



Virginia
Behavioral Health

2024 SUMMIT

CONNECTION: BUILDING A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM THAT SERVES ALL

The Westin — Richmond | May 16, 2024

This event is jointly presented by:



VIRGINIA HOSPITAL
& HEALTHCARE
ASSOCIATION

An alliance of hospitals and health delivery systems



VHHA
FOUNDATION



WELCOME

Demand for mental health and substance use treatment services is rising while publicly available data shows that Americans increasingly indicate a decline in overall mental wellness.

Against that backdrop, health care providers, elected officials, families, and stakeholders have all focused considerable effort and attention on enhancing access to behavioral health care in inpatient, outpatient, and community-based settings.

In recent years, Virginia hospitals have made significant investments to add hundreds of adult and pediatric inpatient behavioral health hospital beds. This is in addition to the tens of thousands of people Virginia hospitals admit each year for behavioral health inpatient care. Virginia hospitals handle all voluntary psychiatric inpatient admissions as well as the vast majority of involuntary psychiatric admissions. On average, Virginia hospitals handled nearly 90 percent of all behavioral health inpatients admissions in the Commonwealth between 2015 and 2022.

On the state level, Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin has pursued the ambitious *Right Help, Right Now* agenda to infuse significant new funding into an array of behavioral health programs to boost treatment access, address workforce training and shortages, support pilot initiatives focused on community-based solutions, diversion programs, and innovative models. Virginia hospitals have also partnered with the Virginia General Assembly on policy reforms and programmatic enhancements focused on strengthening the behavioral health system so individuals in need can access quality care when they need it.

As we look ahead, the 2024 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit is an opportunity for stakeholders to come together to focus on our shared successes, opportunities, and challenges as we continue to collaborate towards making Virginia the healthiest state in the nation.



*Michael Elliott
SVP & COO
VCU Health
VHHA Board Chair*



*Sean Connaughton
President & CEO
VHHA*





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website with conference details:





AGENDA

7:30-9 a.m.

Breakfast and Registration

9-9:15 a.m.

Conference Welcome

Speakers: Melissa Garcia, LCSW; and Sean T. Connaughton of VHHA
Location: Chesapeake A/B/C

9:15-9:30 a.m.

Opening Remarks from The Honorable Glenn Youngkin, 74th Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Location: Chesapeake A/B/C

9:30-10:25 a.m.

Keynote Remarks: Compassionate Behavioral Health

Speaker: Dr. Scott Zeller
Location: Chesapeake A/B/C

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Overview of Psychiatric Emergency Departments/ EmPATH Units

Speakers: Brooke Stratton, BSN, RN; Drew White, MSN, PMHNP; Ed Dwyer, LPC; Ismael Gama, MBA, MA; Dr. Ryan McQueen; and Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA
Location: Chesapeake A/B/C

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Buffet Lunch

12:30-12:45 p.m.

Transition to Next Session

12:45-1:45 p.m.

Concurrent Session 1A: Mood and Anxiety in Autism — Dominion Hospital

Speakers: Aminah Majeed; Keyandra Brisco, MSW, LCSW; and Melissa Garcia, LCWS, MBA
Location: Chesapeake A/B





AGENDA

12:45-1:45 p.m.

Concurrent Session 1B: Geriatric Behavioral Healthcare

Speakers: Dr. Badr Ratnakaran; Paul Aravich, PhD; and Dr. Peter Betz

Location: Chesapeake C

12:45-1:45 p.m.

Concurrent Session 1C: Tech Innovation and Artificial Intelligence, Practical Applications in Behavioral Health

Speaker: Dr. Charles Dunham, FAPA, CPE

Location: Blue Ridge A/B

1:45-2 p.m.

Transition to Next Session

2-3 p.m.

Concurrent Session 2A: Crisis Services Overview and Expansion

Speaker: Curt Gleeson, MEd, LPC

Location: Chesapeake A/B

2-3 p.m.

Concurrent Session 2B: Forensic Sciences Overview

Speaker: Angela Torres, PhD, ABPP

Location: Chesapeake C

2-3 p.m.

Concurrent Session 2C: Relapse Prevention/SUD

Speakers: Nathan Kottkamp, JD, MA; and Nathan Ocegueda, CSAC, MBA

Location: Blue Ridge A/B

3-3:15 p.m.

