

Sayers, Margery

From: Ralph Ballman <RalBallman@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 10:06 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: African Art Museum; Kittleman, Allan
Subject: FY2019 Operational Budget

Dear Members of the Howard County Council:

I would, respectfully, like to encourage the members of the Howard County Council to support the County Executive's request, in the FY 2019 Operational Budget, for \$12,000.00 to be appropriated to the African Art Museum of Maryland, as provided under Arts and Tourism. For thirty-eight (38) years, the African Art Museum of Maryland has been dedicated to collecting, displaying and preserving for the public the art of Africa. During those years, it has sought to encourage a broader understanding and appreciation of the art and culture of Africa. It has done this in many ways, one of which is its African Experience Tours, which are given both on site and off site to school, governmental, institutional and various other groups from within Howard County and Maryland and from out of state.

It has always been the desire of the founder, Mrs. Doris Ligon, that the museum would continue on in perpetuity as an important and unique institution of art and education in Howard County and Maryland. As treasurer and a member of the board of trustees, I believe the County's continued support is one of the best ways to ensure that the African Art Museum of Maryland will continue to serve the public of Howard County and Maryland, for many years to come.

I would like to point out to the members of the County Council that the African Art Museum of Maryland was the sole recipient of Howard County's Board of Education's "2018 Friends in Education Award". See article below.

Sincerely,
Ralph Ballman
9927 Rose Trail
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042
(410) 480-2801

Board of Education Recognizes African Art Museum of Maryland with 2018 Friends of Education Award

Posted: March 28th, 2018

The Howard County Board of Education recognized the African Art Museum of Maryland with the Friends of Education Award at a reception on April 10. An award presentation was at the Board meeting immediately following the reception.

The African Art Museum of Maryland located in Fulton, Maryland, has been involved with the students of the Howard County Public School System since 1980. The museum's partnership with the school system, mentoring of HCPSS students, and African Experience Tour program affirms its goal to enhance students' awareness of diverse cultures through the exploration of African Art.



The Friends of Education Award was established in 2001 to salute exemplary volunteer contributions of time and talent that directly support academic achievement and safe learning environments for the HCPSS.

A list of previous award winners can be found on the Board of Education website.

Sayers, Margery

From: Beverley Meyers <kingscontrivance@columbiavillages.org>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 4:52 PM
To: CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan
Subject: Letter of Support
Attachments: Letter to Howard County Council & Kittleman - Senior Center East Columbia.doc

Attached is a letter of support from the Kings Contrivance Village Board for funding for a new Senior Center in East Columbia.

Beverley Meyers
Village Manager
Kings Contrivance Community Association
7251 Eden Brook Drive
Columbia, MD 21046
(410) 381-9600
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KingsContrivance>
Website: [kingscontrivancecommunityassociation.org](https://www.kingscontrivancecommunityassociation.org)
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/villageofkc>



Kings Contrivance Community Association
Amherst House 7251 Eden Brook Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046
(410) 381-9600 Fax (410)381-9628
kingscontrivance@columbiavillages.org

April 20, 2018

Allan Kittleman, Howard County Executive
Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Subject: Letter of Support for East Columbia Senior Center

Dear County Executive Kittleman and the Howard County Council:

The Kings Contrivance Village Board supports the project to build a new standalone Senior Center in East Columbia on an accelerated schedule to begin in FY2019 and be completed in FY2021 not FY2022. The new standalone Senior Center will serve all of Howard County, including residents of Kings Contrivance who live close by. The current building is too small and is inadequate. Our residents would benefit from this proposal and we hope you agree and will support this funding for FY2019 to benefit all of Howard County's senior population.

Respectfully,

Barbara N. Seely
Chair, Kings Contrivance Village Board

Sayers, Margery

From: Larry Carson <karasov1@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: The budget

Hi, Once the council gets the budget, I hope each of you will support inclusion of the Howard County Watershed program, which includes the READY program, in the money allocated for the University of Md. Extension Service.

I left video testimony for the county executive in March asking that he not cut funding for this program, which built a large rain garden at Elkhorn Landing townhouses, next to Lake Elkhorn, using young people they pay and train. I'm the HOA president.

