

December 24, 2013

Dr. Bill Hazel, Secretary  
Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources  
P.O. Box 1475  
Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Dr. Hazel:

On behalf of Volunteers of America Chesapeake (VOAC), one of the largest health and human service providers across Virginia, I am writing to offer our warmest congratulations on your nomination to serve as Secretary of Health and Human Resources in the McAuliffe Administration.

With 32 programs across Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia, VOAC annually helps nearly 10,000 people in need, including the homeless; individuals with mental illness or intellectual disabilities; and those in need of affordable housing, recovering from substance abuse addiction or involved in community corrections. We particularly seek to assist military veterans and families grappling with homelessness, substance abuse or mental health challenges. Our 750-person staff works with more than 2,400 volunteers and coordinates our efforts with state agencies and local non-profits. Several of our programs are recognized as national models.

The depth of experience during your distinguished career of service gives you an important perspective on the health, housing and other urgent challenges facing Virginians. With the need so serious, we are gratified that you will remain at the statewide helm.

We look forward to working together to help address the pressing needs across the Commonwealth. Please let us know if we can offer you any assistance as you prepare to resume your new responsibilities. Meanwhile, you have our very best wishes for the holidays.

Sincerely,



Franklyn Baker  
Chief of Staff and External Affairs Officer

Cc: Russell K. Snyder, President/CEO