



# DBHDS State Hospital Service Area Alignment

## Reducing Long-Distance Transports and Time Away from Local Duties



DBHDS is proposing changes to state hospital service areas to make admission destinations more geographically predictable and reduce cross-state diversions. Fewer extremely long transports would help reduce officer time on the road, ease staffing pressures, and allow officers to return to their jurisdictions sooner. Some designated home hospitals would be farther away than current assignments; the goal is to reduce the frequency of much longer diversion trips. The proposal also supports family involvement, continuity of care, and stronger coordination between CSBs and hospitals.



**Fewer  
Extreme  
Transports**



**Less Time  
Away from  
Local Duties**



**Stronger  
Connections  
to Home**

### What's changing?

- Across adult and geriatric assignments, 12 of Virginia's 40 CSBs would have a home hospital change.
- 11 CSBs would change their adult home hospital
- 6 CSBs would change their geriatric home hospital
- Civil and forensic admissions from each region are assigned to the same home hospital.

### What's not changing?

- Centralized admissions would continue, and placement at the designated home hospital would not be guaranteed. The proposal is intended to reduce cross-state transports.
- Home hospital assignments for the remaining 28 CSBs would remain unchanged.

Questions?

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# Proposed Home Hospital Changes and Current Diversion Patterns

Some designated hospital trips would become longer. The proposal is intended to make transport destinations more predictable and reduce the frequency of much longer cross-state diversion trips.

| CSB                | Admission population | Current designated hospital / drive time | Proposed designated hospital / drive time | More distant diversion destination / drive time | FY26 diversion rate |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Crossroads         | Adult                | CSH / 1.25 hours                         | WSH / 2 hours                             | SWVMHI / 3.5 hours                              | 95%                 |
| Goochland-Powhatan | Adult                | CSH / 1 hour                             | WSH / 1.5 hours                           | SWVMHI / 4 hours                                | 50%                 |
| Hanover            | Adult                | CSH / 0.75 hours                         | WSH / 1.75 hours                          | SWVMHI / 4.25 hours                             | 90%                 |
|                    | Geriatric            | PGH / 1.25 hours                         | ESH / 1 hour                              | SWVMHI / 4.25 hours                             | 50%                 |
| Henrico            | Adult                | CSH / 0.75 hours                         | WSH / 1.75 hours                          | SWVMHI / 4.25 hours                             | 88%                 |
| Horizon            | Adult                | WSH / 1.5 hours                          | SWVMHI / 3 hours                          | NVMHI / 3.5 hours                               | 40%                 |
|                    | Geriatric            | CAT / 1.5 hours                          | PGH / 1.25 hours                          | NVMHI / 3.5 hours                               | 33%                 |
| Loudoun            | Adult                | NVMHI / 0.75 hours                       | WSH / 2.5 hours                           | SWVMHI / 5 hours                                | 42%                 |
| Middle Peninsula   | Adult                | ESH / 1.25 hours                         | WSH / 2.5 hours                           | SWVMHI / 5 hours                                | 100%                |
|                    | Geriatric            | ESH / 1.25 hours                         | PGH / 2 hours                             | SWVMHI / 5 hours                                | 100%                |
| New River Valley   | Adult                | SWVMHI / 1.25 hours                      | CAT / 1 hour                              | NVMHI / 4.25 hours                              | 96%                 |
| Piedmont           | Adult                | SVMHI / 1 hour                           | SWVMHI / 2.25 hours                       | NVMHI / 5 hours                                 | 57%                 |
|                    | Geriatric            | CAT / 1.5 hours                          | SWVMHI / 2.25 hours                       | ESH / 4 hours                                   | 0%                  |
| Prince William     | Adult                | NVMHI / 0.75 hours                       | WSH / 2 hours                             | SWVMHI / 4.75 hours                             | 20%                 |
| Region Ten         | Geriatric            | PGH / 1.75 hours                         | CAT / 2.25 hours                          | SWVMHI / 3.5 hours                              | 6%                  |
| Western Tidewater  | Adult                | ESH / 1.25 hours                         | SVMHI / 3 hours                           | SWVMHI / 5.75 hours                             | 100%                |
|                    | Geriatric            | ESH / 1.25 hours                         | PGH / 2.25 hours                          | SWVMHI / 5.75 hours                             | 92%                 |

Drive times are estimates from the CSB's main office to the hospital and do not include return travel or the hospital handoff.

**FY26 diversion rate** is the percentage of civil admissions sent to another state hospital instead of the assigned home hospital. A 90% rate means nine in ten admissions went elsewhere.

The more distant destination shows an example of a longer diversion trip. The diversion rate includes all other state hospitals, not just the destination shown.

Adult and geriatric admissions are listed separately because hospital assignments and diversion rates differ.

Hospital abbreviations: CSH: Central State Hospital; WSH: Western State Hospital; ESH: Eastern State Hospital; NVMHI: Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute; SWVMHI: Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute; SVMHI: Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute; CAT: Catawba Hospital; PGH: Piedmont Geriatric Hospital.