



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Jonathan Zur, President & CEO

Phone: 804-515-7950

**WILLIAM B. DOWNEY AND CHARLIE W. HILL  
NAMED CO-CHAIRS OF THE 51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
PENINSULA HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER**

HAMPTON, VIRGINIA - The Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities announces that **William B. Downey** and **Charlie W. Hill** will serve as the co-chairs of the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Humanitarian Awards Dinner to be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at the Newport News Marriott Hotel at City Center. The awards dinner is being presented in association with the Virginia Media. Mr. Downey and Mr. Hill will assume the leadership role in recognizing those who have made significant humanitarian contributions to the Virginia Peninsula.

Bill Downey is President and Chief Executive Officer for Riverside Health System. He originally joined the Riverside team in May of 1981 as an Administrative Extern. Bill returned to Riverside in June 2001 after having served as President and CEO of Lewis-Gale Medical Center in Salem, Virginia and CEO of Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point in Hudson, Florida. He became CEO of Riverside in 2012 and is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. Bill has been involved in many community organizations. He currently serves as a board member of The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., the VA Chamber, The United Way of the Virginia Peninsula, the Virginia Symphony, the Hampton Roads Economic Development Authority, Towne Bank-Peninsula and Premier, Inc.. He is past Chair and a current member of the Greater Peninsula NOW, and past Chair and a current member of the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association board. Bill is also a past chair of An Achievable Dream, the Virginia Living Museum, and a former board member of the Virginia Health Network.

Charlie W. Hill is Co-Founder and President of the Hampton Roads Prostate Health Forum and Co-Founder of the Community Free Clinic of Newport News, VA. He retired as Executive Vice President, Human Resources of Landmark Media Enterprises (formerly Landmark Communications, Inc.), after more than 40 years of progressive leadership and managerial experience in the telecommunications, business services, shipbuilding, chemical, and media industries. Charlie has been an active board member of several local, regional, state-wide and international civic and business groups, including the Planning Council, the Downtown Norfolk (VA) Council, the Virginia Air and Space Museum, the Virginia Stage Company, the Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, the Corporate Advisory Board of the Darden School of Business at the UVA, the INROADS Mid-Atlantic Regional Board of Directors, and the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Advisory Council of Hampton Roads, VA. Charlie is a prostate cancer and lymphoma survivor and self-described "Warrior" and is living with both diseases.

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities works with schools, businesses, and communities to achieve success by addressing prejudices, in all forms, in order to improve academic achievement, increase workplace productivity, and enhance local trust. Through workshops, retreats, and customized programs that raise knowledge, motivation, and skills, VCIC develops leaders who work together to achieve success throughout Virginia.

For more information about the organization or the event, contact Jonathan Zur, CEO, or the staff at 804-515-7950. Information about the 51<sup>st</sup> Peninsula Humanitarian Awards Dinner may also be found online at [www.inclusiveVA.org/awards/peninsula/](http://www.inclusiveVA.org/awards/peninsula/).

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Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities

5511 Staples Mill Road, #202 • Richmond, VA 23228 • Ph: (804) 515-7950 • Fax: (804) 515-7177 • [www.inclusiveVA.org](http://www.inclusiveVA.org)