Transition to Next Session

3:15-4:10 p.m.

Keynote Remarks: Refilling the Well — Addressing Companion Fatigue in the Helping Professions

Speakers: Tami West, PhD

Location: Chesapeake A/B/C

4:10-4:20 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Speaker: Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA

Location: Chesapeake A/B/C





SPEAKERS



Paul Aravich, PhD
**Behavioral Neuroscientist and Professor of Pathology/
Anatomy, Geriatrics, and PM&R**
Eastern Virginia Medical School

Paul Aravich, PhD, is a behavioral neuroscientist and Professor of Pathology/Anatomy, Geriatrics, and PM&R at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk. He is the Virginia representative to the National Council on Mental Health and Aging. Recognitions include one of the highest awards for medical education in the US and Canada; the highest Virginia faculty award for excellence in teaching, research and service; and institutional diversity and gender equity awards. Gubernatorial efforts related to COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, military/veteran suicide, and public guardianship. A total of five gubernatorial citations recognize various contributions. He has given multiple presentations to state and national policy makers, including 10 to various Congressional Caucus programs on the epidemic of fatal behavioral and neurological disorders and a scheduled presentation for the 75th Anniversary of the National Institute on Mental Health. He is the former head of the Virginia Brain Injury Council and headed its first consensus paper on challenging behaviors due to brain injury; is the longest-serving study section member of the Commonwealth's Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund; formed a statewide advisory committee for the new dementia and brain injury demonstration programs at the Western Tidewater Community Services Board; is part of a regional coalition for homeless elders; and is part of a regional behavioral health coalition for older adults.





SPEAKERS



Dr. Peter Betz
Geriatric Psychiatry
Centra Health

Peter Betz, MD, is a Geriatric Psychiatrist who completed his training at Johns Hopkins in 2001. Since that time, he has been practicing with Centra Health in Lynchburg, VA. His current role includes being the Executive Medical Director for the Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Service Line.



Keyandra Brisco, MSW, LCSW
Director, Social Work and Clinical Therapies
Dominion Hospital

Keyandra Brisco, LCSW, is the Director of Social Work and Clinical Therapies at Dominion Hospital for inpatient units. Prior to joining Dominion, Brisco worked as a director in community mental health settings including intensive in-home services, foster care services such as family preservation services, independent living, group homes, intensive case management, and detention centers. Her vast experience in different settings has been beneficial in the development and creation of clinical programming. Brisco earned her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Maryland, School of Social Work. She is licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a licensed certified social worker – clinical (LCSW-C) in the state of Maryland.





SPEAKERS



Sean T. Connaughton
President and CEO
Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association

Sean T. Connaughton has served as VHHA President and CEO since 2014. Prior to joining VHHA, he served as Virginia's Transportation Secretary from 2010-2014 in the Cabinet of Governor Robert F. McDonnell. In that role, he led efforts to pass a major transportation funding package for the Commonwealth in 2013.

Connaughton served as a commissioned officer on active duty with the United States Coast Guard, and later joined the United States Naval Reserve, retiring from that service with the rank of Commander. Connaughton is a licensed attorney admitted to practice in Virginia and the District of Columbia. He practiced law for 15 years with private firms and has appeared before the United States Supreme Court.

He has a bachelor's degree from the United States Merchant Marine Academy, a master's degree from Georgetown University, a law degree from George Mason University, and he graduated from the United States Naval War College. Connaughton has received numerous awards over the years, including Alumnus of the Year from George Mason University, the Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of Counties, the Vincent T. Hirsch Maritime Award for Outstanding Leadership from the Navy League of the United States, Maritime Person of the Year from the Propeller Club of the United States, the Maritime Samaritan Award from the Apostleship of the Sea of the United States, and Government Man of the Year from the Maritime Port Council of Greater New York. He also has been designated a Henry Toll Fellow by the Council of State Governments, a Virginia Institute of Political Leadership Fellow, and recently was named a Fellow by the Virginia Law Foundation. He is married to Teresa and has two adult children: Courtney and Sean Jr.



