

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Press Contact: Virginia Health Information Shanikka Richardson, Communications Assistant Web Site: www.vhi.org



## Virginia Health Information Signs Management Service Contract for ConnectVirginia

As of June 1, 2017, Virginia Health Information began supporting ConnectVirginia HIE, Inc. through a management services contract. Created in 2011, ConnectVirginia is the statewide Health Information Exchange for the Commonwealth of Virginia. "As Secretary of Health and Human Resources and chair of the ConnectVirginia board of directors, I am excited to expand our partnership with Virginia Health Information" said Secretary Bill Hazel.

ConnectVirginia provides the legal and governance framework for hospital and health systems connected to eHealth Exchange, the national health information exchange. In addition, four other major services are provided including Public Health Reporting Pathway (bi-directional immunization and newborn screening functionality included), Virginia's Advance Health Care Directives Registry, Streamline Provider Portal as well as the Encounter Alert Service. Looking forward, efforts are underway to expand ConnectVirginia's Health Information Exchange to include an Emergency Department Care Coordination Program (EDCCP). This effort would focus on helping persons receive care that is better coordinated with their physicians and local services while reducing unnecessary Emergency Department admissions.

ConnectVirginia's vision aligns with Virginia Health Information's (VHI's) goal to empower consumers and enhance the quality of healthcare delivery. Under this contract, VHI welcomes Kim Huggins as ConnectVirginia's Project Coordinator who has been with ConnectVirginia since its inception and will continue to support its initiatives. VHI is currently seeking to hire a Program Manager and details about the position may be found at <a href="http://vhi.org/About/job\_opening.asp">http://vhi.org/About/job\_opening.asp</a>. "VHI appreciates the opportunity to support ConnectVirginia as they expand their service to the public and healthcare professionals" notes Michael T. Lundberg, VHI's Executive Director.

For more information, visit www.ConnectVirginia.org

**VHI** is a nonprofit health data organization collecting and making available a wide variety of health information to assist businesses, consumers, healthcare providers and others in making better healthcare decisions and to improve the quality of care. To find the latest updates on healthcare data and statistics, find and like VHI on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/vahealth</u> or visit <u>www.vhi.orq</u> for more information.

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