



FYI Weekly

HEALTHCARE 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](#)

- [VDH Commissioner Announces Conclusion of the Central Virginia Measles Outbreak](#)
- [VHCF Accepting Applications on RHT Funding for Provider Interoperability, Productivity Projects](#)
- [DMAS to Host Town Halls on New Medicaid Work Requirements, Shares Informational Resources](#)
- [President Trump Announces Nominee for FDA Commissioner](#)
- [VDH Encourages Hospital Responses to CDC Maternity Practice, Infant Nutrition Survey by Sept. 10](#)

[Events](#)

- [Join Aug. 27 Webinar in MDRO Private Laboratory Education Series on Identification Importance](#)
- [Register Now for the Virginia Behavioral Health Summit on Sept. 24 in Richmond](#)
- [VHHA to Host In-Person Just Culture Workshop in Partnership with ECRI on Sept. 22](#)

[Podcast](#)

- [VHHA Patients Come First Podcast Features VCU Health Physician Leader on Liver Health Advances](#)

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

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 **Carrie Monger** at cmonger@vhha.com to inquire about the committee.

View Recording of Just Culture Executive Briefing Webinar with ECRI

- This week, VHHA partnered with **ECRI** to host a [webinar briefing](#) for hospital executives and leaders about the core tenets of Just Culture and efforts towards organization-wide adoption of its principles by addressing the leadership alignment gap that most commonly undermines frontline training efforts. Register for an in-person workshop at VHHA offices in Glen Allen, VA on Sept. 22 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) focused on implementing Just Culture principles across organizations [here](#).

Applications Accepted Through Sept. 15 for Rural Health Transformation Project Funding

- The **VHHA Foundation** is accepting applications from healthcare organizations seeking **Rural Health Transformation Program** project funding support for proposals on [remote patient monitoring](#) and [graduate medical education](#) initiatives. The VHHA Foundation is partnering on the **Virginia Rural Health Transformation** work to administer grant funding for several key initiatives that are part of the broader transformation framework. The remote patient monitoring program is intended to support continuous care technologies that help rural providers extend care beyond traditional clinical settings. The graduate medical education effort is focused on the expansion of rural residency slots in high-priority specialties to strengthen Virginia's rural physician workforce pipeline and help health systems recruit, train, and retain physicians who are prepared to serve rural communities. The application deadline for project funding is Sept. 15 and awards will be announced by Oct. 30. Visit the [VHHA Foundation online](#) for more program information. That website also features a recording of a recent [webinar](#) on the Rural Health Transformation work. VHHA Foundation staff are also available to provide technical assistance and guidance to hospital staff pursuing grant funding for graduate medical education and remote patient monitoring projects. Visit this [link](#) to book time for a graduate medical education session and this [link](#) for an appointment on remote patient monitoring.

Register for the 2026 Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Leaders Summit in November

- Register today for the **2026 Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Leaders Summit**, whose theme is "100 Years Strong: Honoring Our Past. Shaping the Future." The Summit will be held Nov. 4-6 at The Omni Homestead Resort as part of the continuing celebration of the 100th anniversary of VHHA this year. For more than a century, Virginia's hospitals and health systems have served as

the heartbeat of communities, providing compassionate care and leading through times of challenge and opportunity. This year's Summit brings together VHHA and hospital officials from across the Commonwealth to celebrate a century of service, honor the leaders who have shaped healthcare in Virginia, and look ahead to the next 100 years. Visit this [link](#) to register.

Submit Nominations for the 2026 VHHA Outstanding Service Awards, Deadline is Sept. 18

- VHHA is accepting nominations for the **2026 VHHA Outstanding Service Awards**, which will be presented at the **2026 Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Leaders Summit** in November. The awards recognize individuals who have made a real difference to Virginia's hospitals and health systems, and to healthcare in general through selfless, energetic, and passionate service. Awards are presented in the following categories: the Distinguished Service Award (given to past or present chief executive officers), the Meritorious Service Award (given to non-CEO healthcare leaders), and the Excellence in Governance Award (given to members of hospital or health system governing bodies). Each award recognizes those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to contribute to Virginia's hospitals and health systems. The deadline to submit nomination materials is Sept. 18. The nomination form with submission instructions can be accessed through this [link](#). Read more about VHHA awards and see lists of past recipients [here](#).