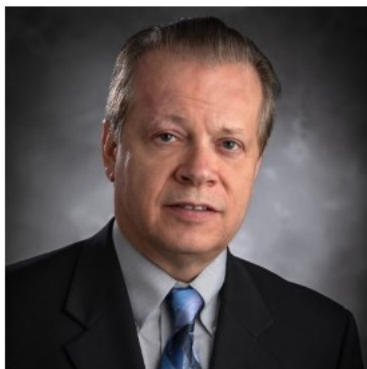


SPEAKERS



Charles Dunham, MD, FAPA, CPE
Executive Director Medical Operation, 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. He is a certified physician executive who continues in clinical practice.



Ed Dwyer, LPC
Director of Operations
Riverside Health System

Ed Dwyer got his start in healthcare in 1980 working for multi-hospital health systems in Pittsburgh, PA and Youngstown, OH. He joined Riverside Health System in 2006 and has worked in multiple roles including Director of Patient Accounting, Clinical Director focusing on therapeutic services, and currently as the Director of Operations. Dwyer is proud of the expanded services Riverside has integrated into its work, including the first Psychiatric Emergency Department in Virginia, and a full-service Mental Health Clinic.





SPEAKERS



Melissa Garcia, LCSW, MBA
Vice President of Clinical Operations
Dominion Hospital

Melissa Garcia serves as Chair for the VHHA Behavioral Health Executive Steering Committee and is the Vice President of Clinical Operations for Dominion Hospital. She has held various healthcare leadership positions in both the public and private sector in the Commonwealth of Virginia over the past 18 years. Prior to joining Dominion Hospital, Garcia worked in behavioral health facilities in the public and private sector in Pennsylvania and Virginia, including the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute and the Arlington Community Service Board. She earned her Master of Social Work (MSW) degree from the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, PA and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in Healthcare Administration from Champlain College in Burlington, VT. Garcia is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) in the Commonwealth of Virginia and has helped bridge the clinical and operational components of healthcare to support communities across the Commonwealth. She is on the Board of Directors for Hope Link Behavioral Health (formerly PRS, INC), a non-profit providing mental health, crisis intervention, and suicide prevention services.



Ismael Gama, MBA, MA
Vice President of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Services
Centra Health

Ismael Gama has more than 20 years of experience in the healthcare industry and currently serves as Vice President of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health Services for Centra Health in Lynchburg, VA. At Centra, Gama oversees behavioral health service units, residential, and ambulatory programs. Prior to Centra, Gama served as Senior Vice President & Chief Mission Officer at Amita Health in Illinois. A majority of his career has been dedicated to service in Maryland at Adventist Healthcare, moving up in the ranks from Director to Executive Director. Gama earned an MBA and MA in Spiritual and Pastoral Care from Loyola University and a BA in Theology from Washington Adventist University.





SPEAKERS



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





SPEAKERS



Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA
President of Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center,
Vice President
Riverside Health System

Stacey Johnson, LCSW, MBA, serves as Vice Chair for the VHHA Behavioral Health Executive Steering Committee and is currently the Hospital President/VP of Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center in Hampton, VA. RMHRC is part of the Riverside Health System that offers a comprehensive range of medical services. Johnson is originally from Connecticut. 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 began her career as a social worker, a unique perspective Johnson brings to her administrative role. She is passionate about meeting the mental and behavioral health needs of individuals and reducing the stigma associated with mental illness. She hopes to break down the barrier to treatment and open the door to discussing mental health in a positive way while working to provide innovative and community centered treatment options.





SPEAKERS



Nathan Kottkamp, JD, MA
Partner
Williams Mullen

The hallmark of Nathan Kottkamp's practice is that he regularly handles intricate — and often urgent — matters, such as professional licensure complaints, regulatory deficiency findings, difficult patient/ethics issues, medical staff issues, and just about anything else that inevitably arises in the complex context of providing health care services. When he is not tending to these situations, Kottkamp provides experience-informed counsel to clients to reduce the risk or extent of problems in the first place, at the state and federal levels. Among his clients are hospitals and health systems, academic medical centers, behavioral health care services providers, senior care providers and retirement communities, specialty physician practices, post-acute, and long-term care providers.

Kottkamp is a nationally recognized authority on the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). In addition to his privacy and security experience, he has earned the CIPP/US designation as a Certified Information Privacy Professional from the International Association of Privacy Professionals. He has been recognized as a "Leading Lawyer" for Cyber Law in Virginia by Legal 500 U.S. (2017-2018) and has been named to "Legal Elite," Health Law by *Virginia Business* (2009-2017, 2019-2022).

