

# The MolinaCares Accord in **VIRGINIA**

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## Welcome from Plan President Darrin Johnson

Hello and welcome to the latest MolinaCares in Virginia newsletter. Since our last issue, we have made some very exciting announcements which I am pleased to share with you here.

Through our ongoing commitment to building stronger Virginia communities, we recently announced the MolinaCares [Vision for Virginia](#) initiative with an initial investment of over \$1 million to improve health outcomes across the state.

Supporting local organizations that directly serve our communities with the greatest need is vital to Molina. One of those communities is the city of Petersburg, where MolinaCares has invested over \$430,000 to improve access to care and community health through our [Partnership for Petersburg initiative](#).

As a part of this initiative, Molina recently opened its first of six Molina One Stop Resource Centers in Petersburg. These centers will be a central location for community members to access health resources and health education. We were honored to have Virginia Health and Human Resources Secretary John Littel, Medicaid Director Cheryl Roberts, Petersburg Mayor Sam Parham, and other community leaders join us for the ribbon cutting.

I look forward to staying in touch with you as we build upon this work in the coming months!

Best,

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# MolinaCares in the Community

## Vision for Virginia Initiative

The MolinaCares Accord, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Virginia, recently announced its Vision for Virginia initiative with an initial investment of over \$1 million to improve health outcomes and build stronger communities.

Virginians continue to face significant health care [challenges](#), including high rates of obesity, heart disease and diabetes. Some regions across the state, including southwest Virginia counties and Petersburg, show [poor health care outcomes](#) due to lack of access and funding for essential programs.

MolinaCares Vision for Virginia supports more than 30 organizations dedicated to improving the health of underserved populations across the commonwealth with a focus on access to care, health-related social needs, behavioral health, food security, and maternal and child health.

“Every Virginia citizen should have access to the health resources needed to thrive. I applaud MolinaCares’ efforts to expand upon the work of this administration and to provide support to communities in need,” said Virginia Secretary of Health and Human Resources John Littel about the initiative.

You can view the full list of organizations and grant initiatives [here](#).

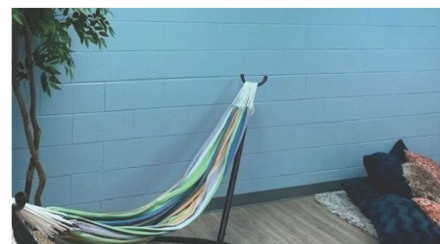
## Partnership for Petersburg Initiative

As part of the Vision for Virginia initiative, The MolinaCares Accord, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Virginia, also launched its MolinaCares Partnership for Petersburg initiative with an initial investment of over \$430,000 to improve access to care and community health for the city of Petersburg. This initiative builds upon Governor Glenn Youngkin’s own [Partnership for Petersburg](#).

Improving access to care and health outcomes in Petersburg is part of Molina’s ongoing commitment to building stronger Virginia communities. [Data](#) show the city is the least healthy in Virginia and its life expectancy is among the [lowest](#) in the commonwealth.

The MolinaCares Partnership for Petersburg supports several initiatives, including expanding a partnership with Petersburg City Public Schools by providing calming rooms in three schools for students to use during the school day. With this expansion, over 4,200 students at Petersburg City Public Schools will have access to a safe space to refocus and gather themselves when they become anxious or overwhelmed. The spaces will also be used by teachers who need positive tools to support students that may be experiencing mental health or sensory issues.

Learn more about the initiative and view the full list of grantees [here](#).



## One Stop Resource Center Opening in Petersburg

On July 19, Molina Healthcare of Virginia opened its first Molina One Stop Resource Center in Petersburg. We were honored to host Virginia Health and Human Resources Secretary John Littel, Medicaid Director Cheryl Roberts, Petersburg Mayor Sam Parham, and other community leaders to celebrate this new resource in the Petersburg community.

This center is the first of six that will open in Virginia this year. It will serve as a central space for member and provider education, health clinics, telemedicine kiosks, community resources and other materials that address local needs. Some materials may include information about heart disease, diabetes, cancer prevention and screening benefits.

We are excited to offer this service to the Petersburg community!



