



# VTCC ON THE MOVE

## Rising Momentum



### Preparing for change

Virginia Treatment Center for Children is on the cusp of a significant transition. Our new facility will better reflect and support the type of compassionate care we provide. VTCC team members should be especially proud of their role in shaping the new space. Your input ensured that our patients and families will be more comfortable and feel more at home. And, with your feedback, we added more features and tools to help us in our day-to-day work. Following is just a small sample of your contributions — we hope everyone's excited to see some big changes!

- Improved patient room layouts and courtyard spaces
- Finishing touches tailored to patients, such as soap dishes, toilets, trash cans and audio speakers
- More shared spaces for community presentations, lectures and trainings
- Patient rooms designed for live teaching and observation spaces for trainees
- A less disruptive emergency response system

### New place, new space: color and light

The new VTCC facility was conceived from the ground up to be a welcoming and healing environment. So often, children with mental health needs feel isolated and locked away. Our new facility will help them maintain a sense of connection. Here, children and families can experience nature, even while inside. The facility will feature many windows and glass walls in both public and private spaces, letting in an abundance of natural light. It also will have comfortable, home-like furnishings and a soothing aesthetic with warm, calming colors.

#### The VTCC color palette

**Earth tones:** relaxing, stabilizing and familiar

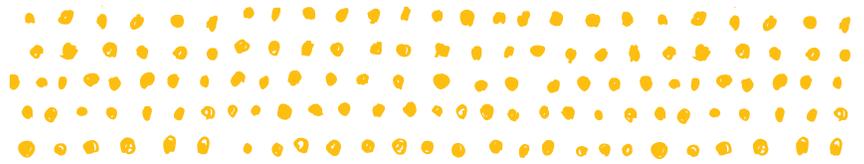
**Greens:** sense of balance, harmony and renewal

**Turquoises:** pure and fresh, soothing tension and stress

**Purples:** associated with creativity and cerebral activity

**Patient perspectives** • My daughter, who is now 24 years old and received treatment at VTCC, just said goodbye to her psychiatrist. It was a bittersweet moment because the outpatient and inpatient care has been so great. She is still on her journey to wellness, but VTCC has provided her hope and a starting point for her way forward. — Grateful mother of former VTCC patient

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## NEW VTCC FAST FACTS

**120,000**  
square-foot facility

**37 percent** larger  
than the current site

**32** inpatient rooms;  
**20** outpatient  
treatment rooms

**\$60 million**  
investment, with  
**\$56 million** funded by  
the General Assembly

### \* Moving tip

Use the last weeks of summer to take personal artwork and other items home. Current VTCC artwork will be reframed for the new facility.

### Town Hall meeting

VTCC's next Town Hall meetings will be September 26 at 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. in CR1, and September 27 at 10:30 p.m. in CR3. New facility tours are offered on the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. **Please submit questions at [chrichmond.org/vtccquestions](http://chrichmond.org/vtccquestions).**

## Team member spotlight

Dr. Aradhana "Bela" Sood,  
Senior professor for child  
and mental health policy,  
29 years of service.



### How were you involved in planning?

As children's mental health was gaining momentum, parents were paying closer attention to the state of our building. Our children deserve to be in a place that promotes healing, so together we sought the attention of the General Assembly, legislators, VCU and the health system to bring our cause to the forefront. We hosted tours, held fundraisers and spoke at events. It took a village, but it really was a labor of love for me. By the time I stepped down as chair, the funding and building designs were in place.

### What does the move mean to you?

I'm delighted for the children and families of Virginia, and to continue my journey with prevention, an area that hasn't gained much traction in healthcare. We, at VTCC, are best suited to put initiatives in place to prevent mental illness, educate and raise funding, and provide good parenting support to reduce childhood mental illness. It's a tall order, but it's the right thing to do and it must start somewhere.

## Connect and Collaborate

As the child and adolescent division of the VCU Department of Psychiatry and the mental health provider for CHoR, VTCC is uniquely equipped to provide comprehensive care to children and families in our community. Within the same trusted system, children can receive mental health care and meet just about any of their other health care needs.