Kottkamp has advised on numerous Certificate of Public Need (COPN) matters ranging from service expansions to the development of new hospitals, retirement communities, substance abuse facilities, and ambulatory surgery centers. He also counsels clients on the Emergency Medical Treatment & Active Labor Act (EMTALA); the False Claims Act (FCA); the Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS); the Stark Law; the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act); the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); and state data breach laws. He is actively engaged in addressing complex public health issues. He is the founder and chair of National Healthcare Decisions Day (www.nhdd.org), which highlights the importance of advance care planning (living will, health care agents, do not resuscitate [DNR] orders), and organ donation/anatomical gift documents). He is a member of the Advance Directives Task Force Committee of the Supreme Court of Virginia Commission on Mental Health Law Reform, and a member of the Legislative Committee of the Central Virginia Overdose Working Group. For more than 20 years, Nathan has been a member of several hospital ethics committees, serving on a pro-bono basis. He earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where he also earned his Master of Arts degree in bioethics. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from William & Mary.





SPEAKERS



Aminah Majeed
Education Coordinator
Dominion Hospital

Aminah Majeed is an Education Coordinator for Dominion Hospital's partial hospitalization program. She has worked in a variety of mental health settings and educational roles. Prior to joining Dominion Hospital, Aminah worked as an eating disorder counselor and a program director for an after-school learning center. Aminah earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Psychology at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA.



Ryan McQueen, MD
Chief of Psychiatry
Riverside Health System

psychiatry at The Wake
served as Chief Resident or Chief Fellow for more than three years.

Dr. McQueen earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Hampton University and his Doctor of Medicine degree from The Medical College of Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University. Following his education, he completed a pre-residency fellowship at the Center for Neurorehabilitation Services in Richmond, VA. He completed internship, general psychiatry residency, and a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at The Wake Forest University Bowman Gray School of Medicine where he

While at Riverside, Dr. McQueen has served on various committees, projects, and participated in teaching opportunities for residents, and medical, nursing, and advanced practice provider students. He serves as a representative to the Riverside Medical Group Board of Directors and is on the Board of Directors of the Confess Project. He helped to develop and open the first psychiatric emergency department in the state, which is located in Hampton, VA. He currently serves as Medical Director of Adolescent Psychiatric Services at Riverside Mental Health and Recovery Center and Service Line Chief of Psychiatry for Riverside Health System.

Outside of the hospital, Dr. McQueen enjoys spending time with family, friends, gardening, and hanging out at the beach.





SPEAKERS



Nathan Ocegueda, CSAC, MBA
Director of Business Development
Iron Bridge Recovery Center

Nathan Ocegueda is a certified substance abuse counselor in Virginia and serves as the Director of Business Development at Iron Bridge Recovery Center. He has extensive experience treating individuals living with a substance use disorder with an emphasis on relapse prevention. He is widely recognized for his experience working with clients in inpatient and outpatient levels of care, leading him to pursue training and expertise in various areas, including business. He has a master's degree in business administration from the University of Maryland and he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in clinical psychology from Old Dominion University. "My goal in business development is to increase awareness of the services our programs provide and support mental health advocacy efforts in our local community. I also look forward to growing our relationships with providers in the area so that we can continue to provide support to our region," said Ocegueda.

Coming from a military family, Ocegueda grew up in several regions of the United States. He has now lived in the Hampton Roads area for more than 20 years. "Providing services to our military and first responders in the region is extremely important to me. I come from a military family, and so I'm familiar with the sacrifices families in our region make to support the mission," said Ocegueda.

As part of his role in business development, Ocegueda will help implement a new growth plan for the treatment programs offered by Summit Behavioral Health. Iron Bridge Recovery Center is the fourth Summit Behavioral Health facility in Virginia.



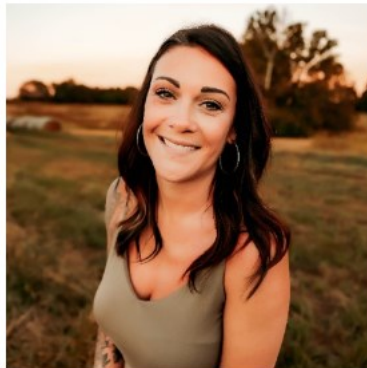


SPEAKERS



Badr Ratnakaran, MD
Geriatric Psychiatrist, Center for Healthy Aging
Carilion Clinic

Dr. Badr Ratnakaran is a geriatric psychiatrist at the Center for Healthy Aging at Carilion Clinic in Roanoke, VA. He is also a member of the APA Council for Geriatric Psychiatry and the President of the Psychiatric Society of Virginia.



