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## Virginia Health Information and ConnectVirginia Complete Merger

Combined Organization Poised to Expand Information to Further Improve Healthcare Quality and Lower Costs



Richmond, Va. – On behalf of their Boards of Directors, Virginia Health Information (VHI) and ConnectVirginia are pleased to announce their merger as of July 1, 2019. The nonprofit organizations merged after a two year comprehensive relationship with VHI providing management services to ConnectVirginia.

ConnectVirginia served as the Commonwealth of Virginia's Health Information Exchange (HIE) utilizing secure, electronic, internet-based technology to allow medical information to be exchanged by participating healthcare providers. As a result, providers possess more complete medical information to provide higher quality care for patients and to more easily coordinate treatment with other healthcare providers. "This merger reflects the instant synergy between the two organizations and natural fit of ConnectVirginia into VHI," says Dr. Bill Hazel, former Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Resources and past Chair of ConnectVirginia.

VHI administers a variety of healthcare data collection programs in Virginia to provide actionable information to consumers, purchasers and other stakeholders. These programs work to enhance the quality and value of healthcare delivery and promote informed decision-making.

"Accurate and complete information spanning pharmacy, hospital, health plan and physician care are critical building blocks that this merger will help enable," says Rusty Maney, VHI's Board President. Pharmacist by profession, Maney understands the value of bringing health information together for a broader picture of the healthcare landscape.

Michael T. Lundberg, VHI's Executive Director, praised ConnectVirginia's accomplishments as a health information exchange, "ConnectVirginia is an HIE leader with a growing range of services recognized widely in Virginia and beyond." With the merger, ConnectVirginia is now a program of VHI alongside the All Payer Claims Database, Hospital Discharge program and others. For more information about VHI's programs, visit <a href="https://www.vhi.org">www.vhi.org</a>.

Virginia Health Information (VHI) is the nonprofit organization that businesses, consumers, the Commonwealth of Virginia and health insurance companies go to for health information. VHI publishes reports and consumer guides on health insurance, hospitals, HMOs, nursing facilities, physicians and other topics at <a href="www.vhi.org">www.vhi.org</a>. To find the latest updates on healthcare data and statistics, find and like VHI on Facebook at <a href="www.facebook.com/vahealth">www.facebook.com/vahealth</a>.

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