VHHA Shares 2026-2027 Membership Directory

- VHHA recently issued the **2026-2027 Membership Directory**, an annual publication that features summary listing information about Virginia hospitals and health systems, VHHA program areas and staff, VHHA Solutions partners, and more. Access the VHHA 2026-2027 Membership Directory [here](#).

View VHHA Webinar Recording Previewing Virginia Child Care Cost-Sharing Pilot Program

- VHHA, in partnership with the **Virginia Early Childhood Foundation**, recently hosted a webinar focused on upcoming opportunities for hospitals to establish public-private partnerships to support childcare in their communities. During the **Virginia General Assembly** 2026 legislative session, legislation was approved to establish the Employee Child Care Assistance Pilot Program and \$25 million in state funding is available to support public-private childcare partnership pilots for Virginia employers participating in a cost-share model. This webinar explored how hospitals can become early adopters of a public-private model in which the state, employers, and families share the cost of childcare to increase childcare access and improve affordability. View a webinar recording [here](#).

Support HosPAC During '100 for 100' Donor Push, Contributions Help Support Hospital Advocacy

- In Virginia, the start of July each year coincides with the effective date of several new state laws that apply to hospitals, healthcare providers, and the communities they serve. From workforce development and reimbursement policies to regulatory changes and public health initiatives, decisions made in Richmond influence how hospitals deliver care, support staff, and meet patient needs. Sustained advocacy efforts that reflect the voice of hospitals are a critical part of the process. The work of **HosPAC**, the Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association's political action committee, helps advance that engagement. In honor of the VHHA centennial

anniversary in 2026, HosPAC has launched the “100 for 100 Campaign” with a goal of welcoming 100 donors as the Association celebrates 100 years of leadership, partnership, and advocacy on behalf of Virginia’s hospitals. That proud legacy is a foundation to build a strong future in the next century. Each first-time contribution represents another voice supporting Virginia hospitals and health systems at the **Virginia General Assembly**. Growing the community of hospital advocates strengthens HosPAC’s ability to build relationships with policymakers and ensures that hospitals have a strong, unified voice on healthcare advocacy. Read more about the campaign [here](#) and visit this link to contribute [today](#). Questions about HosPAC can be directed to **Hannah Coley** at hcoley@vhha.com.

News Updates

VDH Commissioner Announces Conclusion of the Central Virginia Measles Outbreak

Virginia State Health Commissioner Dr. B. Cameron Webb, MD, JD, recently shared a [letter](#) to Virginia clinicians regarding the end of the 2026 measles outbreak in Buckingham and Cumberland Counties. An outbreak is considered over after 42 days, which is two 21-day incubation periods, have elapsed without a new case identified. The letter notes the last confirmed cases associated with the outbreak was reported on June 29. Overall, the outbreak totaled 154 measles cases counted since May 5. The letter notes that all cases were in people who were not vaccinated or had an unknown vaccination status with more than one third of cases (38 percent) documented in adults. There were four hospitalizations due to measles-related complications during the outbreak and no associated deaths were reported. Meanwhile, the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC) has [reported](#) 2,566 confirmed measles cases across 47 U.S. jurisdictions (including Virginia) as of Aug. 14. The national measles case count for 2026 exceeds total U.S. cases in 2025.

VHCF Accepting Applications on RHT Funding for Provider Interoperability, Productivity Projects

The **Virginia Health Care Foundation** (VHCF), a key implementation partner in Virginia’s Rural Health Transformation (RHT) efforts, has [launched a request for applications](#) (RFA) for provider interoperability and provider productivity project funding. Health information technology is reshaping care delivery by enabling providers to coordinate seamlessly across settings, safeguard patient data, and spend less time on administrative tasks and more time with patients. Yet many rural providers in Virginia lack the digital infrastructure to fully participate in this connected system. The provider interoperability sub-initiative under the RHT framework is designed to close that gap and represents a promising strategy to strengthen healthcare delivery for rural Virginians. The provider productivity sub-initiative under the RHT framework is designed to support adoption of digital productivity tools, including AI-enabled decision-support, documentation, and workflow automation, to reduce administrative burden, ease provider burnout, and allow rural clinicians to focus more of their valuable time on patient care. Read more details about the application process at this [link](#). The provider interoperability application deadline is Aug. 31. The provider productivity application deadline is Sept. 14.

