

The University Hospital
Health Alliance™



BRAC Commission

August 26, 2005

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Received

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

The purpose of this letter is to express the University Hospital's enthusiastic support for recommendations of the Secretary of Defense to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission to move aerospace medical and human effectiveness organizations from Brooks City-Base, Texas, to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. With our support we have also committed our participation in a collaboration of Southwest Ohio medical and health organizations, along with Ohio state and local governments developing an outreach plan to support and facilitate that move.

The University Hospital and University of Cincinnati College of Medicine already has a close and active relationship to one aspect of these programs in that we are one of only 3 sites in the United States for U.S. Air force CSTAR training. In that program UH and the faculty of the University of Cincinnati train physicians, nurses and others in trauma care and critical care in preparation for field assignment. Over the last three years we have trained over 130 individuals. This program is under the direction of our Chief of Trauma/Critical Care, Jay Johannigman, MD. (Colonel USAFR). We see the move of additional aerospace medical programs to southwest Ohio as an excellent opportunity to build on this existing excellent relationship. We also see and would expect excellent potential to provide additional clinical training at University Hospital and the University of Cincinnati.

We are committed to participating with the southwest Ohio Coalition to identify community capabilities and initiatives that will support the Air Force's plans. Toward that end, discussions have been underway with senior Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) leadership and members of the medical, academic, and business communities in a coordinated effort, led by the Dayton Development Coalition to identify specific opportunities to link our capabilities with the needs of the Air Force organizations. We believe that the collaborative linking of like-minded research and clinical professionals with work-place access to our infrastructure and assets could serve to reduce Air Force program disruption during the transition period of the move and result in outstanding programs in the long term. We believe that the exceptional resources and programs of the

southwest Ohio Coalition and our attractive communities will also motivate and encourage the staff and families of these organizations to regard the movement to our region as a positive option and experience. Additionally, we will be identifying potential opportunities for joint work in related research and clinical efforts already ongoing (such as CSTARS) and new opportunities not otherwise possible.

University Hospital intends to seek every opportunity to enhance the already robust and beneficial relationship in support of our Air Force colleagues. This relationship has resulted in enormous advances in both military and civilian trauma/critical care that might not otherwise be possible. We intend to be major participants in the continuation of the relationship between the state of Ohio, the Southwest regional community and our Air Force colleagues at Wright-Patterson and throughout the United States.



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