

Clinician Update

March 17, 2022

Virtua's Support of Ukraine

On **March 16**, Virtua President and CEO Dennis W. Pullin sent a [memo](#) via email regarding the distressing and evolving situation in Ukraine. His message included an update on Virtua's partnership with the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) and the American Hospital Association to determine avenues for shipping medical supplies to places where they can do the most good.

Yesterday, NJHA provided an update on the relief effort to send medical supplies to Ukraine. In the [press announcement](#), NJHA reported that NJ hospitals have already donated more than 250 pallets of medical supplies and equipment and 40,000 doses of medications to Ukraine. The initial collection of medical aid will be shipped next week, with additional donations still coming in.

If colleagues would like to lend support to the humanitarian efforts, the State of New Jersey assembled a [resource page](#) that will be regularly updated with regional events and drives. [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#) has also vetted and assembled a list of 20-plus causes you can support, including Doctors without Borders and the American Red Cross.

In his [memo](#), Dennis Pullin said, "I truly believe each of us has tremendous power to shape the world around us. Remember, just as we might be feeling personally anxious, so might those we are caring for and serving. Keep in mind that we always have the power to be kind. We can see the best in one another. We can lend our support to those who are struggling. It might not change the course of world events, but there is something profound in our capacity to be the kind of people who actively advance good whenever possible."

Nominations Now Open for *U.S. News & World Report* Best Hospitals

Nominations are open **throughout the month of March** to participate in the *U.S. News & World Report* survey for Best Hospitals. A vital component of the assessment derives from surveyed physicians voting via [Doximity](#), the online networking platform for medical professionals. We're grateful that you can help bring attention to Virtua through your participation in this survey. These rankings are important, as many consumers consider them when deciding where to receive their care. This year, there are no paper ballots. Voting is online only.

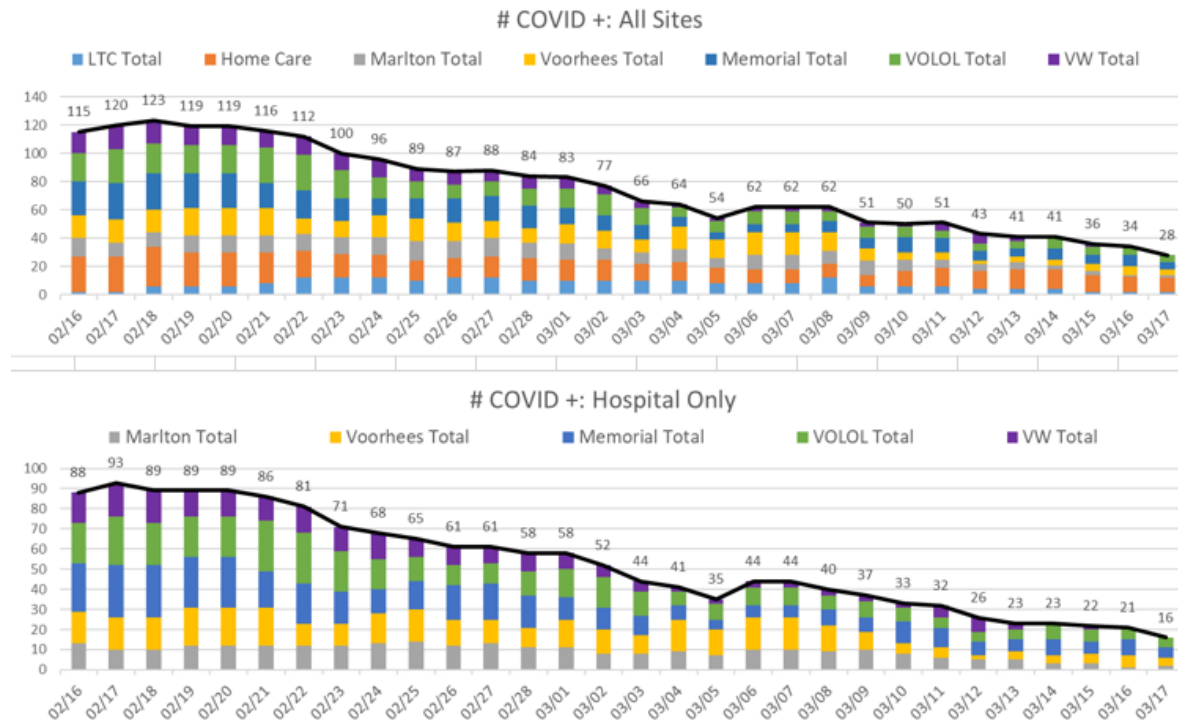
- If you are a registered Doximity member, a survey link should have been emailed to you in February. Even if you have not received the email, you can still vote by logging in to [Doximity](#) with your username and password.
- If you are not a Doximity member, you can register at any time between now and the end of the voting period. It only takes a few minutes. [Learn how to register here](#). Once registered, ensure that your board specialty is noted correctly.

U.S. News typically releases its rankings in July. In the 2021-2022 rankings, Virtua Voorhees and Virtua Our Lady of Lourdes hospitals scored among the best performing hospitals in New Jersey and the Philadelphia Metropolitan Area. Both hospitals—as well as Virtua Mount Holly—were recognized as top performers in the treatment of specific medical conditions, including COPD, diabetes, heart failure, and kidney disease. Virtua's reputation for excellence was also recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2021-2022 on its inaugural list of Best Hospitals for Maternity Care.