DMAS to Host Town Halls on New Medicaid Work Requirements, Shares Informational Resources

New Medicaid work requirements are coming to Virginia in less than five months. As of January 2027, certain adult Medicaid enrollees will be required to take part in a community engagement activity such as working a job or participating in an educational or training program to remain eligible for Medicaid

coverage. Adults ages 19-64 who are in the Medicaid expansion population will be expected to spend at least 80 hours each month working a job, participating in a work training program, actively engaged in an educational or career training program, or doing community service under the new federal standard. That requirement is among several meaningful changes to Medicaid policy established in federal law last year. Another federal Medicaid policy change will require adults in the expansion population to have their coverage eligibility re-evaluated more frequently – every six months rather than annually. These federal policy changes have implications for hospitals and health systems that care for Medicaid enrollees who are subject to the new federal work requirements. To inform providers and Medicaid-eligible adults likely to be impacted by the new rules, the **Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services** (DMAS) is hosting a series of meetings on the coming changes. Meetings are scheduled for [Sept. 15](#), [Sept. 24](#), [Oct. 22](#), [Nov. 10](#), and [Dec. 2](#). DMAS has also posted [resources](#) online about the Medicaid work requirements. The Medicaid work rules do not apply to enrolled children under 18 or adults older than 65, pregnant women and recently postpartum mothers, parents and caregivers to young children or a person with a disability, and individuals with certain disabilities. Recent [state data](#) shows that more than 535,000 Virginians are in the state Medicaid expansion population. Of those, nearly 111,000 are deemed “caretaker adults.” Another 424,000 expansion enrollees are not in that category. Total Medicaid and FAMIS enrollment in Virginia exceeds 1.77 million people. VHHA is actively engaged with state agencies and officials in the work to prepare for the impact of coming Medicaid policy changes, including work requirements.

President Trump Announces Nominee for FDA Commissioner

This week, **U.S. President Donald J. Trump** [announced](#) his nominee as the next commissioner for the **Food and Drug Administration** (FDA): **Dr. Heidi Overton**, MD, PhD. As a physician, Overton has practiced in public health and general preventive medicine. She has worked for advocacy causes focused on health price transparency, served as a White House Fellow, and most recently has served as Deputy Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. The FDA is an agency under the **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services** (HHS) with oversight responsibility for ensuring the safety and effectiveness of human and veterinary medicines, biologics, and medical devices as well as the regulation of food safety, cosmetics, devices that emit radiation, and tobacco products.

VDH Encourages Hospital Responses to CDC Maternity Practice, Infant Nutrition Survey by Sept. 10

The **Virginia Department of Health** (VDH) is encouraging Virginia hospitals to participate in the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC) Maternity Practices in Infant Nutrition and Care (mPINC) survey. The survey helps hospitals assess what they can do to foster a breastfeeding-friendly environment. Survey questions focus on specific parts of the hospital maternity care that affect how babies are fed, such as breastfeeding, using formula to feed healthy newborns, and feeding routines. The survey deadline is Sept. 10. The survey is administered by a CDC contractor, Abt Global, which contacts hospitals by e-mail and phone. Read more about the survey [here](#). Questions may be directed to mPINC@cdc.gov.

Events

Join Aug. 27 Webinar in MDRO Private Laboratory Education Series on Identification Importance

In collaboration with the **Virginia Healthcare-Associated Infections Advisory Group**, the **Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services** is providing a three-part webinar series intended for clinical microbiology laboratory testing personnel to provide education and improve understanding of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs). The first webinar in the series on the “Importance of Identification for Diagnosis and Treatment” is scheduled for Aug. 27 at 1 p.m. Register for the webinar [here](#).

Register Now for the Virginia Behavioral Health Summit on Sept. 24 in Richmond

Registration is open for the **2026 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit**, which is scheduled for Sept. 24 at The Westin-Richmond. The theme for this year’s Summit is “Innovating with Purpose: Building a Resilient Behavioral Health System.” The annual Summit is a daylong event that brings together providers, patient advocates, administrators, policymakers, and other stakeholders to explore practical strategies for strengthening behavioral healthcare across the Commonwealth. Summit sessions will focus on topics including behavioral health treatment, workforce and wellbeing initiatives, patient and staff safety, crisis response, and innovative approaches to care delivery. Register for the Summit [here](#).

