



November 22, 2017

The Honorable Megan Barry
Office of the Mayor
1 Public Square, Suite 100
Nashville, TN 37201

Dear Mayor Barry:

The services provided at Nashville General Hospital, and the people who are served there, are vital to the heart and soul of our city. Protecting the health of the people who rely on Nashville General is of paramount importance to all of us who care about our city.

I know that the future of Nashville General is of particular concern to you as Mayor and is the driving force behind your recent proposal to transition to a new model of care. I am writing to offer Meharry's assistance by convening a team of stakeholders which will help define the new model and ensure it is providing the best possible outcomes for all involved.

Meharry Medical College would be honored to assume the role of host and facilitator of this work team. Our history and our future are intimately connected to the history and future of indigent care in our city. For decades, Meharry operated Hubbard Hospital in the building now leased from Meharry by Metro for Nashville General Hospital.

The patients of Nashville General Hospital are our patients. Since 1876, their care and well-being have been central to our mission and will always be our priority. Meharry is committed to helping ensure that our most vulnerable are guaranteed access to healthcare that meets their needs.

As envisioned, the Stakeholder Work Team would include members from the primary groups impacted by your proposal for Nashville General Hospital. The group would meet regularly for a designated period of time, after which it would present a recommended model for integrated care to you, the Hospital Authority, and the City Council. The process would be fully inclusive and would include multiple opportunities for public comment and input.

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In recent conversations, all stakeholders listed have indicated their willingness to participate on this Work Team, except as noted.

- Dawn L. Alexander, RN, MHA, MBA, Chief Nursing Officer, Nashville General Hospital, awaiting confirmation
- Judy Cummings, DMin, Registered Nurse; Senior Pastor at New Covenant Christian Church
- Lemuel L. Dent, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Nashville General Hospital; Faculty Member, Meharry Medical College
- Sara Finley, JD, Metro Hospital Authority; Threshold Corporate Consulting, LLC, Principal
 - Alternate Metro Hospital Authority Representative: Richard Manson, JD, SourceMark LLC, CEO
- Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Metro Government, Director of Finance
- Harold Love, Jr., PhD, Tennessee House of Representatives, District 58
- William S. Paul, MD, MPH, Director of Health, Metro Public Health Department
- Jonathan B. Perlin, MD, PhD, MSHA, MACP, FACMI, Meharry Medical College Trustee; Chief Medical Office, HCA Healthcare
- Freda Player, Political Director, SEIU Local 205
- A. Dexter Samuels, PhD, Executive Director, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at Meharry; Senior Vice President for Student Affairs at Meharry Medical College
- Tanaka Vercher, Metro Council, District 28; Budget and Finance Committee, Chair
 - Alternate Metro Council Representative: awaiting confirmation

I appreciate your consideration of this proposal, Mayor Barry, and look forward to your reply. Meharry Medical College is certain that with the dedication and input of all those involved, we will arrive at an integrated model of care that will fulfill your wishes to provide the best care for the people of this city while also maximizing its talents and resources.

Sincerely,



James E.K. Hildreth, PhD, MD
President and CEO

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