

# HEALING + HELPING

NEWS FOR OUR GENEROUS  
FRIENDS + SUPPORTERS



SUMMER 2020

## COMING TOGETHER IN CRISIS

Here for the community, responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

Virginia Hospital Center has been here for the community for more than 75 years, but we have never faced anything like the coronavirus (COVID-19) public health crisis.

As the pandemic spread, the Hospital took several important and necessary actions. We followed Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations, and as a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network, we adhered to Mayo's best practices and standards of care.

Among the ways we responded:

- The Hospital opened a temporary “drive-through” COVID-19 sample collection site, in cooperation with the Arlington County Public Health Department, the Arlington County Police Department, the Arlington County Fire Department, the Arlington County Sheriff's Office, and the Department of Environmental Services.
- The Hospital adopted a no-visitor policy, making safety our first priority.

“Giving to this fund is the best way to help your community Hospital at this critical time.”

—Jim Cole, President and CEO,  
Virginia Hospital Center



- Some outpatient services and education, training, and community meetings were suspended.

Due to the many unbudgeted expenses related to the crisis response—from testing and supplies to staff overtime—we also launched a special COVID-19 Fund with a goal to raise \$750,000.

“Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. This pandemic has impacted everyone,” said Jim Cole, President and CEO of Virginia Hospital Center. “Giving to this fund is the best way to help your community Hospital at this critical time.”

**To support the COVID-19 Fund, visit**  
[vhcfoundation.com/covid19](https://vhcfoundation.com/covid19).

## WHAT THE MAYO COLLABORATION MEANS TO YOU

**Second Opinions** – Through eConsults, our physicians can connect with Mayo experts for additional input on a patient’s care. Getting a second opinion through an eConsult is easy and efficient, and there is no additional cost to the patient.

**AskMayoExpert** – Our physicians have unlimited access to AskMayoExpert, an online tool of Mayo Clinic–vetted knowledge on disease management, clinical care guidelines, treatment recommendations, and patient education materials for use at the point of care.

**Close to Home** – The benefits of Mayo knowledge and expertise are accessed while close to home. When treatment at Mayo Clinic is appropriate, patients benefit from an expedited referral process. •

“This relationship is enabling us to remain a strong, independent, community-based healthcare provider while leveraging the latest care breakthroughs, research, and innovations of Mayo Clinic.”

—Jeff DiLisi, MD,  
Chief Medical Officer,  
Virginia Hospital Center

## FIVE YEARS WITH MAYO CLINIC CARE NETWORK

Collaboration benefits patients, families, and physicians



 **MAYO CLINIC CARE NETWORK**  
Member

Virginia Hospital Center marked five years as a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network with a reception on February 20, 2020, that included guests from Mayo Clinic.

“Virginia Hospital Center is very proud to be a member of the Mayo Clinic Care Network,” said Jeff DiLisi, MD, Chief Medical Officer, during his remarks. “No other Washington, D.C., area hospital offers such a unique collaboration with Mayo Clinic.”

In 2015, Virginia Hospital Center was selected to join the Mayo Clinic Care Network following a rigorous review process based on quality, service, and operational criteria. This honor is a direct reflection of the exemplary care our physicians and staff provide every day.

“Through this collaboration, we are continuing to build on our foundation as a leader in evidence-based medicine, patient care excellence, and strong organizational performance,” Dr. DiLisi added. “This relationship is enabling us to remain a strong, independent, community-based healthcare provider while leveraging the latest care breakthroughs, research, and innovations of Mayo Clinic.”

As part of the network, Virginia Hospital Center physicians have access to the latest Mayo Clinic resources to complement their own expertise when diagnosing and treating patients (see sidebar). As a result, patients and families enjoy enhanced care and greater peace of mind. •

## SUPPORTING TOP NURSING CARE

Annual Friends of Nursing award given in honor of a loved one

Virginia Hospital Center is proud to have the highest caliber of nurses on its staff. Thanks to our long-time Friends of Nursing supporters, nurses receive annual scholarships and awards to continue their clinical training and development.

Those supporters include the Papamichael family. Mamie and Michael Papamichael's first gift to the Hospital was in 1981, and they were continually engaged through Mamie's service with the Virginia Hospital Center Auxiliary. Michael received high-quality and compassionate care and treatment for his cancer at the Hospital before passing away in 1988. Mamie, along with her two daughters, Daphne and Tina, created a nursing fund in his honor.

The Michael D. Papamichael Memorial Clinical Excellence in Oncology Nursing Award supports continued training and education for oncology nurses. Each year at Friends of Nursing, Mamie, Daphne, and Tina enjoy meeting



and hearing about the professional journey of the nurse who receives their award.

"My family and I are proud to support Virginia Hospital Center nurses through our fund. It enables us to honor the memory of my father and ensure the community continues to receive top nursing care," says Daphne Papamichael.

Lisa Steeves, MSN, RN, Senior Director of Staff Development, says: "We are grateful to the Papamichael family. These funds allow us to send nurses to conferences, provide additional clinical training, and show that we value their professional development." •

"My family and I are proud to support Virginia Hospital Center nurses through our fund. It enables us to honor the memory of my father and ensure the community continues to receive top nursing care."

—Daphne Papamichael,  
Friends of Nursing donor

## OUR HEARTS ARE FULL

Virginia Hospital Center has received many encouraging messages during the COVID-19 crisis. We are beyond grateful for the community's outpouring of support. Here is just a sampling of what we were able to share with our staff:



"Thank you to every single person who is working, helping, or supporting you during this difficult time."

"Thank you for all that you are doing to keep our community safe. I am immunocompromised and hope that I do not need to be treated for the virus, but if I do, I know that I'd be in good hands at VHC. You are awesome!"



"Thank you to all of the VHC heroes and their families! We would be lost without you. Thank you."

"As an Auxiliary Board member, I am grateful for all the Hospital has done during this crisis."

## NEW LOOK, SAME IMPACT



## THE GALEN SOCIETY

Introducing our new Galen Society look! The Galen Society is a group of community leaders who value having an independent, nonprofit hospital in their backyard. They support the best patient care for all through their philanthropic giving to Virginia Hospital Center.

Now, more than ever, we are grateful for the consistent, impactful support our Galen Society members have made to the Hospital, staff, and patients.

For more information about joining The Galen Society or becoming a member of its 2020 Leadership Committee, please contact Colleen Hughes at [chughes@virginiahospitalcenter.com](mailto:chughes@virginiahospitalcenter.com) or 703.717.4424. •

## MUSIC & MEDICINE REIMAGINED

Our dedicated donors and community members fully embraced a new way to celebrate the Hospital after this year's Music & Medicine annual gala had to be modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The reimagined "Party in a Box" alternative sold out, giving guests a chance to support our Hospital while gathering together safely from a distance. We are grateful for all the enthusiasm and generosity!

Our heartfelt thanks to all who participated. Your gifts support the Hospital's COVID-19 Fund and VHC Pediatrics at a time when we appreciate community health more than ever. Thank you! •



## SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESENTS DONATION

Members of the Arlington County Sheriff's Office presented Virginia Hospital Center Foundation with a check for \$2,500 to go toward the Virginia Hospital Center Outpatient Clinic.

The gift was from funds raised at a breast cancer awareness event organized by the Sheriff's Office last October. •

## STAY UP TO DATE!

Want to hear about all the great news, opportunities, and stories happening here at Virginia Hospital Center? Find us on these social media sites or visit us on our website. We'll see you there!

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[vhcfoundation.com](http://vhcfoundation.com)