licensed nursing home administrator, social worker, assisted living facility administrator and specialty care assisted living administrator.

She is Certified as a Dementia Practitioner from the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners, Certified Dementia Educator and Trainer (DETA), Certified Montessori Dementia Care Professional (CMDCP), a Healthcare Accreditation Certified Professional (HACP), and holds a certification in Gerontology.

SPEAKER

Dr. Bergen Nelson, MD, MS, FAAP
Associate Professor
of Pediatrics
Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU

Bergen Nelson, MD, MS, FAAP, is a general pediatrician at the Children's Hospital of Richmond (CHoR) at VCU, serves in the VA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics as Early Childhood Champion, and on several statewide and regional boards serving young children in Virginia.

Dr. Nelson is a graduate of Wellesley College and Harvard Medical School, and completed pediatrics residency training at the University of California, San Francisco, in the inaugural class of the Pediatric Leadership for the Underserved (PLUS) program.

Prior to starting medical school, Dr. Nelson was a teacher in a bilingual elementary school classroom for 2 years in New York City. After residency, she completed fellowship training in the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her research and advocacy work for the past 20 years has centered on partnerships between pediatricians and educators, especially as they relate to early childhood development, developmental screening, and connections to services for young children with developmental and behavioral concerns.

Dr. Nelson also served as the Medical Director for Reach Out And Read VA, the state network of a national early childhood literacy promotion intervention delivered in primary care pediatrics, and the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant through the Virginia Department of Health, and leads the PCP education efforts for the early childhood expansion of the VA Mental Health Access Program (VMAP).

SPEAKER

Jason Price, BS
Assistant Chief
Hampton Police Department

Assistant Chief Jason Price serves as the Operations Branch Commander for the Hampton Police Division in Hampton, VA.

With 29 years of dedicated service, he leads a branch that manages the response to approximately 150,000 calls for service each year — ensuring swift, effective, and community-centered policing across the city.

Over the course of his career, Assistant Chief Price has held a variety of leadership roles and has remained committed to advancing public safety and community trust. He is a proud member of the Hopeful Hampton Steering Committee, a collaborative initiative focused on reducing gun violence and improving quality of life for all Hampton residents.

He holds an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from Virginia Peninsula Regional College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Liberty University. His continued professional development reflects a passion for service, innovation, and strategic leadership in modern policing.

Outside of uniform, Price enjoys the outdoors and values downtime with his wife, four children, and their loyal dachshund, Simon. His commitment to both family and community is at the heart of his approach to leadership and public service.

SPEAKER

R. Brent Rawlings
Senior Vice President and General Counsel
VHHA

R. Brent Rawlings is Senior Vice President and General Counsel at VHHA. His role at VHHA includes legal, governmental, and regulatory affairs.

He holds a JD degree from the University of Richmond, an MHA degree from Virginia Commonwealth University, and a BS degree in Health Policy and Administration from Pennsylvania State University.

Rawlings is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE) and board certified in health care management. He is also a member of the Virginia State Bar and Virginia Bar Association and has been recognized among Virginia's Legal Elite by *Virginia Business* magazine.

Prior to joining VHHA, Rawlings worked in the private practice of law for more than eight years, focusing on health care regulatory and transactional matters including representation of hospitals and health systems, academic medical centers, physician groups, ancillary providers, long-term care facilities, senior care communities, and managed care plans. Before attending law and graduate schools, Rawlings worked in the managed care industry for approximately four years. During graduate school, he worked for VHHA as an administrative intern.

SPEAKER

Dr. Zeina Saliba
Chief, Addiction Services Division and Physician Informatics
Inova

Dr. Zeina Saliba is a physician educator and advocate, passionate about care excellence and dedicated to system improvement.

She is committed to meeting patients where they are and helping them get where they want to go, with a focus on identifying their goals.

She is excited about infusing medicine with creativity and partnering with communities on solutions to support patients and their families.

SPEAKER

Jessica Shelton, LPC
Manager of Behavioral Health Integration
Valley Health

Jessica Shelton, LPC, is the Manager of Behavioral Health Integration at Valley Health, where she spearheads initiatives to embed patient-centered mental health services within acute care settings.