And While We are Talking Surveys...Take Our Communications Survey to Share Your Thoughts

At Virtua, we strive to keep our messaging timely and relevant, and we want to be sure we are giving you news in ways that work in your busy lives. Our goal is to always keep you informed—and to do this effectively and efficiently. We realize your hectic schedules and the need to be strategic in how we best accomplish this. So we can better serve you, [please take this quick survey](#) (less than 5 minutes) to help us help you. The survey closes at 5 p.m. on **Wednesday, March 23**.

COVID-19 Census



Latest COVID-19 Fast Facts

- The rate of transmission in New Jersey was reported today as 0.84.
- The total number of cases reported as of 3 p.m. today:
 - Atlantic County 54,454
 - Burlington County: 82,667 cases
 - Camden County: 103,536 cases
 - Gloucester County: 54,383 cases
- COVID-associated mortality for Camden, Burlington, Gloucester, and Atlantic counties: 4,554.
- The state’s Vaccination Overview dashboard reported 16,978,771 doses of vaccine have been administered.

Noteworthy: Burlington County Mega-Site Changes Hours of Operation

The Burlington County COVID-19 Vaccine Mega-Site has recently changed its hours of operation. The mega-site is currently open Tuesday through Saturday. The updated hours of operation are as follows:

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Closed
Friday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

To schedule a vaccine or booster appointment, visit virtua.org/vaccine. **Note:** Individuals who have already received a first dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and require a second dose to complete the series should select the “booster” option.

Clinical Learning: Beyond the Basics—Best Practices for Starting and Continuing Advanced Care Planning Conversations

Tuesday, March 29, 6 to 8 p.m.

By completion of this educational activity, learners will be able to successfully implement effective strategies for continued advanced care planning conversations. Virtua designated this live medical education activity for a maximum of 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. Click to [view the flyer](#).

Awareness and Recognition at Virtua Health

It’s an extraordinary week as Virtua recognizes a number of special occasions, which include: Health Care Human Resources Week, Patient Safety Awareness Week, Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week, World Social Work Day (March 15), and Certified Nurse Day (March 19).

In recognition of Patient Safety Awareness Week, did you know that in addition to keeping our patients safe from different medical hazards, it is also important to keep them safe from cyber threats?

Cyber threats such as [ransomware](#) could take control of our systems and demand a ransom before allowing us back into our systems. This can cause serious harm to our patients and stop us from delivering care for weeks at a time. Also, this puts our patients’ data at risk from being stolen and sold on the “dark web,” putting them in danger of identity theft and more.

Click here to [download a poster](#) with a few tips to help you stay vigilant and protect our patients from cyber threats.

Apple-y Ever After

In recognition of [National Nutrition Month](#), Virtua’s Eat Well team supplied Pediatric Mobile Services with several cases of fresh fruit to deliver to children in Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester counties. WE Apple-laud you, Virtua Eat Well!

Whether you want to help your patients lose weight, lower their health risks, or manage a chronic disease, Virtua’s registered dietitians can help by providing sound, easy-to-follow, personalized nutrition advice. Click for [more information or schedule an appointment online](#).

Bolstering Resilience in a Dynamic Landscape

The Women of Virtua Colleague Community invites all colleagues to join them on Wednesday, March 23 in a session dedicated to YOU. In this session, you will learn strategies to cope with and develop

resilience to the ongoing stressors of the pandemic. The session will cover tools to improve work-life balance, instill hope, and mitigate burnout and compassion fatigue. Click to [register for the session](#).

Crank the Food Bank

We invite you to run or walk the 5th Annual “Crank the Food Bank 5K” hosted by Virtua Clinical Nutrition. The event takes place on Saturday, March 26 at the Virtua Voorhees campus and benefits Virtua’s Eat Well programs and the Food Bank of South Jersey. Register for a fun day filled with exercise, music, and snacks for a great cause. [Click to register](#)—t-shirts will be given to the first 200 participants.

Run with the Docs! Mark Your Calendar for June 12

Get those sneakers on again on Sunday, June 12 for [Run with the Docs!](#) Virtua Voorhees Hospital is the scene of this popular 5K run and 1-mile walk, all to support our programs for families who have experienced [pregnancy and infant loss](#).

For event organizers and OB/GYN physicians Drs. Stacy McCrosson and Kimberly Bridges-White, the event is a great opportunity to get out for a truly meaningful cause. “We are so inspired by the families who show up with their teams each year,” Dr. McCrosson said. “We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support these families receive from my colleagues at Virtua (doctors, nurses, staff), the running community, and friends and family from all over the tristate area, at this event.”

For more information, click [here](#).

Caring Colleagues: WE Make a Difference!

Virtua colleagues are *Here for Good* every day in the skilled and compassionate care we provide and the way we are called to serve one another and our community. For a profound example of just how *heartwired* Virtua colleagues are, check out these statistics:

In 2021, more than 1,200 Virtua colleagues—including every senior leader—participated in the Give for Good colleague giving campaign. These gifts totaled nearly \$316,000 to support programs and services throughout the health system.

The most popular area of support was the Colleague Care Fund, followed by our Eat Well Food Access programs and the Coronavirus Emergency Fund.

Thanks to their outstanding generosity, donors to the Colleague Care Fund made it possible for 89 colleagues to receive financial assistance totaling nearly \$160,000. What an impactful and moving demonstration of our Culture of WE!

Thank you to all of our colleagues who chose to Give for Good in 2021. Your generosity inspires us all!

Learn more at GiveToVirtua.org/colleagues. More information about the Colleague Care Fund, including the application, is available on the VINE.