



# FYI Weekly

HEALTHCARE NEWS FOR VIRGINIA'S  
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS

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## 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 systems. In the past week, these are some developments of interest to Virginia hospitals and health systems:

### VHHA Co-Hosts 2026 Virginia Chamber of Commerce Healthcare Conference

- This week, the **Virginia Chamber of Commerce** held the [2026 Virginia Healthcare Conference](#) at the Greater Richmond Convention Center. VHHA served as a co-host for the event that featured industry leaders, informative panel discussions, and keynote remarks from **Virginia Health and Human Resources Secretary Marvin B. Figueroa**. Leaders from **Augusta Health, Bon Secours, Carilion Clinic, Riverside Health, and Sentara Health** were among the featured panelists at the conference. VHHA Vice President of Government Affairs **Julie Dime** moderated one of the panel discussions.

### Virginia HVIP Programs Have Helped Nearly 10,000 Patients, Reduced Re-Injury Rates, Saved Millions

- This month, the nation will recognize [Gun Violence Awareness Day](#) and [Hospitals Against Violence Day](#) as a time to honor survivors of gun violence and to highlight ongoing efforts to combat community and healthcare workplace violence. Several Virginia hospitals are at the forefront of this work as sites of care that support Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs) which provide trauma-informed care and an array of personalized support services to individuals who have been impacted by community and domestic violence. HVIPs in Virginia have served 9,925 patients since 2019. Individuals who have been engaged in an HVIP program have an estimated re-injury rate of less than 3 percent. In contrast, the national re-injury rate average for individuals impacted by community violence is 40 percent. Beyond that dramatic re-injury rate reduction, Virginia HVIPs have yielded \$101.8 million in healthcare cost avoidance while serving a patient population that is 60 percent Medicaid and 20 percent uninsured. With the recent addition of HVIPs at the **UVA Health University Medical Center** and **Ballad Health's Johnston Memorial Hospital**, Virginia now has 12 HVIPs at 10 health systems serving communities across the Commonwealth. Other HVIP site locations include the [Bon Secours Violence Response Team](#), the [Violent Injury – Recovery and Support Program \(VIRS\)](#) at **Carilion Clinic**, the [Healing Opportunities Providing Empowerment \(HOPE\)](#) program at **Chesapeake Regional Healthcare**, [Safer Futures](#) at **Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD)**, the [Inova Ewing Forensic Assessment and Consultation \(FACT\) Teams](#), the [Hand-in-Hand](#) program at **Riverside Regional Medical Center**, the [Foresight Violence Intervention Program](#) at **Sentara Norfolk General Hospital**, and [Bridging the Gap](#) and [Project Empower](#) at **VCU Medical Center**. Two Virginia hospital nurse leaders affiliated with HVIPs – [Cassie Herman of Riverside Health](#) and [Bonnie Price of Bon Secours Mercy Health](#) – recently won prestigious national awards for their work in this space. Virginia HVIPs are supported by the [VHHA Foundation](#), the charitable affiliate of the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA), which administers grant funding and provides consultative guidance on program operations. By building partnerships between hospitals, social services, and community organizations, HVIPs takes a

public health approach to breaking cycles of violence by connecting victims with care during and after hospital treatment. Read more [here](#).

#### **View VHEMP Webinar Recording on Ebola Virus Disease**

- The **Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP)** – a partnership between the **Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA)**, the **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)**, and the regional healthcare coalitions – recently hosted a webinar to provide an overview on Ebola virus disease. Several African nations are currently experiencing an Ebola outbreak. View a webinar recording [here](#) and see presentation slides through this [link](#).

#### **VHHA Hosts Meeting of Hospital Communication Officers Committee**

- VHHA recently held a meeting of the **Virginia Hospital Communication Officers Committee**. The Committee is a forum for hospital communication and marketing leaders to discuss matters related to hospital perception management as well as communication and marketing strategy. Contact **Julian Walker** at [jwalker@vhha.com](mailto:jwalker@vhha.com) to inquire about the committee.