Her leadership has advanced the implementation of evidence-based models such as SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) for early intervention, the ED Bridge program for buprenorphine induction, and the integration of Peer Specialists to enhance recovery support.

With a robust clinical background, Shelton has worked extensively with individuals in acute crisis and alongside first responders. She is certified in Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and has served as a preadmission screening clinician and crisis programs manager at the Community Services Board, where she cultivated a deep commitment to serving vulnerable and underserved populations.

Shelton is a seasoned Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) instructor and serves as a peer-to-peer clinician for a local police department and the VALEAP organization.

Her work reflects a passion for transforming mental health care delivery in high-pressure environments. Currently, she is pursuing a doctorate in Psychology with a concentration in behavioral health leadership and healthcare management, furthering her mission to drive systemic change in acute care mental health services.

SPEAKER

Joey Trapani, MBA
Chief Operating Officer
Bon Secours Richmond

Joey Trapani is a dynamic and accomplished healthcare executive with more than a decade of leadership experience across behavioral health, acute care, and integrated delivery systems.

Currently serving as Vice President of Behavioral Health for Bon Secours Richmond, he brings a strategic, outcomes-driven approach to operations, growth, and quality care.

Throughout his career, Trapani has held executive roles including Chief Operating Officer at both St. Francis Medical Center and Richmond Community Hospital, where he successfully led multimillion-dollar expansion projects, improved hospital quality scores, and oversaw service line development in high-impact areas like cardiovascular care and behavioral health. Under his leadership, facilities achieved Leapfrog “A” ratings, significant throughput improvements, and industry recognitions for inclusivity and access to care.

Before joining Bon Secours, Trapani served as Senior Vice President at Diamond Healthcare, where he pioneered innovative behavioral health business models and led national joint ventures. His early leadership at Universal Health Services (UHS) included CEO and COO roles, where he expanded services, improved EBITDA performance, and led major construction and regulatory projects.

Trapani holds an MBA from the University of Richmond and a BS from the University of Central Florida. He is actively engaged in the community and has served on boards and task forces, including the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association Board, Chesterfield Communities in Schools Board of Directors, and the Richmond Ambulance Authority. Recognized for his collaborative style and ability to drive both clinical and financial performance, Trapani is passionate about advancing health equity, developing high-performing teams, and delivering care that transforms communities.

SPEAKER

Dr. Christopher Walsh, MD, FACP
Vice President of Medical Affairs
VHC Health Physicians

Dr. Christopher Walsh, MD, FACP, is a board-certified internist at VHC Health Primary Care – Shirlington with a deep commitment to evidence-based preventative health care.

He currently serves as the Vice President of Medical Affairs for VHC Health Physicians.

Prior to this, he held the position of Chief of VHC Health Physicians, Division of Primary Care. Additionally, Dr. Walsh is an active Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine, where he instructs medical students during their outpatient medical clerkship.

From 2006-2014, he held the role of Team Internist for the Washington Capitals professional hockey team.

Dr. Walsh is a member of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) Internal Medicine Specialty Board, and the Internal Medicine Exam Approval Committee.

Within VHC Health Physicians, he serves as the Chair of both the Ambulatory Informatics Committee and the Quality Committee. He has previously contributed to the hospital's Resource Utilization, Credentials, and By-Laws Committees.

SPEAKER

Dr. Keith White
Chief Medical Officer,
Behavioral Health
Ballad Health

Dr. Keith White is a board-certified psychiatrist and physician executive with dual specialization in psychiatry and addiction medicine.

As Chief Medical Officer for Behavioral Health at Ballad Health, Dr. White provides visionary leadership over behavioral health strategy, clinical governance, and the expansion of integrated services throughout rural and underserved regions.

Dr. White earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology degree from Texas A&M University and completed a medical degree at St. George's University School of Medicine. Additional training includes a diploma in Biomedical Sciences (with Commendation) through the Keith B. Taylor Global Scholars Program at Northumbria University, followed by a psychiatry residency at East Tennessee State University, where Dr. White served as Chief Resident.