Brooke Stratton, BSN, RN
Unit Manager, EmPATH
Centra Health

For the past 14 years, Stratton has worked at Centra Health. After graduating from nursing school in 2014, she began working in adult psychiatry for nearly five years before transitioning into the role of Clinical Quality Coordinator. Stratton has worked as a forensic nurse examiner, serving a wide range of patients of alleged abuse. She then transitioned back to inpatient psychiatry as the Unit Manager for Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and as interim manager for Pathway Addiction Treatment Program. Stratton currently manages the EmPATH (Emergency Psychiatric Assessment, Treatment & Healing) unit and has been involved with the project from its planning stages in 2022.





SPEAKERS



Angela Torres, PhD, ABPP
Senior Director of Forensic Services
Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and
Developmental Services

Angela Torres, PhD, ABPP is the Senior Director of Forensic Services at the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. In this role, she manages forensic services at the state hospitals, the DBHDS portion of the sexually violent predator program, juvenile justice and behavioral health initiatives, the juvenile competence restoration program, the forensic evaluation oversight system, jail diversion programming, and other statewide initiatives at the intersection of behavioral health and justice. Dr. Torres is board certified in forensic psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology. Prior to her current position, Dr. Torres was the Chief Forensic Coordinator at Central State Hospital, the Region IV Jail Team Supervisor, and the DBHDS Forensic Evaluation Oversight Manager. She has experience completing various forensic evaluations in Texas, Virginia, and the federal system. She is involved in legislation and policy development regarding mental health and criminal justice. Dr. Torres lectures on behalf of DBHDS and the University of Virginia's Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy, and routinely collaborates with the ILPPP on research projects addressing Virginia's forensic services and the practice of forensic evaluations. She is also on the examination faculty of the American Board of Forensic Psychology, on the Forensic Council for NASMHPD, and serves on various behavioral health and justice workgroups.





SPEAKERS

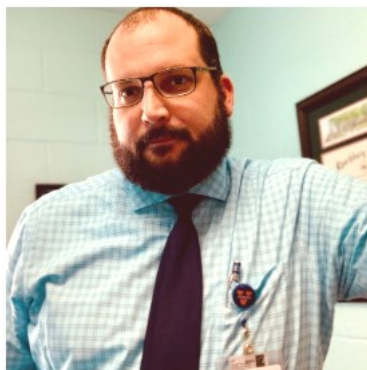


Tami West, PhD — Keynote Speaker
Stress and Mental Health Expert

Stress and Mental Health Expert Dr. Tami West uses her entertaining and compelling style to shine a new light on how to transform your life and discover solutions to life's challenges. She has worked in a variety of industries including healthcare, school nutrition, corporate sales, and 10 years as a public school teacher. In 2013, she earned her PhD in Human Development, studying the connections among stress, emotions, and identity.

Dr. West has spoken in 48 states across the U.S., as well as the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand. In any given year, she speaks to groups with audiences consisting of anywhere from 100 to 3,000 people.

Dr. West is the author of several successful publications including three books: *The Stress Club*, *Life Without the Monsters*, and *Thrive*. When she's not speaking or writing, you might find her traveling with her husband and family, reading historical fiction, or watching *The Big Bang Theory*. Dr. West connects with audiences through real experience, cutting edge research, and transparent stories – all sprinkled with humor! She will make you laugh, cry, and shine a refreshingly new light on life's challenges.



Drew White, MSN, PMHNP
Interim Medical Director, Psychiatric Emergency and Consultative Services
Centra Health

Drew White is the Interim Medical Director for Psychiatric Emergency and Consultative Services at Centra. He has been working in the psychiatry and behavioral health field for 15 years in various roles and settings. White is a graduate of the University of Virginia Graduate School of Nursing where he completed his Master's of Science in Nursing degree in

the psychiatric-mental health track. When not working, White loves seeing live music and going camping with his wife and two boys.