#### **View VHHA Documentary on Hospital Stories, Healthcare History Across the Commonwealth**

- The new short film VHHA produced to honor healthcare professionals during the Association's [100<sup>th</sup> anniversary](#) is now available online. *Healing and Hope: Hospitals' Legacy of Service in Virginia* is the documentary title and the film can be viewed online [here](#). Last month, the **Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA)** hosted a series of events in theaters around Virginia to show the short film that highlights the positive economic and public health impact of hospitals, their evolving work, and their history in Virginia as told through the stories of Virginia patients and providers. Free film screening events were hosted May 11-18 in Wytheville, Glen Allen, Woodbridge, Woodstock, Hampton, and Roanoke during **National Nurses Week** and **National Hospital Week**. Read more about the project [here](#). View a documentary trailer [here](#), an accompanying program [here](#), and photos from the premiere events through this [link](#).

## **News Updates**

#### **Presidential Executive Order Calls for Revised Childhood Vaccine Recommendations**

**U.S. President Donald J. Trump** recently issued an [executive order](#) directing the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** and its **Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)** to take action to update the nation's childhood vaccine schedule to align it "with scientific evidence and best practices from peer, developed countries while preserving access to vaccines currently available to Americans." The directive instructs the CDC and ACIP to evaluate a review of scientific assessment by the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** that compared United States childhood immunization recommendations with those of peer nations. That assessment found "the United States currently recommends more childhood vaccines than any peer nation, including more than twice as many vaccine doses as some European nations, and identified a set of consensus vaccines that are consistently recommended in all peer countries."

#### **CMS Accepting Public Comments on Medicaid Work Requirement Rule**

As part of the policy changes enacted under H.R. 1, the budget reconciliation legislation of 2025, certain adults enrolled in Medicaid will be required to complete 80 monthly hours of qualified community engagement, which could include employment, education, or community service, among other activities. The work requirement is a condition of maintaining Medicaid eligibility and it applies to certain non-pregnant adults ages 19-64. Those exempt from the rule include pregnant and postpartum individuals, those who are disabled or medically frail, and parents and caretakers of children under 14 or people with disabilities, among others. States are expected to implement the Medicaid work requirement standards by Jan. 1, 2027. The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** recently issued an [interim final rule](#), provisions of which are effective as of July 31. Public comments are being accepted through that date. Read more [here](#).

### **CMS Issues Final Rule Updating Organ Transplant Access Model**

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** recently issued a [final rule](#) pertaining to the Increasing Organ Transplant Access Model (IOTA) rule, which is a six-year mandatory model that applies to certain kidney transplant hospitals beginning July 1, 2025. The rule finalizes a proposal to raise the low-volume threshold from 11 kidney transplants performed annually during each of the baseline years to 15. It also includes Medicare Advantage beneficiaries in the calculation of upside and downside risk payments.

### **No Surprises Act Independent Dispute Resolution Process Updated in CMS Final Rule**

Several federal agencies recently issued a [final rule](#) to update the independent resolution (IDR) process for resolving claim disputes between healthcare providers, health insurers, and air ambulance service providers under the No Surprises Act. The rule is intended to streamline the IDR process. Read more [here](#).

### **HHS, Surgeon General Issue Advisory Warning on the Dangers of Screen Time for Children**

The **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** and the **Office of the Surgeon General** recently issued an advisory warning about the [“Harms of Screen Use”](#) for children and adolescents. The advisory toolkit seeks to raise “national awareness about the growing risks associated with excessive and harmful screen use among young people” who are now said to “spend as much or more time on screens as they do sleeping or in school.” Read more [here](#).