VHHA to Host In-Person Just Culture Workshop in Partnership with ECRI on Sept. 22

VHHA, in partnership with **ECRI**, invites hospital leaders to register to attend an in-person workshop at VHHA offices in Glen Allen, VA on Sept. 22 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) focused on implementing Just Culture principles across their organizations. By fostering an environment where team members feel empowered to speak up, learn from mistakes, and contribute openly, leaders can strengthen patient safety and workforce engagement. This one-day, in-person course equips healthcare leaders and professionals across roles with the foundational knowledge and practical tools needed to implement and sustain Just Culture principles within their organizations. Workshop attendees will receive all course materials, lunch, and be eligible to complete the Managers and Influencers course exam asynchronously following completion of the program. View registration details [here](#).

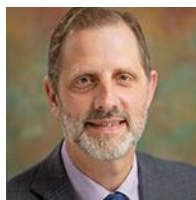
Podcast

VHHA *Patients Come First* Podcast Features VCU Health Physician Leader on Liver Health Advances

This episode of VHHA's *Patients Come First* podcast features **Dr. Richard Sterling**, Chief Clinical Officer for the **VCU Health Stravitz-Sanyal Institute for Liver Disease and Metabolic Health**. He joins us for a conversation about the importance of liver health, the development of the FIB-4 index that transformed liver disease screening, the latest advances in the detection and treatment of fatty liver disease, 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 pcfpcast@vhha.com.



Around the State



Alvarez



Griggs



Jenkins



Jennings



Massiah-White



Olatunji

Chad Alvarez, System Pharmacy Director at **Carilion Clinic**; **Danielle Griggs**, Chief Pharmacy Officer at **UVA Health**; **Matthew Jenkins**, Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer at **VCU Health**; **Tim Jennings**, Senior Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer at **Sentara Health**; **Melanie Massiah-White**, Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer for **Inova**; and **Kemi Olatunji**, Vice President and Chief Pharmacy Officer for **Riverside Health**; have been named to the *Becker's Hospital Review* [list](#) of 101 hospital and health system chief pharmacy officers to know.



Inova recently announced the appointment of **Susan Carroll**, FACHE, MHA, as Chief, Clinical Enterprise Operations. In that role, Carroll, who previously served as President of Inova Loudoun Hospital, assumes day-to-day operational leadership of all clinical sites of care across Inova and will lead efforts to strengthen operational excellence, enhance collaboration across the enterprise and advance Inova's commitment to delivering world-class care to every patient. She succeeds **Toni Ardabell**, MSN, MBA, who will retire at the end of the year. Carroll brings more than 28 years of leadership experience within Inova, earning a reputation for driving operational excellence, fostering collaboration and delivering strategic results. Upon Carroll's transition to the new role, **Dr. Raj Chand**, MD, President of **Inova Fair Oaks Hospital**, will serve as Interim President of Inova Loudoun Hospital, while Inova conducts a national search for the hospital's next permanent

president. Beyond Inova, Carroll is deeply committed to serving the community. She serves on the Board of Trustees for Shenandoah University, is a member of the Radford University Health Science Board, a member of the Loudoun Senior Executive Council, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Master Singers of Virginia. An advocate of initiatives aimed at cultivating the development of future healthcare workforce, she is a founding stakeholder of the Health and Medical Sciences (HAMSci) Academy within Loudoun County Public Schools. She was most recently honored as one of Washingtonian's Most Powerful Women of 2025. Read more [here](#).

Dr. Elizabeth Bortell, has been appointed Chair of Dentistry at **VCU Health**. She is the third person to serve in this position after **Dr. Omar Abubaker** and Interim Dean **Jeff Johnson**. In this position, she serves as the senior operational leader for the department across VCU Health. The chair is responsible for integrating and advancing the tripartite mission of an academic medical center: superior clinical care, cutting-edge research and exemplary medical education. Bortell will oversee all Department of Dentistry faculty, educational programs, and clinical service lines operating within the Medical Center, while ensuring strategic alignment with its operational and financial goals. Dr. Bortell completed her residency and dental school education at the Howard University College of Dentistry.

