

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

Halifax Regional Announces Permanent Closure of HealthLink

ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC (July 30, 2013)— After over a decade of operating as a fitness center, support group meeting site, and more recently an information center for the Medication Assistance Program, HealthLink will be closing its doors permanently August 30, 2013.

Operating with a planned annual loss since it opened, the Halifax Regional Board of Directors made the difficult decision to close the program based on declining usage.

“Reducing services is one of the realities hospitals are facing as a result of federal payment reductions and our state leadership deciding not to expand Medicaid,” said William Mahone, Halifax Regional President. HealthLink offered a valuable service to many people in the community; however, given the current financial realities, Halifax Regional needs to focus on core services and cannot continue to subsidize services such as HealthLink.”

Halifax Regional is aware of the impact closing HealthLink will have on employees, volunteers, and program members. Halifax Regional will assist support groups who currently meet at HealthLink in finding alternate meeting sites. Affected by the closure are one full-time and three part-time employees, 22 volunteers, and numerous members of the fitness facility.

HealthLink members with questions about their membership or support group members should contact Debbie Sanders at 535-8663 for more information.

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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. For more information, visit www.halifaxregional.org.