### **American Cancer Society Updates Colorectal Screening Guidelines to Include Blood Test**

The **American Cancer Society (ACS)** recently [released](#) updated guidelines for colorectal cancer screening that include a blood-based screening test that can be administered in a doctor’s office, as well a new at-home screening option that looks for hidden blood and molecular markers in stool samples. The updated guidelines reflect advances in disease detection and a critical shift in public health strategy to expand screening options and lower barriers to access. Read more [here](#).

### **CMS Directs Hospital Labs to Report Data by July 31**

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** recently advised independent laboratories, physician office laboratories, and hospital outreach laboratories that meet the definition of an

applicable laboratory under the [clinical laboratory fee schedule](#) that they must report data by July 31 based on an updated data collection period of Jan. 1-June 30, 2025. This includes applicable HCPCS codes, associated private payor rates, and volume data. Read more [here](#).

### **VAFCC to Host 2026 Virtual Summit on Professional Development Training June 8-12**

The **Virginia Association of Free and Charitable Clinics (VAFCC)** is hosting a Virtual Summit June 8-12 focused on professional development training for grant strategy, trauma-informed care, diabetes technology, and workplace well-being. The program is affordable, flexible, and convenient. Registration for non-member organizations is \$100 for an entire team. View the full program agenda and register [here](#).

## **Events**

### **Virginia Health Care Foundation to Host June 9 Webinar on Mental Health Policy and Practice**

The **Virginia Health Care Foundation (VHCF)** is hosting a webinar roundtable discussion on mental health policy and practice scheduled for June 9 at noon. Topics to be covered during the event include legislative updates, an overview of the federal Rural Health Transformation Program and its implications for mental health, lessons learned from launching new service lines and programs, and more. Register [here](#).

### **VHHA to Host June 11 Webinar on VDH Guidance for Optimizing MDRO Flags in EDCC**

Patient transfers involve dozens of critical safety elements in a single handoff moment. A patient's infection status – including pending laboratory results, known colonization or active infection with a multidrug-resistant organism (MDRO), and the transmission-based precautions currently in place – is among the most critical information to convey. Non-disclosure of such details can lead to potential exposures for healthcare workers and patients, resulting in costly contact investigations for hospitals. A webinar being hosted at 10 a.m. on June 11 will provide information on two layers of protection to prevent such miscommunication: the new MDRO Communications Guide from the **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)** and optimizing the use of the MDRO flags in the Emergency Department Care Coordination System (EDCC). Register for the webinar [here](#).

### **VHEMP to Host June 12 Webinar Briefing with National Weather Service on 2026 Hurricane Season**

The **Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP)** – a partnership between the **Virginia Department of Health (VDH)**, the **Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association (VHHA)**, and the regional healthcare coalitions – is hosting a one-hour webinar on June 12 at noon featuring **Katie Carter**, Emergency Response Specialist with the **National Weather Service (NWS)**. The briefing will focus on the 2026 Atlantic Hurricane Season and available NWS resources to assist in readiness and response. Register for the event [here](#).

### **Register for June 18 Webinar on AI-Native Clinical Services for CMS Rural Health Transformation**

Hospital, medical, and healthcare information technology leaders are featured presenters during an upcoming June 18 webinar on how AI-native clinical services can support a new model for rural care

delivery that scales intelligently across large and geographically dispersed populations. Featured webinar speakers include former U.S. Chief Technology Officer **Aneesh Chopra**, **Microsoft** Global Chief Medical Officer **Dr. David C. Rhew**, **Ballad Health** Chief Operating Officer **Eric Deaton**, and **Andor Health** Chief Growth Officer **Noel Khirsukhani**. The webinar will feature real-world examples from rural Tennessee and other states on strategies to improve care access and outcomes for high-risk populations, including Medicare and Medicaid dual-eligible patients, while helping clinical teams operate more efficiently without additional headcount. The webinar is scheduled for June 18 at 1 p.m. CT. Register [here](#).

