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*For Immediate Release*

# Virginia Care Partners and UnitedHealthcare to Improve Patients' Care in the Greater Richmond Area

- *Accountable care collaboration to enhance how the health system cares for patients*
- *Innovative physician-directed network focused on collaborative care delivery*
- *More resources committed to sharing information and coordinating patient care*

**RICHMOND, Va. (March 31, 2016)** – Virginia Care Partners (VCP) and UnitedHealthcare have launched an accountable care program to improve people's health and their satisfaction with their health care experience.

The new accountable care program will dedicate more resources to care coordination and make it easier to share important health information. As a result, VCP member hospitals and physicians will share in savings generated through providing care under a value-based, patient-centric care model focused on keeping people healthy.

More than 18,000 people enrolled in UnitedHealthcare's employer-sponsored health plans are eligible to benefit from this collaboration.

Many people who have gone to the doctor or hospital – particularly those with complex or chronic illnesses – have found they often have to connect information from each of their doctor's visits themselves, and have sometimes received duplicative tests or care that isn't coordinated.

Through this collaboration, UnitedHealthcare and VCP will work together to better coordinate patients' care, using shared technology, timely data and information about emergency room visits and hospital admissions. This partnership will also provide services to help patients manage their chronic health conditions by enhancing relationships with their personal physicians and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

VCP was formed in 2012 by physicians committed to improving their patients' health outcomes by applying best treatment practices across all care settings – in physician offices, hospitals and outpatient-care settings. VCP works collaboratively to establish value-based care partnerships that provide incentives for improved patient outcomes, adherence to care standards, increased preventive care and chronic disease management, and reduced cost.

"Our multispecialty physician leadership and population health analytics have given network practices the ability to increase quality and efficiency while reducing redundancy and health care costs," said Dr. Amar Shah, primary care physician with Prime Care Family Practice, a VCP group. "We are enhancing care coordination across care settings, and our partnership with UnitedHealthcare enables the network to provide improved care to more patients in our community."

The primary care doctors and specialists who comprise the physician-led network work with VCP registered nurse care managers to assist patients in transitioning from hospital to home. The nurse care managers visit patients in the hospital before they are discharged to ensure that they understand their diagnosis and discharge orders and to help them schedule follow-up appointments. They notify the patient's primary care physician and send discharge summary, orders and medication lists to the practice. They follow up with patients once they are home to answer questions, help them better understand their health care issues and needs, and alert care providers about any complications or issues. When needed, they work with the primary care physician to integrate behavioral health services.

The Transitions of Care clinical team includes nurse care managers and a licensed clinical social worker, clinical pharmacist and registered dietitian. VCP is working to improve patient health and satisfaction through increased coordination, sharing of medical documentation and clinical support for patients

"UnitedHealthcare and VCP are working together to help people receive more personalized and better connected care, which will significantly enhance people's ability to live healthier lives," said Christopher J. Mullins of UnitedHealthcare.

UnitedHealthcare serves more than 825,000 Virginians with a network of 106 hospitals and more than 18,000 physicians and other care providers statewide.

More than 14 million people enrolled in UnitedHealthcare plans across the country have access to accountable care programs, delivered in part through more than 750 accountable care arrangements nationwide as the organization engages in deeper, more collaborative relationships with physicians and hospitals.

Care providers nationwide are showing strong interest in a shift to value-based care. UnitedHealthcare's total payments to physicians and hospitals that are tied to value-based arrangements have tripled in the last three years to $46 billion. By the end of 2018, UnitedHealthcare expects that figure to reach $65 billion.

For more information about UnitedHealthcare's full spectrum of value-based initiatives, visit www.UHC.com/valuebasedcare.

**About Virginia Care Partners**
Virginia Care Partners, LLC (VCP) is the first physician-led, clinical integration network in Virginia. Supported by advanced population health analytics, VCP's nearly 850 primary care doctors and specialists are at the forefront in crafting sustainable, patient-centered, evidence-based healthcare solutions that improve patients' outcomes while reducing costs. While most VCP physicians operate independently and are free to use any hospital in caring for their patients, the organization is closely aligned with HCA Virginia, which has provided financial, staffing, and other support since the organization was formed. VCP has contracts with Aetna, Coventry, Optima, Cigna, Humana and the HCA Virginia Employee Benefit Plan**.**

**About UnitedHealthcare**

UnitedHealthcare is dedicated to helping people nationwide live healthier lives by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. The company offers the full spectrum of health benefit programs for individuals, employers, military service members, retirees and their families, and Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and contracts directly with more than 1 million physicians and care professionals, and 6,000 hospitals and other care facilities nationwide. UnitedHealthcare is one of the businesses of UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH), a diversified Fortune 50 health and well-being company. For more information, visit UnitedHealthcare at [www.uhc.com](www.uhc.com) or follow @myUHC on Twitter.

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