



**The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, Inc.**

P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-9998

<http://www.mvcca.org>

Mr. Norman Oliver MD  
State Health Commissioner, Virginia Department of Health  
109 Governor St 13<sup>th</sup> floor  
Richmond VA 23219

RE: COPN Request No VA-8588, INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital, Expansion of Acute Psychiatric Treatment Beds

Dear Commissioner Oliver,

Aug 23, 2021

I am writing to you on behalf of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA). The MVCCA is a non-profit, 501c4 organization that represents the citizen communities within Mount Vernon District of Fairfax County. We have a high interest in keeping the INOVA MV Hospital operating at full capacity to support the health and safety needs of our adult citizens with mental health issues. To offer quality care they will need an increase in psychiatric hospital beds.

We request your support for INOVA MV's request for additional beds to augment their inpatient psychiatric ward. The needs have grown over 8% between 2018-2020 and grew another 7% during the first half of 2021. Holding individuals with psychiatric issues in the ER awaiting beds is neither safe nor medically appropriate.

We are asking you to approve their request for increased inpatient adult psychiatric beds as identified in their COPN VA-8588 request application.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Ward*

Katherine Ward  
Cochair, MVCCA