



NEWS RELEASE

Bon Secours Virginia Celebrates Successful \$5 Million Fundraising Effort to Build Richmond's First Community Hospice House *Freestanding hospice and palliative care facility will provide high level of care in home-like environment*

RICHMOND, Va. - (October 14, 2013) – Bon Secours Richmond Health Care Foundation today celebrated the results of a successful community effort to build the first hospice house in the Richmond area, at a luncheon for lead donors and campaign volunteers. The successful fundraising campaign resulted in the Foundation reaching its goal of \$5 million raised toward the construction of the new facility, which will serve patients from all area health systems and physicians.

“Today we celebrate an exciting milestone that will enable us to fulfill a community need for a freestanding hospice facility, which will be open to patients from all area health systems and physicians,” said Peter J. Bernard, chief executive officer, Bon Secours Virginia Health System. “Bon Secours is proud to be able to provide families and patients with a facility that will meet a critical unfilled need for compassionate end-of-life care in Central Virginia.”

In 2012, Bon Secours announced plans to build a Community Hospice House in Old Bon Air on land donated by honorary campaign co-chairs John C. Cullather and Anthony F. Markel. The Community Hospice House will have private patient suites, each with garden access, as well as common areas where families can spend time with their loved ones unencumbered by caregiving duties.

Guided by a holistic approach to medicine, the Community Hospice House will provide a high level of medical care in a home-like environment. Currently, there is no hospice house available in Richmond.

“We are very pleased by the generous support from the Central Virginia community,” said Cindy Reynolds, CEO, Bon Secours Richmond Health Care Foundation. “We are extremely grateful to our donors who understand the value of providing a comfortable, caring environment for their loved ones at the end of their lives. This successful effort was led by Foundation Board Chair Bill Boines and Fundraising Chair Kyle Woolfolk, and we are proud to build this facility for the community.”

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Services will include pain management and the relief of other symptoms of illness with a focus on comfort and improved quality of life. Psychosocial and spiritual care for patients and families, as well as bereavement counseling and support, will also be available. The program will be staffed by a hospice medical director and hospice nurses, home health aides, counselors, social workers and chaplains. Great care will be taken in the design of the Community Hospice House to ensure patients and families can rest in a home-like environment, surrounded by natural elements of light, water and plants. Medical equipment will be easily accessible.

“In keeping with the Bon Secours mission of caring for the sick and dying, the Community Hospice House will provide a high quality of life for patients with terminal illness, while providing the emotional and spiritual support to their families,” said Sr. Vicky Segura, M.D., C.B.S., hospice and palliative care physician.

Once the Community Hospice House is built, its operating budget will come from Bon Secours Hospice Services. Since 1983, Bon Secours has provided medical and emotional care to terminally ill patients and their families, along with the daily living assistance that ensures their comfort and dignity.

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About Bon Secours Virginia Health System

Bon Secours Virginia provides good help to thousands of Virginians through a network of hospitals, primary and specialty care practices, ambulatory care sites and continuing care facilities across the Commonwealth. The not-for-profit health system employs about 12,000 people, including nearly 300 physicians as part of the Bon Secours Medical Group.

The fourth largest and only faith-based health system in Virginia, Bon Secours Virginia offers a full range of services including cardiac, women’s, children’s, orthopaedics, oncology, neurosciences and surgery at seven award-winning hospitals.

- Bon Secours Richmond is St. Mary’s Hospital, Memorial Regional Medical Center, Richmond Community Hospital and St. Francis Medical Center.
- Bon Secours Hampton Roads is Maryview Medical Center, DePaul Medical Center and Mary Immaculate Hospital.

About Bon Secours Richmond Foundation

Bon Secours’ ministry of providing good help to those in need is supported by the Bon Secours Richmond Foundation, which raises funds to create healthy communities, advance clinical innovation and provide an extraordinary experience of care.