



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 6, 2020

Ms. Melinda Hancock
Chief Administrative & Financial Officer
VCU Health System
1250 East Marshall Street, Suite 2-300
Post Office Box 980510
Richmond, Virginia 23298-0510

RE: Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Authority (Request VCU 3.26.20)
VCU Honors College, Richmond, Virginia
Temporarily add 180 beds at VCU Honors College

Dear Ms. Hancock:

In accordance with Executive Order 52, I reviewed the request and all supporting documents submitted by Virginia Commonwealth University Health Systems Authority (VCUHS) to temporarily add 180 beds at VCU's Honors College dormitory located at 701 Grace Street in Richmond, Virginia. This authorization for additional bed capacity is contingent upon VCUHS' newly designated space's compliance with all Life Safety Code requirements. 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. VCUHS has demonstrated that, due to the reasonable expectation of a sudden and overwhelming increase in acute care patients resulting from COVID-19 infection, VCU's Honors College has an immediate need to temporarily add 180 licensed inpatient beds.
2. VCUHS' plan for training and shifting ambulatory staff is a reasonable solution for staffing the additional beds.
3. VCUHS' plan and ability to obtain equipment and supplies is reasonable within the confines of the current crisis.
4. VCUHS' plan to introduce bed capacity in a previously Joint-Commission-accredited space assures patient safety is maintained from a fire and life safety code perspective.

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In accordance with Executive Order 52 the 180 added beds are deemed to be licensed under VCU Medical Center's license 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 6, 2020, through 30 days after the expiration of or rescission of Executive Order 51, as it may be amended.

If you have any questions please contact Robert Payne at Robert.Payne@VDH.Virginia.gov or (804) 367-2109. 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

Enclosure

cc: Allyson Tysinger, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia
Erik Bodin, Director, Division of Certificate of Public Need
Deborah K. Waite, Operations Manager, Virginia Health Information
Danny Avula, MD, MPH, District Director, Richmond City Health District