The program is grant funded and has lost money to cuts the last several years. Please preserve it! I'll be out of town May 1, so this is my attempt to help them. thanks.

Sayers, Margery

From: ROBERT Burnett <rfdlc@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 6:19 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: East Columbia 50+

Jen and all council members,

I am sending this request with hope.

Hope that you will keep the 50+ Senior Center East in the budget.

As we are aging we need to be active and engaging in all aspects of life.

This center is much need to help all the citizens of Howard County achieve this goal.

Keep the East 50+ center in the budget.

Debbie Crabtree

actively aging 68 yer old Howard County resident.

Sayers, Margery

From: Jeryl Baker <villagemanager@columbiatowncenter.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 4:06 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: HCGH Funding
Attachments: TCCA Memo to Howard County Council supporting funding for HCGH.docx

Please see attached letter from the Town Center Village Board regarding financial support for the Hospital expansion plus annual funding.

Jeryl Baker

Village Manager, Executive Director

Town Center Community Association

Historic Oakland Manor

5430 Vantage Point Road

Columbia, MD 21044

410-730-4744 phone

410-730-1823 fax

villagemanager@columbiatowncenter.org

www.columbiatowncenter.org

www.historic-oakland.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Stu Kohn <stukohn@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2018 9:12 PM
To: howard-citizen@yahogroups.com
Cc: Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane; CouncilMail; Steven Snelgrove; David Nitkin
Subject: HCCA Fully Supports Howard County General Hospital's Budget Request to the County

FYI,

The Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA is in full support of the Howard County General Hospital (HCGH) budget request to the County. HCCA reiterated this when we provided further testimony at County Executive, Kittleman's Budget Hearing on 8 March 2018. Our testimony can be read at <http://howardcountyhcca.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/HCCA-Testimony-Hospital-Budget-Request-8-March-2018.pdf>.

Perhaps a question needs to be answered as to what has precedence the Economy, our quality of life, or the environment? Obviously all three are very important. We simply cannot continue to afford to keep growing if we are unable to handle the infrastructure which should include the Hospital. The President of the Hospital. Steve Snelgrove has stated, "The hospital is not the right size for the community we serve. And despite operating at capacity, we are planning to care for a senior population that will double in a decade, while also keeping pace with the county's population growth. It should be abundantly clear by now that Howard County's health care environment needs have outpaced the hospital's resources and without action now, our quality of life will be eroded. Many residents ask whether HCGH has the capacity to accommodate expected growth and an aging population. The frank answer is we do not."

It is our obligation to ensure that sound strategic planning is in place for our future.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

Sayers, Margery

From: stukohn@verizon.net
Sent: Thursday, January 04, 2018 5:33 PM
To: Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane; CouncilMail; PlanningBoard; ssnelgr1@jhmi.edu; dnitkin1@jhmi.edu; howard-citizen@yahoogroups.com
Subject: Hospital Request Should be County's Highest Budget Priority

FYI,

We, the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA would like to share the following Letter to the Editor that was published in this week's local papers. Below is the original version. The posted version which was edited (but still very meaningful) can be found on page 24 in the Howard County Times. The title used in the posting is "Rallying Behind Howard's Hospital Expansion Plans." If the County fully believes that our Quality of Life really matters for all residents then the Hospital's budget request should undoubtedly be declared the highest priority.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

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Subject: Letter to the Editor

Stop, Look, and Please Listen as our Quality of Life Needs Full Support. Our Howard County Hospital is in an emergency situation. Quite simply we residents need HELP! The Hospital is requesting \$5million for next year's budget, and \$3 million annually for expansion to support our community.

This is certainly justified when one considers Howard County's population of 317,233 according to the 2016 Census. In addition, future growth projections continue to be prolific. When you examine the following FY-16 statistics found on the Hospital's website, it is impressive, but exemplifies the major concern. The Hospital provided services to approximately 220,000 people or 69% of the County Population, evaluated and treated 78,072 patients in the Emergency Room or 25% of the County Population, admitted to or observed in the Hospital 25,205 patients, performed 12,390 surgeries, delivered 3,597 babies, provided outpatient services to 68,680 patients, and provided outreach and wellness programs to more than 40,000 people.