With ongoing clinical practice across multiple facilities in Tennessee and Virginia, as well as expertise in outpatient addiction medicine, Dr. White is passionate about workforce development, data-driven care models, and the integration of addiction medicine into broader healthcare environments. A commitment to innovation and equitable healthcare delivery informs Dr. White's work as a leader, educator, and advocate in the behavioral health field.

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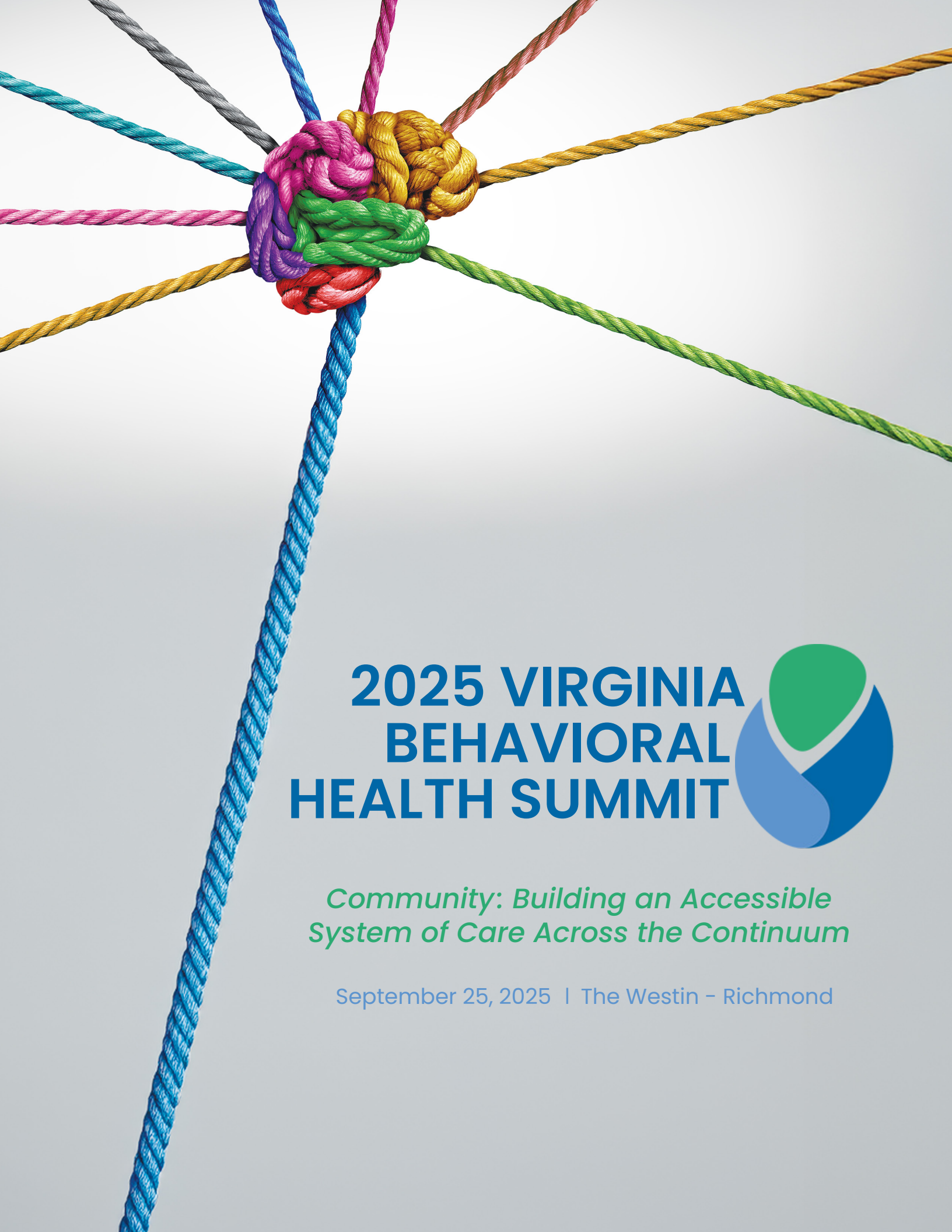

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