

VHC Health opens outpatient pavilion after some three years of construction

Hallie LeTendre Today at 10:45am



Elected officials and VHC Health leaders pose moments before a ribbon-cutting for a new outpatient pavilion (photo by Hallie LeTendre)

[VHC Health](#) celebrated the completion of its new [outpatient pavilion](#) yesterday afternoon.

The ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday marked the opening of the \$250 million, 250,000-square foot facility at 1851 N. Edison Street in the Hall's Hill/High View Park neighborhood.

There, VHC Health — formerly Virginia Hospital Center — will provide outpatient surgery, endoscopy, physical therapy, women’s health and imaging, per a press release. There will also be a pharmacy.

Christopher Lane, the hospital’s president and CEO, said during the ceremony that providing these various services makes it easier to coordinate patient care.

“By bringing outpatient services together under one roof, patients can now be conveniently scheduled for diverse healthcare services and can be seen within the same facility, often on the same day,” Lane said.

Arlington County Board Chair Christian Dorsey told ARLnow the ease of getting care will greatly benefit residents.

“This facility will expand the ability for people who need services that don’t require staying in the hospital and getting the most expensive form of care, being emergency services, to get what they need here in Arlington,” Dorsey said. “The pavilion will reduce patient frustration, reduce errors and be a huge benefit to our community.”

State Sen. [Barbara Favola](#) applauded VHC Health’s effort to reduce emergency visits for Virginians.

“VHC Health has embraced this mission,” she said during the ceremony. “Our outpatient facility will in fact divert individuals from going into emergency care.”

Discussions of a new pavilion [began in 2017](#) and VHC Health proposed an [expansion](#) in 2018. The County Board initially [voted to delay](#) approving the project so that the hospital could address the [concerns](#) of homeowners who live around the hospital.

The Board [narrowly approved](#) the plans two months later and the facility broke ground in the fourth quarter of 2019. [Work](#) became a source of consternation for nearby residents, who dealt with about a year of poor water quality [tied](#) to construction activity.

The hospital already has plans for a future expansion. Next up could be a [mental health and rehabilitation facility](#) on the site of its old urgent care facility, intended to address the [strain](#) on private hospital emergency rooms to [receive psychiatric patients](#) as well as troubling trends in [substance use](#) and [mental health](#) among teens.