We, the Howard County Citizens Association, only hope our decision makers will readily see that the patients (us) require strong support in an attempt to ensure our Quality of Life in no way deteriorates because of poor strategic planning. When the Hospital, President, Steven Snelgrove stated to the County Council in September (Howard County Times, 9 Nov. 2017, pg. 6): "We just see huge growth and need going forward. The aging of the population alone is going to more than consume probably any capacity we can develop in the short term. We really need to get on this now."

Yes – based on the aforementioned, this budget request needs to be the County’s Highest Priority and immediate attention.

Stu Kohn
Howard County Citizens Association, President

Sayers, Margery

From: Lois Gutman <lois1101@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 08, 2017 11:18 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fwd: Howard County General Hospital Expansion Budget Request
Attachments: HCGH_Testimony.docx

re-send

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lois Gutman <lois1101@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Dec 8, 2017 at 11:16 PM

Subject: Howard County General Hospital Expansion Budget Request

To: akittleman@howardcountymd.gov, councilmail@howarcountymd.gov

Cc: David Nitkin <dnitkin1@jhmi.edu>, Steven Snelgrove <ssnelgr1@jhmi.edu>

To the Honorable Allan Kittleman and Howard County Council members,

Attached please find testimony in support of the proposed Howard County General Hospital Expansion Budget Request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lois Gutman
Columbia, MD

Lois A. Gutman
11402 Elfstone Way
Columbia, MD 21044

To the Honorable Allan Kittleman,

I am writing in support of the proposed budget request for an expansion project for Howard County General Hospital. I have lived in Howard County for 41 years. I am a member of the Howard County General Hospital Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) and I have served as a Patient Advocate volunteer in the Howard County General Hospital's Emergency Room for nearly 17 years. I also worked briefly in Howard County General Hospital Emergency Department from 1976 – 1977. I believe it is vitally important to include at least \$5 million in the FY19 budget to support Howard County General Hospital's expansion project.

I have witnessed first hand the challenges faced by the hospital as the last two Emergency Room expansions failed to meet the needs of the growing and aging County population. The current Emergency Room was expanded in 2002 to triple the capacity for acute care, urgent care and pediatrics, to include a small number of psychiatric beds. I maintained that the new ER was too small the first weekend it was open. The prior planning simply did not adequately forecast the County growth over the construction period and into the next decade. The desirability of Howard County residency has served as a magnet for unending growth. A thirty-six bed ER and the more recent ten bed Behavioral Health unit expansion are woefully small for a county with approximately 318,000 people in a hospital that also draws patients from the surrounding counties. In the US in 1960, the average number of hospital beds per 1,000 people was 9.2. In 2011, the number dropped to 2.9 per 1,000 people. Dropping that number to 2 beds per 1,000 people for 318,000 residents yields a requirement of 636 beds. That simply is not feasible for Howard County General Hospital, but serves to illustrate the magnitude of the problem of providing adequate inpatient and emergency beds in the County's only hospital. The hospital places a priority on providing quality patient care and attaining high patient satisfaction HCAPS scores. HCAHPS (the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) is a patient satisfaction survey required by CMS (the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) for all hospitals in the United States used by patients to choose desirable hospitals. This goal has been made even more difficult by the closure of Laurel Regional Hospital. As a member of the Board of Visitors of the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, you are well aware of the challenges facing hospital emergency service centers.

The proposed new and expanded facilities are an essential requirement to improve options for care, especially for the growing and aging County population, as well as to address the growing number of behavioral health patients. I request that you enthusiastically endorse the request for \$5 million in the FY19 budget and \$3 million in the following years. In an operating budget of \$1.5 billion, this is a token amount that is essential in order to provide quality hospital medical care in the County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lois Gutman

Cc: Howard County Council

David Nitkin, Chief of Staff/Senior Director of Administration, Howard County General Hospital

Steve Snelgrove, President, Howard County General Hospital

Sayers, Margery

From: Melissa Banach <melisbanach1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:30 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony in Support of Howard County General Hospital Budget Request
Attachments: BanachLetter.docx; ExpansionFactSheet12.2017.pdf

Dear County Council Members,

I am unable to personally testify before at the County Executive's Budget Hearing in support of Howard County General Hospital's request for FY 19 construction funding and a commitment from the County to provide a guaranteed revenue stream to the Hospital. Please accept this letter in my absence.

