



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Roanoke Valley Diabetes Resource Center Opens** **Center will serve community, physicians, patients and families across the Roanoke Valley**

March 25, 2016 (Roanoke Rapids, NC) — Halifax Regional has opened The Roanoke Valley Diabetes Resource Center thanks to a generous two-year grant totaling \$175,000 from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust. The infusion of funds will positively impact diabetes education and support, along with improve access to available resources across Halifax and Northampton Counties.

According to the CDC, over 29 million people have diabetes in the United States. One in four people do not know they have diabetes. Another 89 million adults, one out of three adults, have prediabetes. Closer to home, Halifax and Northampton Counties have some of the highest rates of diabetes in the state. Groups at higher risk for developing the disease are African-Americans, Latinos, and American Indians.

Serving more than people living with diabetes, the Roanoke Valley Diabetes Resource Center is an information hub for physicians and family members caring for a person with diabetes. Staffed by an experienced nurse with specialized diabetes training, the center will work closely with partner agencies in the community to coordinate services and information for area diabetics and persons at risk for diabetes. The staff wants the community to see the resource center as a one-stop shop people can contact to get guidance and be connected to a wide range of resources available to them.

All services provided at the resources center are free. In addition to being a major hub of information, the Roanoke Valley Diabetes Center will offer free screening such as blood pressure, A1C, and blood sugar checks by appointment. The resource center has an available hotline to answer general questions or direct callers to additional sources.

Staffing the Roanoke Valley Diabetes Resource Center is Kim McDermott, RN. Born and raised in Roanoke Rapids, she earned an Associate's Degree from Halifax Community College and went on to work for Halifax Regional Medical Center. McDermott has 17 years of healthcare experience and has experience and specialized training working with diabetics.

The Roanoke Valley Diabetes Center is located at 210 Smith Church Road, Building One, Roanoke Rapids, NC, 27870 on the medical campus of Halifax Regional. To schedule a screening appointment or learn more about available diabetes education and resources, contact Kim McDermott, RN at [rvdiabetes@gmail.com](mailto:rvdiabetes@gmail.com) or call 252-535-8478.

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### **About Halifax Regional**

Halifax Regional Medical Center is licensed for 204 beds, including psychiatric and nursery. A non-profit organization, Halifax Regional is fully accredited by the Joint Commission. The Medical Center was recently honored by the North Carolina Nurses Association as a Hallmarks of Healthy Workplaces for nursing excellence. For more information, visit [www.halifaxregional.org](http://www.halifaxregional.org).

### **About Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust**

The Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust was established in 1947 and is now one of the largest private trusts in North Carolina. Its mission is to improve the quality of life and quality of health for the financially needy of North Carolina. The Poor and Needy Division responds to basic life needs and invests in solutions that improve the quality of life and health for financially needy residents of Forsyth County. The Health Care Division promotes wellness statewide by investing in prevention and treatment. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. serves as sole trustee. For more information, visit [www.kbr.org](http://www.kbr.org).