

For Immediate Release

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Richmond City Health District and Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority Recognized as 2013 Heroes in Health Care

RICHMOND, VA – Richmond City Health District and Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority (*RCHD & RRHA*) received the Virginia Health Care Foundation's (*VHCF*) *Unsung Hero Teamwork Award* at its annual *Heroes in Health Care* celebration June 7, at Richmond CenterStage.

Since 2009, RCHD and RRHA have worked together to establish and operate four Health Resource Centers in low-income public housing developments. The centers provide women's health services, screening for Sexually Transmitted Infections (*STI*), health screenings, health education classes, and referrals to medical homes with safety net providers. This collaboration has gained national recognition. A fifth center, in Hillside Court, was opened in March.

"The Resource Center model provides an easily accessible entry point to the health care system. Its strategic location in public housing developments, combined with the relationship-based approach of the RCHD staff, serves to remove major barriers to care."

Virginia Supreme Court Justice, William C. Mims and C. Burke King, President of Virginia Market, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield presented RCHD & RRHA representatives with the *Teamwork Award* and a contribution of \$2,000 made possible by the Virginia Association of Health Plans. This is the 11th consecutive year that VAHP has underwritten contributions in honor of *VHCF's Unsung Heroes*.

VHCF also recognized the following *Unsung Heroes* with an award and contribution of \$2,000 from VAHP:

Iris Treacle (*Tangier Island/Rappahannock*) David B. Nichols Health Center: *Unsung Hero Child Health Champion Award*

Guy and Betty Beatty (*Fairfax County*) Free Clinic of Franklin County: *Unsung Hero Donor Award*

David A. Ellington, MD (*Lexington*) Rockbridge Area Health Center: *Unsung Hero Physician Award*

Paula D. Green (*Newport News*) Community Free Clinic of Newport News: *Unsung Hero Volunteer Award*

Marsha Stonehill (*Fredericksburg*) Lloyd F. Moss Free Clinic: *Unsung Hero Employee Award*

Additional award winners follow:

Jeannette Holmes from Tri-County RxAssist and **Eli Lilly & Company** each received the *You “Rx”ceptional Award*. This award recognizes a local Medication Assistance Caseworker who has gone beyond the call of duty to help patients obtain free medicines from brandname pharmaceutical companies’ Patient Assistance Programs, and to a pharmaceutical company which has made a significant impact helping uninsured Virginians.

Eastern Shore Rural Health System Inc. received the *Wells Fargo Achievement Award*, which is presented each year to a former VHCF grantee that demonstrates growth, sustainable business practices, and an entrepreneurial spirit. A \$10,000 cash award from the Wells Fargo Foundation accompanied the award.

The Virginia Health Care Foundation is a non-profit public/private partnership dedicated to increasing access to primary health care for uninsured and medically underserved Virginians. The Foundation was initiated by the General Assembly and the Joint Commission on Health Care in 1992. Since its inception, it has funded 322 community based projects across the Commonwealth, and its programs and partnerships have touched the lives of more than 600,000 uninsured Virginians.

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