SPEAKERS



**The Honorable Glenn Youngkin — Welcome Speaker
Governor
Commonwealth of Virginia**

Born in Richmond and raised in Virginia Beach, Governor Glenn Youngkin is a homegrown Virginian from humble beginnings. From washing dishes at a local diner to being named co-CEO of one of the world's top investment firms, Governor Youngkin knows what it's like to work hard and is doing so on behalf of all Virginians. Since day one, Governor Youngkin has been a champion for parents rights, students, and teachers. He ushered in historic investments in education, launched a lab school initiative to inject choice and innovation into our public school system, raised teachers' salaries 12%, passed the Virginia Literacy Act to improve literacy among elementary school-age students, renewed Virginia's focus on career and technical education and implemented the *ALL In Virginia* plan to tackle persistent learning loss stemming from forced pandemic school closures through targeted tutoring in math and reading.

As the chief economic development officer of the Commonwealth, the governor has facilitated waves of economic investments and business expansions to reinvigorate job growth and opportunity. Under Governor Youngkin's leadership, the Commonwealth has welcomed companies committing nearly \$71 billion in capital investment from major corporations and expansion. Lowering the cost of living has been a top priority for the governor and he's delivered \$5 billion dollars in tax relief for Virginians and working families. Governor Youngkin also implemented a state tax exemption for military retirement pay.

Responding to Virginia's behavioral health crisis, Governor Youngkin launched historic efforts to transform our overwhelmed behavioral health system through his *Right Help, Right Now* plan which provides Virginians pre-crisis, in-crisis, and post-crisis help. He didn't stop there, he has worked to revamp our childcare system – critical for working families, a foster care system that was failing too many, and a developmental disability waiver system that left so many unserved. Throughout his term, Governor Glenn Youngkin has embraced innovation and commonsense especially when it comes to developing Virginia's All-American, All-of-the-Above energy approach to deliver reliable, affordable, and increasingly clean power for the Commonwealth's future. Governor Glenn Youngkin has transformed government, expanded opportunity in Virginia, and delivered for Virginians.

Governor Youngkin has been married for over 29 years to Suzanne S. Youngkin, a devoted leader in non-profits and charitable causes. Together, they are dedicated to their four wonderful children. Their family journey has been and continues to be guided by their faith, walking hand in hand as humble followers of Christ.





SPEAKERS



Scott Zeller, MD — Keynote Speaker
Vice President for Acute Psychiatry
Vituity

Dr. Scott Zeller is Vituity’s Vice President for Acute Psychiatry. He also serves as an Assistant Professor at the University of California-Riverside School of Medicine, and previously served as Chief of Psychiatric Emergency Services at the Alameda Health System in Oakland, CA. In his more than 30 years of practice, he has personally cared for over 80,000 patients.

Dr. Zeller is known around the world as a leading expert in psychiatric emergencies. He has authored multiple textbooks and numerous peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and lectures internationally as a keynote speaker. Additionally, he led the development of both U.S. and international guidelines on evaluation and treatment of agitation. He has published research on innovative designs for emergency mental healthcare, which he has also helped to implement in multiple centers.

Dr. Zeller graduated from Northwestern University Medical School and completed his residency at the University of California, San Francisco. In addition to his work with Vituity, Dr. Zeller is an Assistant Clinical Professor at both the University of California, Riverside and Touro University medical schools and is a past president of the American Association for Emergency Psychiatry.

The National Council awarded him the 2015 USA Doctor of the Year award for Behavioral Health, and the 2019 California Hospital Association Heerman Award for making a landmark contribution to improving California healthcare. In 2020, Dr. Zeller was named one of the “ten most influential people in healthcare design” by *Healthcare Design* magazine.





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In collaboration with AXIS Medical Education, VHHA and the VHHA Foundation are pleased to share that 4.75 hours of continuing education credits for physicians, nurses, and social workers are available to professionals who attend the 2024 Virginia Behavioral Health Summit.

Following the conclusion of the Summit, attendees will be contacted by e-mail and receive a link to complete an evaluation form. Completing the form is required for professionals to receive any continuing education credits earned.

The online portal featuring the Summit evaluation will be open for 30 days after the conclusion of the Summit.

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PATIENTS COME FIRST PODCAST



The *Patients Come First* podcast is a weekly series presented by VHHA. Each episode features people in the health care community whose work is focused on enhancing patient outcomes through direct care, medical research, and other work. The podcast is available on 19 radio stations across five states and through Apple Podcast, Spotify, Amazon, and more. Listen online at <https://vhha.com/communications-podcast/>. Send feedback or guest suggestions to pcfpodcast@vhha.com.

