



Central Virginia Health Planning Agency, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On-line Health Services Directory Launched

Chester, Virginia – February 23, 2010 – Through a grant provided by The Cameron Foundation, the Central Virginia Health Planning Agency (CVHPA), in partnership with Southside Community Partners, have developed an on-line Health Services Directory to provide free access to information about financially accessible health-related services to residents of the Southside community including: Chesterfield County, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, Dinwiddie County, Prince George County, Surry County, and Sussex County.

“One of the greatest health needs identified in our service area was for information about what resources are currently available and how to access them,” said Handy Lindsey, President, The Cameron Foundation. “This is particularly true given the current economic downturn and the increased need for affordable services by people from all walks of life.”

This comprehensive directory includes descriptions of health services, guidance to help the user understand what type of services may be needed and allows the user to search by category and location. Categories include: primary healthcare, behavioral/mental health, dental care, hospital, nursing homes, assisted living, home health, hospice, outpatient health centers, support groups/programs, and wellness/fitness programs. Organizational information provides a complete description of services that are offered, any special eligibility requirements for services, maps of each location, telephone and e-mail contacts, hours of operation, whether or not “walk-ins” are accepted and/or if appointments are required or preferred. Listed organizations also identify a web site link (if available), and if bi-lingual staff is available, among other attributes. Services listed in the on-line directory offer some level of financial access: services are free, generally affordable, and/or have a sliding fee scale available for those that qualify.

The Health Services Directory can be accessed at www.connectsouthside.org/health. The CVHPA has printed bookmarks with the Health Directory website to foster community awareness of its availability. The bookmarks will be distributed to human services providers, libraries, schools, social services agencies, health care providers, and at other appropriate locations. Should you have difficulties accessing the site or would like bookmarks for distribution, you may call 804-458-6329 x2013.

The Cameron Foundation is a not-for-profit organization established to promote and provide support for programs and activities that benefit the residents of Petersburg, Virginia, as well as other areas historically served by the hospital now known as Southside Regional Medical Center.

Southside Community Partners is a program of the Appomattox Regional Library System. Powered by ConnectSouthside, the program is dedicated to building a strong Southside community through developing and strengthening nonprofits.

The Central Virginia Health Planning Agency is a non-profit organization which has spent more than 30 years planning for health care services and facilities; collecting, analyzing, and disseminating health and human services data and information; and advocating for the health needs of communities, particularly for those with limited financial means.

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