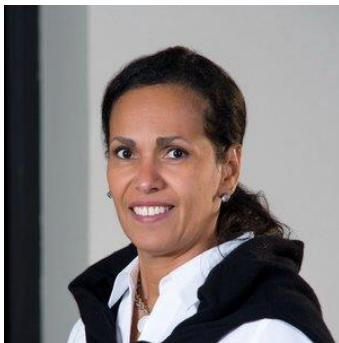


Spring 2024 newsletter

Toward the end of the summer, we will be enrolling practices in a program to help support substance use care for patients. Over a third of American adults engage in unhealthy substance use, which includes a spectrum ranging from any illicit drug use or alcohol consumption above guideline-recommended levels through more severe substance use disorder. We are currently working with an advisory group of eight experts including physicians, social workers, and peer support specialists who practice in Virginia to develop a change package (screening, treatment, referral resources) that will be used with primary care practices. Please reach out to us at acorn@vcuhealth.org or (804) 828-9625 if you're interested in participating when the time comes!



Please join us in thanking Paulette Lail Kashiri for her service! After 14 incredible years with the VCU Department of Family Medicine and Population Health and ACORN, she has returned to student service administration in the VCU Department of Rehabilitation Counseling where she will be helping with program development. During her time with our team, she supported \$22 million in funded research across 24 studies and co-authored 38 publications. She has mentored many employees, undergraduate students, medical students, and other learners and fostered relationships with many primary care practices all around the Commonwealth. Her contributions to our work cannot be overstated and we simply would not exist as we do without her. We appreciate you more than we can say, Paulette.

Get help taking better care of children and adolescents with mental health conditions. We are collaborating with the [Virginia Mental Health Access Program \(VMAP\)](#) to examine the landscape of general and mental health care for children in Virginia. Their goal is to ensure that more children have access to providers who are better able to screen, diagnose, manage, and treat mental health by training providers. We hope you and your practice will get connected. Feel free to contact Rachel Reynolds (rreynolds@msv.org) with questions or [register](#).



The percent of Virginia primary care practices reporting any major stressor increased from 34% to 53%. Thank you again for answering the Virginia Primary Care Survey. Following the most recent round, we conducted analyses on practice stress that were recently published by the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine. "Increased Organizational Stress in Primary Care: Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Medicaid Expansion, and Practice Ownership" is available to read [online](#).