## WomenRise Program Donation

The MolinaCares Accord in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Virginia, presented a \$50,000 grant to help fund the WomenRise program of the United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg. The program provides childcare scholarships for single mothers returning to school to pursue a postsecondary education or career training in the Richmond area.

According to the [U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#), people with higher levels of education are more likely to lead healthier and longer lives. However, only **30%** of single mothers in the United States hold an associate degree or higher compared to over 50% of married mothers. Molina's grant will provide \$50,000 in scholarships to cover the cost of childcare services while they further their education.

A WomenRise scholarship is paid directly to the childcare provider and the scholarship program includes access to mentorship, support, and encouragement from peers, as well as a set of partners and resources within the United Way network. While WomenRise scholarships are offered on an annual basis, participants are eligible to apply for renewal each year until they graduate.

To learn more about the donation and program, click [here](#).

## Increasing Access to Proper Nutrition for Virginia Youth

The MolinaCares Accord, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Virginia, provided over \$50,000 in grants to fund the MolinaCares Healthy Kids Bucks initiative at farmers markets across the state, providing youth health education and access to fresh produce to encourage healthier eating habits. The statewide program provides children between the ages of 2 and 17 with vouchers redeemable at produce stands in local farmers markets.

The program, which began in 2019, will distribute over \$50,000 to organizations across Petersburg, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Greene County, Russell County and Washington County, localities where food deserts and the high costs of fresh produce present difficulties for children in sustaining proper nutrition.

Learn more about the donation [here](#).

## Supporting Survivors of Human Trafficking in the Shenandoah Valley

The MolinaCares Accord, in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of Virginia, recently presented a \$40,000 grant to [Magnolia Rose](#) in support of their emergency shelter program. This program helps victims of human trafficking by providing placement in safe apartments, access to detox and recovery services, counseling and essential supplies.

The emergency shelter program has served over 100 survivors of human trafficking since 2020 with the goal of empowering individuals to rebuild their lives. The MolinaCares donation will enable survivors to access a 24/7 shelter program and comprehensive health care services, providing them with resources to address physical, mental and social health needs that improve their ability to thrive independently.



## Supporting Childhood Literacy in Petersburg

Molina Healthcare of Virginia recently donated books to over 400 students at the Westview Early Childhood Education Center to support childhood literacy in Petersburg. The book distribution was made possible by Molina's partnership with [Scholastic Corporation](#) as part of its [Summer Reading Program](#).

Through the program, Westview students, ages 3 to 4, received five books each to help them start an at-home library. The donation comes as Virginia invests \$30 million to combat learning loss. A report found early literacy in the state was at a 20-year low in the period coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Snyder Nursing Home Celebration

Molina Healthcare of Virginia recently hosted an event at the all-women Snyder Nursing Home in Salem to recognize the hardworking employees of the facility and the seniors they serve. Over 33 residents and their family members attended the event where Molina provided entertainment, including a magician, food for the staff, and a gift bag for attending residents. The average age of the facility's residents is 92 years old.

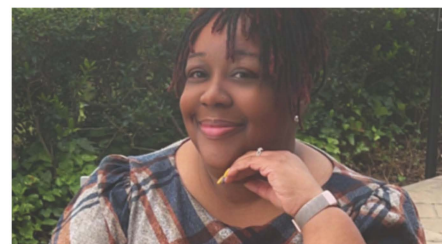
Molina is committed to recognizing the hard work of those who serve seniors across the commonwealth. In 2022, it was [reported](#) that 87% of nursing home providers nationwide were facing moderate to high staffing shortages with nearly all (99%) of nursing home providers asking staff to work overtime or extra shifts.



## United Way Steps to Success Awards

Molina Healthcare of Virginia was proud to be the presenting sponsor of the United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg's fifth annual Steps to Success Awards, a celebration of leaders in the community and organizations that make change possible.

Molina's own Jolinda Underwood was the recipient of the Giving Community Award, which recognizes a volunteer member who exemplifies the true spirit of giving, not only as a leader in the giving community, but who is active in United Way's programming and an advocate fits work.



Learn more about the Steps to Success awards [here](#).