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OSIG NEWS

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OSIG BEGINS 2020 VISITS TO VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES FACILITIES

The Virginia Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) visited Eastern State Hospital (ESH), one of 13 facilities operated by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services, recently as part of OSIG's initiative this year to gain a better understanding of how the facilities operate and how patients are treated. OSIG's Behavioral Health and Development Services (BHDS) Unit is tasked with inspecting, monitoring and reviewing the quality of services at the state-operated facilities.

OSIG's leadership team met with ESH management, spoke with staff, took a tour of the facility and met with patients. "Part of OSIG's duty is to keep the General Assembly and Joint Commission on Health Care informed of significant problems and investigate specific complaints of abuse, neglect or inadequate care," said State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall. "These visits, in addition to our annual unannounced inspections of state facilities, allow OSIG to monitor these facilities and let people know we are here to help." OSIG is scheduled to visit Central State Hospital and Hiram Davis Medical Center next week.



Eastern State Hospital Nurse Manager Bridgitte Willis-Townsell, BSN, RN, CMSRN, speaks with State Inspector General Michael C. Westfall during OSIG management's recent visit to the facility.

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Established in 2012, the Virginia Office of the State Inspector General manages the State Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline; conducts investigations and performance audits of state agencies; provides training and standards for the commonwealth's internal audit programs; and conducts inspections and reviews of Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services-run facilities and programs.