



*To assure access to quality health and wellness care to the residents and workforce of the Greater Williamsburg Community*

**Memorandum**

To: Colleagues, Board of Directors, Patrons  
Date: August 11, 2021  
Subject: **\*\*URGENT UPDATE\*\*** OTMDC Gala 2021 - Announcement

Colleagues,

After much deliberation, analysis, and consultation, we have decided that in the interest of health and safety, we will postpone the Gala until the Pandemic subsides. We have been closely monitoring the situation and we are now working diligently to secure a new date. As soon as it is established, that date will be communicated to everyone.

There are too many unknown variables at this time. Being a healthcare facility and adhering to our Mission, the health and safety of you, your families and the wider community is of the utmost importance. Attending events and gatherings of large amounts of people may increase one's chance of contracting the disease. Although we assume the vast majority attendees would have been vaccinated, the variants are simply too unpredictable.

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) announced a significant increase in the Delta variant (B.1.617.2) throughout the Commonwealth. The Delta variant is dominant nationwide and is the most common variant in Virginia. The Delta variant spreads more than twice as easily as earlier strains of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The more infectious delta variant is contributing to a surge of cases in Virginia. The decision was made out of an abundance of care.

I would like to extend appreciation to the C&D Committee under the direction of Mr. Frank Sisto. Your committee was hard at work with this endeavor. That work will not stop. Myself, Michelle Williams, Maura Wertin, Stephanie Adler and the committee will continue the planning and pull-through of this event.

For those individuals who have already purchased tickets for the Gala, please note that you can partake in the rescheduled event (date TBD), leave as a donation, or receive a full refund.

Regards,

Aaron L. Thompson, MBA, CMR, **Executive Director**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron L. Thompson".

Christopher James, **Chairman of the Board**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher James".