



*COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA*

*Department of Health*  
P O BOX 2448  
RICHMOND, VA 23218

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner

TTY 7-1-1 OR  
1-800-828-1120

April 8, 2020

Ms. Darlene Stephenson, President  
Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital  
2 Bernadine Drive  
Newport News, Virginia 23602

**RE: Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital, LLC (Request VCU 3.27.20)**  
Newport News, Virginia  
Temporarily add 29 Beds at Mary Immaculate Hospital

Dear Ms. Stephenson:

In accordance with Executive Order 52, I reviewed the request and all supporting documents submitted by Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital, LLC (Mary Immaculate) to temporarily add 29 beds at Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital. I have considered the factors listed in my March 24, 2020, letter and I have concluded that **approval** of the request is warranted based on the following findings:

1. Mary Immaculate has demonstrated that, due to the reasonable expectation of a sudden and overwhelming increase in acute care patients resulting from COVID-19 infection, Mary Immaculate has an immediate need to temporarily add 29 licensed inpatient beds.
2. Mary Immaculate's plan for training and shifting ambulatory staff is a reasonable solution for staffing the additional beds.
3. Mary Immaculate's plan to expand bed capacity in existing hospital space throughout the hospital assures patient safety is maintained from a fire and life safety code perspective.

Ms. Darlene Stephenson, President  
Bon Secours Mary Immaculate Hospital  
April 8, 2020  
Page 2

In accordance with Executive Order 52, the 29 added beds are deemed to be licensed from the date an emailed notice is received by Robert Payne, Director of the Office of Licensure and Certification, that they are open. This authorization is valid for the period April 8, 2020 through 30 days after the expiration of or rescission of Executive Order 52, as it may be amended.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Payne at (804) 367-2109, or [Robert.Payne@VDH.Virginia.gov](mailto:Robert.Payne@VDH.Virginia.gov). Thank you for your response to the community in this public health emergency.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

*M. Norman Oliver, MD*

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M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner

Enclosures

cc: Allyson Tysinger, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia  
Robert A. K. Payne, JD, Director, Office of Licensure and Certification  
Deborah K. Waite, Operations Manager, Virginia Health Information  
Thomas Franck, MD, Acting District Director, Peninsula Health District