

# Members of the VCU Health System Board of Directors

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**Please note that 3 Virginia lawmakers sit on the VCU Hospital Authority Board. They are scheduled to meet on April 16. Please call or Email them, message is simple. Please support PACKids and an independent free-standing, full service children's hospital in Richmond!**

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Dear:

I am writing to thank you for any actions you can take to advance the creation of an independent, free-standing, hospital dedicated solely to the care of children in the Richmond area.

More than 250 of the area's pediatricians are in favor of the proposed hospital, believing that it is the best way to bring the highest level of excellence to those that need it the most...our children. A rapidly growing number of parents are working hard alongside these pediatricians to make this a reality.

Currently, care for children in the Richmond metropolitan area is fragmented and inefficient...and rough on families.

Parents—with severely sick children in tow—regularly have to navigate multiple health systems and locations to seek the specialists they need. A unified location where all specialists, resources, and records are centralized would be a tremendous blessing for these children and their families.

If you have not done so already, I would encourage you to watch the DVD of one area mom, Anne Maliff who shares her own heart-wrenching story. It is punishing on her and on her young son, who suffers from cerebral palsy, to journey from one health system to another for treatment, sometimes at night.

The new hospital for children will offer the full complement of services...under one roof. This is a model that has worked well in other communities. And Richmond is large enough, with this consolidation, to build a world-class, nationally ranked children's hospital. We do not have that now.

This is the moment for Richmond and its children.

A generous philanthropist is waiting to make an unprecedented and historic gift to build this hospital. Pediatricians want it. Parents want it. Our children deserve it. We need to say "yes" to this opportunity.

In your deliberations on the board on which you serve, please be a strong advocate and support this wonderful endeavor.

Sincerely,