



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Karen Remley, MD, MBA, FAAP
State Health Commissioner

Department of Health
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August 24, 2009

Michael T. Lundberg
Executive Director
Virginia Health Information
102 N. 5th Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Michael:

The Virginia Department of Health believes expecting parents greatly benefit when they fully understand the birthing process and have access to comprehensive information on care options and services from hospitals, physicians and state agencies.

Virginia Health Information's *Obstetrical Services" A Consumer's Guide* is geared to the needs of parents-to-be with information stressing the importance of patient involvement in care; from prenatal nutrition to post-partum follow-up with their physicians. VHI's survey of hospitals covers the gamut of information on hospital obstetric programs, capabilities and quality of care programs. VHI's inclusion of detailed physician information is also unique in its comprehensiveness.

The *Learn More* section of the guide includes descriptions and links to Virginia Department of Health and other state and federal programs for mothers and families. These sources are sure to help consumers find the help they need, both before and after the birth of a child.

We wholeheartedly support the guide and know it will be an asset to Virginians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Remley".

Karen Remley, MD, MBA, FAAP
State Health Commissioner