## Podcast

### VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features VHHA Board Chair Dr. William Lunn of HCA Healthcare

This episode of VHHA's *Patients Come First* podcast features **Dr. William Lunn**, President of **HCA Healthcare Capital Division** and the current Chair of the VHHA Board of Directors. Dr. Lunn joins us for a conversation about his professional journey, his thoughts on leadership and inspiration for working in healthcare, challenges and opportunities ahead due to shifting federal health policy, 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](#), [Podcast Health](#), and the [World Podcast Network](#). The podcast can also be heard on the radio airwaves – episodes air Sundays at 10 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](mailto:pcfpodcast@vhha.com).



## Around the State



**Rick McClenny**, MHA, BSN, RN, CPHQ, has been named the inaugural Associate Vice President (AVP) of Quality and Safety for **VCU Medical Center**. As AVP of quality and safety for VCU Medical Center, McClenny will collaborate with clinical, academic and operational leaders to integrate quality and safety into all aspects of care delivery, education and research at VCU Medical Center. McClenny most recently served as market director of clinical risk management for **Sentara Health**, overseeing the four hospitals making up Sentara's Eastern Market. Prior to that, he was chief nursing officer for **Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital in Petersburg** and chief quality officer for **Bon Secours Southampton Memorial Hospital** in Franklin. As a registered nurse, McClenny also has nearly 10 years of clinical experience working in surgical, orthopedics, and pediatrics units, as well as home health and skilled nursing environments. McClenny serves his profession in a variety of ways, such as serving on nursing and health advisory boards for Paul D. Camp Community College,

Virginia State University, and the Arizona College of Nursing. McClenny earned a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master of health administration degree from Ohio University. Read more [here](#).

**Tracey Schroeder**, Chief Communications and External Affairs Officer at **Inova**, has been named a 2026 CapitalCMO ORBIE Awards Enterprise Finalist. The ORBIE Awards recognize chief marketing officers for excellence in marketing leadership – driving growth, inspiring teams and transforming organizations across the Capital region. As Chief Communications and External Affairs Officer, Schroeder leads communications, marketing, government and community affairs for Inova Health System. Her responsibilities are inclusive of internal communications, media relations, brand, digital marketing, service line marketing, social media, the system’s intranet and website, and community relations. Prior to joining Inova in 2021, Tracey served as Vice President, Global Consumer Public Relations at Marriott International. She earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Delaware.



**Heather Rossi**, CCLS, CPST, a Child Life Specialist at **Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU** and **VCU Health**, has been named a recipient of the 2026 Mary Barkey Clinical Excellence Award by the **Association of Child Life Professionals**. She was recognized for her extraordinary clinical skill, compassion, and dedication to the child life profession. As part of child life team at VCU, Rossi works to help patients and families adjust to and cope with the hospital or clinical setting, illness or injury, and the treatments involved.

**Dr. VaCora Oliver-Rainey**, Assistant Professor at the **VCU School of Dentistry**, has been appointed to the **Virginia Board of Dentistry** by **Governor Abigail Spanberger**. Dr. Rainey’s appointment reflects her commitment to advancing oral health, education, and service across the Commonwealth. Dr. Oliver-Rainey joined the General Practice Department in 2021 and is affiliated with the **American Dental Association**, the **Virginia Dental Association**, the **Northern Virginia Dental Society**, and the **American Dental Education Association**.



The **UVA Health** EDS and Hypermobility Disorders Center has received a designation by **The Ehlers-Danlos Society** to be part of the society’s CORE (Collaboration, Outreach, Research, and Education) Network of Excellence. This prestigious recognition places UVA Health among a select group of leading centers worldwide, united in advancing care for patients with Ehlers-Danlos syndromes and hypermobility spectrum disorders.



**Amy Manning** has been named Quality Director at **Riverside Smithfield Hospital**. Manning had previously been with **Riverside Regional Medical Center** for nearly 20 years, serving as Manager of Quality Outcomes and a registered nurse. She earned her master’s degree in nursing education at Capella University.