

Here's when and where CHKD plans to re-open in York County

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The CHKD Thrift Store moved to a temporary location in April but closed in January while the organization looked for a new location for the store. (WYDaily/Google Maps)

After nearly a year, Historic Triangle locals can finally look forward to shopping at the CHKD Thrift Store again.

The thrift store, sponsored by the Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters, moved to a new location after 25 years at 210 Monticello Ave. when the shopping center was sold in December 2018, said Brynn Jacoby, director of marketing for Broad Street Realty, owners of Midtown Row, in a previous interview. Following the move, the location closed altogether in January while a more permanent space was being scouted.

The store has found a new location at the Victory Village Shopping Center and managers are preparing to re-open the area favorite for thrifty shoppers by the end of October.

"What'll be best is the excitement on people's faces when they realize we are back in their neck of the woods," said Joy Litton, district manager of CHKD thrift stores. "There are people from out of the area that come to Williamsburg on vacation and can't wait to shop in our new store."

The new store is about 15,000 square feet, which is approximately 5,000 square feet more than the previous location, she said.

When the previous location closed, Litton said the items in the store were taken to the organization's processing location in Norfolk where they were distributed to other stores in the area.

There are 25 CHKD Thrift Store locations in Hampton Roads and Richmond, each providing donated items for purchase. These stores bring more than \$2 million to the hospital each year, which provides health care to children in the community, according to the hospital's website.

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When the new location opens, Litton said that the raw donations that have been collected throughout the past year will be featured in the store.

While the Williamsburg location was closed, Litton said that there was still a pick-up service offered in the area for those who wanted to donate to CHKD. As a result, the store has been able to gather a decent amount of merchandise to provide customers once the location opens.

"There are people that can't wait to shop at our new store," she said. "Our merchandise is always turning over. You get something new, put it on the floor and someone picks it up off the shelves."

But there is still a need for more donations.

Litton said the store is looking for items she calls "frick frack;" pieces such as coffee pots, toys, books and furniture. It is the variety of items that makes the Williamsburg CHKD Thrift Store unique, she said, so employees are always looking for new and interesting merchandise.

With a bigger store, Litton said there will be a few changes such as adding more staff members, which will bring the total number to approximately 17 employees.

There isn't a set date for when the store will open, but Litton expects it to be for the end of October.

In the meantime, she said the store is still looking for more items to feature.

"It's about donations, donations, donations," she said.

Donations can be dropped off at the store between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. or the store can arrange for items to be picked up — the phone number to call for pick-up has not been set up as of Thursday.

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