



PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER d/b/a
HAMPTON ROADS
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Patient-Centered Medical Home
Adult Primary Care
Pediatrics
OB/GYN
Behavioral Health
Dental

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HAMPTON ROADS COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER AWARDED \$500,000 FROM SENTARA

Funds will be used to replace a mobile dental van designed to reach vulnerable populations.

HAMPTON ROADS, Va. - Sentara awarded a \$500,000 grant to the Hampton Roads Community Health Center (HRCHC), headquartered in the newly opened Barbara L. Willis Wellness Center on 1541 High Street, Portsmouth. The award has funded the purchase of a new Mobile Clinic as part of HRCHC's mobile dental program. HRCHC provides comprehensive, preventative, and emergent dental services to the Hampton Roads community and surrounding areas' most vulnerable populations.

"The new Hampton Roads Community Health Center is a wonderful asset to the citizens of Portsmouth, and the dental van will make it easier for them to offer our residents the dental care they need," states City of Portsmouth Mayor Shannon Glover. "We are thankful for the Sentara Cares initiative and the grant Sentara contributed to the health center."

"Sentara is committed to advancing health equity and ensuring that all community members have access to the resources they need to live their healthiest and most fulfilling lives," says Anna James, senior vice president, government and community relations. "We understand that by joining forces with community partners such as HRCHC, we will improve health equity and remove barriers to health by maximizing convenience and providing consistent medical and wrap-around services in neighborhoods that historically lack access to care."

In 2000, HRCHC launched the first Healthy Smiles Dental Center mobile unit. Today, the program visits more than 30 public schools in the cities of Portsmouth, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The program reaches children who are most in need, especially those participating in their schools' reduced lunch program and the early education program, Head Start.

"Our dental units have become unreliable," says Chief Dental Officer Dr. Robin Langston. "Having a new mobile unit will allow us to reach and provide more dental services to the South Hampton Roads community."

The new Mobile Clinic dental services will include: exams, X-rays, restorations, cleanings, extractions, full and partial dentures, in addition to a television, music and an awning to accommodate outreach events.

The dental program also provides services for the unhoused and unsheltered at the Oasis Social Ministry and Union Mission Ministries, as well as people with mental health and developmental issues at the Community Services Board and Eggleston. Eventually, residents of a nursing facility on Greenwood Drive in Portsmouth will also receive dental care through the mobile unit.

The community can expect to see the new Healthy Smiles Dental Center mobile unit by the summer of 2023.

“We appreciate this ongoing partnership with Sentara Healthcare,” says Chief Executive Officer Barbara Willis. “The generous grant will allow us to keep our commitment to the children and families of Hampton Roads on a consistent basis.”

About Hampton Roads Community Health Center

Hampton Roads Community Health Center provides comprehensive medical, behavioral health, and dental care for all ages. As a federally qualified outpatient primary care practice, HRCHC serves the Hampton Roads community, including the insured, Medicaid and Medicare-eligible, the uninsured and underinsured. Since 1995, HRCHC has cared for individuals regardless of ability to pay. In 2022, HRCHC served 11,594 unique patients with 31,202 patient visits. Headquartered in the newly opened Barbara L. Willis Wellness Center in Portsmouth, HRCHC has four additional locations throughout Norfolk.

HRCHC locations:

- * Barbara L. Willis Wellness Center, 1541 High Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704*
- * Park Place Family Medical Center, 155 Kingsley Lane, Suite 320, Norfolk, VA 23505*
- * Ocean View Medical & Dental Center, 9581 Shore Drive, Norfolk, VA 23518*
- * CommuniCare Health Center, 804 Whitaker Lane, Norfolk, VA 23510*
- * Little Creek Family Medical Center, 7447 Central Business Park Drive, Norfolk, VA 23513*

About Sentara Health * www.sentara.com/news

Sentara, an integrated, not-for-profit health care delivery system, celebrates 135 years in pursuit of its mission – “we improve health every day.” Sentara is one of the largest health systems in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic and Southeast, and among the top 20 largest not-for-profit health systems in the country, with 30,000 employees, 12 hospitals in Virginia and Northeastern North Carolina, and the Sentara Health Plans division which serves more than 1.2 million members in Virginia and Florida. Sentara is recognized nationally for clinical quality and safety and is strategically focused on innovation and creating an extraordinary health care experience for our patients and members. Sentara was named to IBM Watson Health’s “Top 15 Health Systems” (2021, 2018) and was recognized by Forbes as a “Best Employer for New Grads” (2022), “Best Employer for Veterans” (2022), and “Best Employer for Women” (2020).