



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health  
P O BOX 2448  
RICHMOND, VA 23218

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

May 13, 2020

Mr. Reese Jackson  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
Chesapeake Regional Healthcare  
736 Battlefield Boulevard, North  
Chesapeake, Virginia 23320

**RE: Chesapeake Regional Medical Center**

Chesapeake, Virginia

Temporarily add 94 medical/surgical beds at RiverCrest Community Center in response to the COVID-19 crisis

Dear Mr. Jackson:

In accordance with Executive Order 52, I reviewed the request and all supporting documents submitted by Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (CRMC) to temporarily add 94 medical/surgical beds at RiverCrest Community Center (RiverCrest) in addition to the 123 beds at CRMC that I authorized on April 9, 2020. 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:

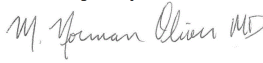
1. CRMC has demonstrated that, due to the reasonable expectation of a sudden and overwhelming increase in acute care patients resulting from COVID-19 infection, CRMC has a need to receive authorization to temporarily add 94 intensive care unit beds at RiverCrest.
2. The Alternative Care Site at RiverCrest will be established only if existing and surge capacity approved beds at CRMC are fully utilized and additional capacity is required.
3. CRMC's plan for training and shifting repurposed staff is a reasonable solution for staffing the additional beds.
4. CRMC's plan and ability to obtain equipment and supplies is reasonable within the confines of the current crisis.
5. CRMC's plan to expand bed capacity in existing hospital 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 94 added beds at RiverCrest are deemed to be licensed from the date an emailed notice is received by Robert Payne, Director of the Office of Licensure and Certification, stating that the beds are open. This authorization is valid for the period May 13, 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:  
  
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M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner

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  
Nancy Welch, MD, MHA, MBA, District Director, Chesapeake Health District