My name is Melissa Cunha Banach and I have been a resident of Howard County for 46 years. Howard County General Hospital has been an integral part of my family's life. It is a wonderful community hospital providing excellent medical care close to home.

The hospital has grown with Howard County. In turn, the hospital has grown to meet the changing needs of my family for more than four decades.

My daughter was born in 1974 in the recently built Howard County General Hospital, throughout the years the hospital ER set many fractured bones, dedicated medical staff saved my mother's life, pastoral caregivers provided comfort to my grieving family and the Breast Center became an important part of my journey back to good health after dealing with breast cancer.

More recently, Howard County General Hospital, working with Johns Hopkins Downtown, saved my life from a rare lethal sarcoma. Subsequently, the talented staff in the outpatient physical therapy rehabilitation unit worked diligently to get me back up and running again!

I have much to be thankful for.

I am thankful to be living in Howard County where I have world class medical care close to home.

I am thankful for my community hospital, Howard County General Hospital, and its affiliation with Johns Hopkins.

I have become a benevolent benefactor of the Hospital by volunteering my time, energy and resources to support the important work of its dedicated staff.

Howard County General Hospital is a vital element in the overall health, economic and social well-being of the County. Please think of the future.

I am hopeful the Executive will include funding for this project and you all, the County Council, will support this important budget request for \$5 million toward the hospital's expansion program in the FY19 budget and \$3 million in future annual funding that would pay for important community programs.

Melissa Cunha Banach

11165-A Chambers Court

Waverly Woods

Woodstock, MD 21163

410.598.4876

BanachLetter

DRAFT LETTER TO HOWARD COUNTY ~~COU~~CIL-Executive RE HCGH BUDGET REQUEST

I am unable to personally testify before ~~the County Council~~ at the County Executive's Budget Hearing in support of Howard County General Hospital's request for FY 189 construction funding and a commitment from the County to provide a guaranteed revenue stream to the Hospital. Please accept this letter in my absence.

My name is Melissa Cunha Banach and I have been a resident of Howard County for 46 years. Howard County General Hospital has been an integral part of my family's life. It is a wonderful community hospital providing excellent medical care close to home.

The hospital has grown with Howard County. In turn, the hospital has grown to meet the changing needs of my family for more than four decades.

My daughter was born in 1974 in the recently built Howard County General Hospital, the hospital ER set many fractured bones throughout the years, dedicated medical staff saved my mother's life on two occasions, pastoral caregivers provided comfort to my grieving family and the Breast Center became an important part of my journey back to good health after dealing with breast cancer.

More recently, Howard County General Hospital, working with John's Hopkins Downtown, saved my life from a rare lethal sarcoma. Subsequently, the talented staff in outpatient physical therapy rehabilitation worked diligently to get me back up and running again!

I have much to be thankful for.

I am thankful to be living in Howard County where I have world class medical care close to home.

I am thankful for my community hospital, Howard County General Hospital, and its affiliation with Johns Hopkins.

I have become a benevolent benefactor of the Hospital by volunteering my time, energy and resources to support the important work of its dedicated staff.

Howard County General Hospital is a vital element in the overall health, economic and social well-being of the County. Please think of the future and support this important budget request for \$5 million toward the hospital's expansion program in the FY19 budget and \$3 million in future annual funding that would pay for important community programs.

Melissa Cunha Banach

11165-A Chambers Court

Waverly Woods

Woodstock, MD 21163

Howard County General Hospital Campus Construction Project

What?

