



Mark Cruise was named CEO of the national office of Volunteers in Medicine in July 2019. Over his 25 years in the free and charitable care sector, he has been the director of a free medical and dental clinic, a two-time state association executive in Virginia and Florida, a national consultant, and a sought after speaker, trainer, and writer. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, where he was awarded the prestigious Patrick Henry Alumni Public Service Award in 2008.

A native of Virginia, Mark served as Executive Director of the Free Clinic of the New River Valley during the mid-1990's. From 1997-2006 he served as Executive Director of the Virginia Association of Free Clinics, the first such state association in the country. Among other accomplishments while at the Virginia Association, Mark helped negotiate a major funding partnership with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield that resulted in more than \$8 million to Virginia's free clinics over a seven-year period. He also lobbied successfully to secure a first-ever state appropriation for the clinics. Following his tenure, he received a Certificate of Commendation from then Governor Tim Kaine.

Mark has founded and operated two successful consulting practices, Free Clinic Solutions and Governance4Good, which together served more than 125 client organizations across the country including many free and charitable clinics, state associations, health foundations, national partners, and suppliers. He also served as the first Executive Director of the Florida Association of Free and Charitable Clinics for three years prior to meeting his wife Kelly and moving to South Carolina in 2015. Mark has also provided interim executive management services to the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics and the Tennessee Charitable Care Network. He has completed fellowships and accreditation programs with the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership, the American Society of Association Executives, and the Policy Governance Academy.

Following passage of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, Mark was commissioned by the Georgia Charitable Care Network to write *A Guide to National Health Care Reform for America's Free and Charitable Clinics*, which was distributed widely throughout the sector and earned widespread praise. In recent years Americares, an international disaster relief organization with a strong domestic commitment to free and charitable clinics, engaged Mark to develop and facilitate annual State Association Leadership Forums as well as a first-ever Charitable Dental Clinic Leadership Institute.

When he is not working or spending time with his family, Mark enjoys golf, running, reading, and attending concerts, festivals, and community events. He is an avid sports fan and enjoys rooting for Virginia Tech and all of the major sports teams in Cleveland.