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**From:** Snedeker, Kristie <[ksnedeker@umm.edu](mailto:ksnedeker@umm.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 9:36 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Hira, Safa; Ball, Calvin; Scalea, Thomas; Bryce, Kristin; Snedeker, Kristie  
**Subject:** Shock Trauma- letter of Support  
**Attachments:** Howard County Support\_KS (005).pdf

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Hello,

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland Medical Center. We are extremely grateful for your partnership. Please see the attached letter that provides information about the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center and how the funding from Howard County supports our program.

**Kristie Snedeker, DPT**

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The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland was the first fully integrated trauma center in the world and remains at the epicenter for trauma research, patient care and teaching, both nationally and internationally today. Shock Trauma is where the "golden hour" concept of trauma was born and where many lifesaving practices in modern trauma medicine were pioneered. Shock Trauma is also at the heart of the Maryland's unparalleled Emergency Medical Service System.

The Maryland Trauma System is the most sophisticated EMS system in the US and the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center sits at the top of that system. The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center is state designated as the Primary Adult Resource Center (PARC) and has state requirements for dedicated resources that set it above a Level I trauma center. It is with these dedicated resources that the PARC is readily available to care for any trauma patient 365 days a year.

These requirements include not only dedicated hospital resources in expert clinicians that provide world class care, but dedicated resources for trauma prevention programs like Stop the Bleed Training and Think First. With world class care drives the need for innovation and program development. The Shock Trauma Center has pioneered research in hospital-based violence prevention programs, cutting edge training, education, and high-fidelity simulation. The Shock Trauma Center has been a leader in training our EMS partners across the state which in turn has only strengthened our ability to respond to trauma in the field thus saving more lives. The trauma prevention & education programs are not funded through traditional healthcare cost reimbursement and require unique funding sources through philanthropy, federal & state grants, and county budget allocations.

The R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center provides care to greater than 6500 Marylanders a year, with 7% of those patients being residents of Howard County. Residents of Howard County receive care from the Shock Trauma Center following traumatic injury following Motor Vehicle Collisions (52%), Falls (33%) and Violence (15%). Thirty percent of the Shock Trauma Centers volume is directly from interhospital transfer from other system trauma and community hospitals. Of those interhospital transfers, 5-6% of them are requested from Howard County General Hospital to send patients to the Shock Trauma Center for the advanced care necessary.

The Shock Trauma Center Outpatient Clinic treats over 16,000 patients a year and provides follow-up care for all trauma patients care for in the center. In response to the growing need of our patients and the social determinants of health that impact their ability to thrive following injury, the Shock Trauma Center has created programs like transitional care teams and exploring the utilization of behavioral health specialists to evaluate our patients to determine their needs following primary injury. Understanding the needs of our patients beyond initial lifesaving measure is part of the next level of journey to support our patients in their quality of life and reduction of readmission. Like our prevention

and education programs, these types of innovative and necessary approaches in providing wrap-around care needs consistent funding.

Over the past five years, the Shock Trauma Center has faced unprecedented financial challenges related to inflation in the cost of dedicated staff, the cost of supplies, drugs and purchased services. While the HSCRC provides support in the rate structure for most of the cost of care that Shock Trauma delivers, the unfunded portion is growing substantially. In addition, despite the substantial hospital support and net support from the Trauma Physician Services Fund, the trauma faculty practice plans are running at a deficit.

We are extremely grateful for our state legislature in their efforts this year in the passing of Senate Bill 1092 and House Bill 1439 which provide substantial financial support for the Maryland Trauma System through the Maryland Emergency Medical System Operating Fund (MEMSOF). This financial support in large part will help to address hospital operations, operating room capacity and offset physician practice deficits.

We continue to be extremely grateful for the commitment that Howard County has with the Shock Trauma Center. The past funding and future funding that has been earmarked to support our trauma program will help us make a profound difference in shaping a safer and healthier future for all. With these resources, we will be able to commit in providing Howard County dedicated resources for Stop the Bleed and Think first training in all public schools. Your funding will also support our advancement in wrap-around services in our ambulatory clinic to address the holistic needs of all patients we treat. Building strong relationships with the Howard County community resources will be particularly important as we connect your residents to care.

We appreciate your consideration in keeping the \$1M earmark for FY25 in the Howard County budget.

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**From:** Jung, Debra  
**Sent:** Monday, May 20, 2024 10:51 AM  
**To:** Anderson, Isaiah  
**Subject:** FW: Letter

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**From:** Filar, Luke <lfilar@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 15, 2024 8:07 AM  
**To:** Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Debra <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>; Ball, Calvin <cball@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter

To whom it may concern,

I am an employee of Howard County Recreation and Parks and was seriously injured on the job in December of 2019. I was immediately taken to shock trauma and I firmly believe that I am still here today because of the care I received there. After physical therapy for a few months, I was able to return to work full-time. I'm so thankful for the skilled team of doctors who took care of me during that traumatic time.

Sincerely,  
Luke Filar