- Howard County General Hospital plans to build a new 36,000-square-foot, two-story addition and make 18,000 square feet of renovations. The project would add approximately 40 new treatment spaces across the following areas of the hospital: general inpatient medical-surgical, observation and psychiatry units and the adult and pediatric emergency rooms. Phases of the project include:
 - **Early emergency room renovations and site preparation** – If local government approvals are granted, site preparation and utility work to support the new addition could begin in early 2017. At that time, the hospital also plans to renovate the emergency room evaluation area and expand treatment spaces in both the adult and pediatric behavioral health units.
 - **New construction** – A new two-story hospital addition, anticipated to be completed in late 2018, would consist of a new emergency room entrance, triage and waiting areas. The first floor would hold an observation unit, and the second floor would hold a psychiatry unit, both with an increase in treatment spaces.
 - **Renovation to existing buildings** – Once the observation and psychiatry units move into the new space, the existing space would be renovated by late 2019. A new 25-bed general unit for patients who stay in the hospital for medical needs or surgery will feature private rooms and bathrooms, as well as space for family members to comfortably stay with them overnight.
- Building designs and budgets are being finalized. Bed count, treatment spaces and square footage may be adjusted as plans are finalized and zoning approval is received.
- The expansion will cost approximately \$45 million. The Howard Hospital Foundation will work to raise funds to support this effort from local donors. The hospital will fund a portion of the expense. The Howard County government also recently dedicated funding to the renovation of the hospital's existing emergency department to improve patient flow while we wait for the additional capacity the new wing will provide.

Improvements to the Inpatient Medical-surgical, Observation and Psychiatry Units

- The inpatient medical-surgical unit renovation to the first floor of the existing north building will create approximately 30 new beds delivering increased inpatient capacity (by late 2019).
- The observation unit on the first floor of the new addition would include a complement of private rooms and enhanced patient rooms (by late 2018).
- The psychiatry unit on the second floor of the new addition would increase capacity by approximately five beds, including additional private rooms, safety enhancements, contemporary patient amenities, modern treatment spaces and a new nurses' station (by late 2018).

Improvements to the Emergency Rooms

- The pediatric emergency room would grow with approximately five additional beds for pediatric behavioral health patients in order to ensure sufficient space for the treatment of young children as well as adolescents with behavioral health needs (by mid-2017).
- The adult emergency room would grow with approximately two additional behavioral health treatment spaces and a four-bed evaluation area (by early 2017), as well as a new registration and waiting area and two additional triage bays (by early 2019).

Why?

Market factors

- Howard County is growing and aging. The population of those 55 and older in Howard County is projected to increase by 22 percent in the next five years, which will increase demand for health care. In addition, the population is projected to grow by 6 percent overall.
- The Affordable Care Act increased the number of insured patients. HCGH experienced a record year for admissions and observations, representing an increase of 9.6 percent over last year alone (fiscal year 2016 compared to fiscal year 2017). We also saw a record number of births last fiscal year.
- Howard County General Hospital's year-over-year increase in admissions was the highest of all of the 23 hospitals in the greater Baltimore region (fiscal year 2016 to 2017).
- Howard County General Hospital emergency room volumes are up. The adult emergency room treated a record 60,310 patients last year, a 4.8 percent increase. One in four patients who visit the emergency room needs a higher level of care, whether admitted as an inpatient or to the psychiatry or observation units. The volume has been growing every month this fiscal year and, as a result, units providing a higher level of care are busier, which can contribute to longer wait times in the emergency room.
- Laurel Regional Hospital's reduction in services is affecting Howard County General Hospital, with admissions and emergency room visits from the Laurel service area increasing by 16 percent between July and April when comparing fiscal years 2015 with 2016.

Hospital Facility Factors

- Howard County General Hospital is currently licensed for 267 inpatient beds, but only has space for 244 patients. The general medical-surgical beds are 90 percent full most days and 19 percent growth in inpatient volume is projected by 2024.
- The observation unit achieves nearly full occupancy daily, and the hospital treated a record number of observation patients last year. New space will include private rooms that are more welcoming to patients and families.

- The pediatric emergency room treats 18,000 patients annually, including adolescent patients with behavioral health issues, such as depression and substance use. The number of pediatric behavioral health patients has increased 46 percent in the past two years, and having additional clinical space will allow us to meet the needs of patients who benefit from a more private and protected setting of care.
- Often three to five beds in the inpatient adult psychiatry unit are not able to take new patients because patients are too ill to share a room or cannot be co-located for other reasons, resulting in the need for more space and improved design.

