



Sharing Message of Community Support

May 12, 2011

To the UT Southwestern Community:

I thought it important to share with you the attached "Message of Community Support" for UT Southwestern and Parkland that is appearing this week in many area newspapers. It is the result of an initiative undertaken by local civic leaders, and we are grateful for their support of our physicians and scientists—and for all who work and volunteer at UT Southwestern Medical Center and our partner Parkland.

Most of all I wanted to be sure all of you who contribute daily to our missions as an academic medical center know just how deeply your efforts are appreciated by the community that surrounds us. I know we in turn will do everything we can to continue to earn that trust and confidence.

Thank you for being part of UT Southwestern.

Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.
President, UT Southwestern Medical Center

**STATEMENT OF SUPPORT
FOR
PARKLAND HEALTH AND HOSPITAL SYSTEM AND
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL CENTER**

MAY 2011

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The Parkland Health and Hospital System and the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center are vital and highly respected institutions serving the health care needs of Dallas County, North Texas, our state and our nation. Recognizing their importance in the clinical care of the medically indigent and private patients; in physician education and training; and in scientific research, Dallas' civic, business and governmental leaders have devoted time, talent and treasure to help build Parkland Hospital and UT Southwestern into two of the nation's premier health care and medical education organizations. We consider these institutions, the roles they play and the services they provide to be critical and extremely valuable to all who live here.

Over the years, Parkland Hospital and UT Southwestern have worked consistently to institutionalize "best practices" and widely held standards in medical education and training, and in hospital quality improvement and patient safety. On numerous occasions, professional and governmental third-party entities have validated the quality of their performance.

Additionally, in 2009 Parkland was awarded a "AAA" financial rating by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch rating services. To quote the Fitch report, "The Dallas County hospital district ... fulfills an essential role in providing safety-net health care services to Dallas County's Medicaid and indigent care population...." The report also noted that Parkland has one of the area's leading trauma facilities and the nation's second largest burn center.

We wish to let the citizens of the Dallas area know how much we appreciate and value the physicians, employees and volunteers of Parkland Hospital and UT Southwestern. Further, we take great pride in the many third-party commendations and recognitions of excellence that both institutions have historically - and continuously - received.

We are therefore proud to join together in this expression of support for two of our region's most valued and respected institutions.

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