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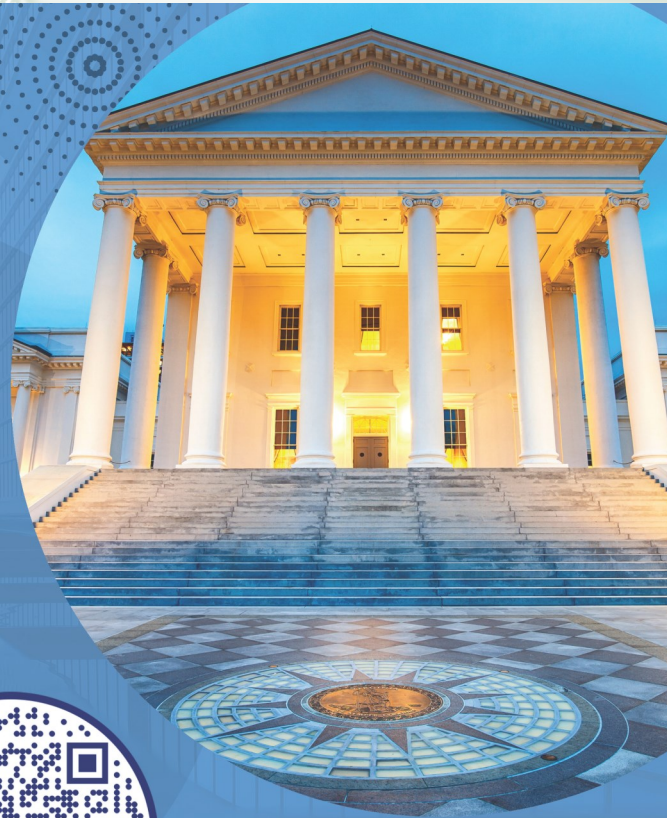
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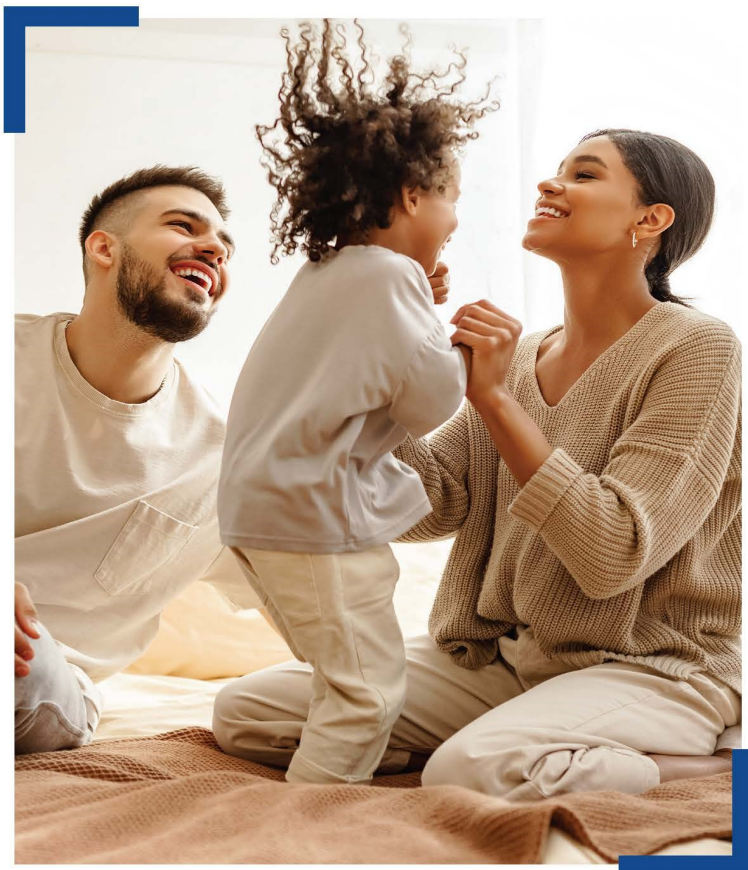
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- ✓ Education/Employment
- ✓ Mental/Behavioral Health
- ✓ Benefits/Financial/Legal



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