Sayers, Margery

From: David Nitkin <dnitkin1@jhmi.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 2:48 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Feldmark, Jessica
Subject: Howard County General Hospital budget request
Attachments: FundingRequestFY19Signed.pdf

Dear members of the Howard County Council: Attached please find a letter which serves as a formal budget request for funding in FY19 and beyond for Howard County General Hospital.

We are requesting \$5 million for our expansion project, and \$3 million annually for community health programs. We appreciate your support of this request, and are available to answer any questions or provide any supporting information you may need.

Sincerely,

David

David Nitkin

Chief of Staff/Senior Director of Administration
Howard County General Hospital
5755 Cedar Lane
Columbia, MD 21044
Desk: 410-740-7740
Mobile: 443-610-5044



HOWARD COUNTY
GENERAL HOSPITAL

JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICINE

Steven C. Snelgrove

President

December 4, 2017

County Executive Allan Kittleman
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Dear Executive Kittleman:

The quality of our community's health care makes Howard County a special place – and is just as important as our public schools, our parks and our vibrant business climate in sustaining a nation-leading quality of life.

Howard County General Hospital is now, and will continue into the foreseeable future, to be the only hospital in Howard County. Nearly every ambulance operated by Howard County Fire and Rescue brings a county resident to our Emergency Department. The pediatricians in our Emergency Department treat students in our elementary schools via telemedicine. A large percentage of the population was born here.

We are this community's hospital.

However, as you know, we are not the right size for the community we serve. And despite operating at capacity, we are planning to care for a senior population that will double in a decade, while also keeping pace with the county's population growth.

It should be abundantly clear by now that Howard County's health care needs have outpaced the hospital's resources, and without immediate action our quality of life will be eroded.

County residents are well aware of this clear and present danger. When you and I came together for a Town Hall Forum on Health Care, we heard residents ask whether Howard County General Hospital had the capacity to accommodate expected growth and an aging population. The frank answer, as I said then and repeat now, is that we do not.

We need your leadership to ensure that aging residents who have called this place home for decades, and new residents arriving every year, can continue to count on HCGH to meet their needs.

HCGH simply can't do this on our own. As a non-profit organization operating under a complex regulatory system, our ability to collect revenue is capped by state regulators.

Without local support that you can provide on behalf of the community, our family and friends will wait longer in our Emergency Department or for patient rooms, and may have to travel elsewhere for their health needs. We are at grave risk of losing the ability to provide the service and care that Howard County residents expect and deserve.

Howard County Government has an admirable history of contributing to the hospital, but the time has come to augment and memorialize those efforts, in recognition of the growing challenges we face. A year ago, I requested that Howard County continue its practice of supporting capital expansion by contributing to our current \$45 million expansion to provide new psychiatric and observation space and ultimately add 30 inpatient beds. Unfortunately, we were not successful in securing an allocation in the county's FY18 budget.

This letter serves as a formal request for **\$5 million in FY19** – which truly is the minimum necessary to meet our current demands.

But we are beyond the point where one-time capital requests can meet the county's health needs. We believe that to develop a true, sustainable and ongoing partnership that benefits the residents of Howard County, Howard County General Hospital should be assured a portion of county funding that is annually set aside for non-profit organizations.

Our request is a \$3 million annual contribution – similar to funding for non-profit organizations which has been in the county budget for years -- which will directly benefit the more than 200,000 county residents who rely on our services every year.

This critical funding would help create the partnerships and build a system of care that would provide care coordination for county residents, would further our population health efforts, would allow us to meet the needs of a diverse community and would assist with physician recruitment to address the shortage of primary care physicians in Howard County.

I know we share the same goal of ensuring that Howard County is the healthiest community possible, and a place where all residents – particularly our growing senior population – receive the right services in the right setting. This funding commitment would ensure that outcome. Thank you as always for your leadership and commitment to the health of Howard County residents.

Sincerely,



Steven C. Snelgrove
President

Cc: Howard County Council