

DEKALB COUNTY

ITEM NO. E14

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HEARING TYPE
Preliminary

BUSINESS AGENDA / MINUTES
MEETING DATE: September 11, 2007

ACTION TYPE
Resolution

SUBJECT: Resolution concerning the use of the relationship between Grady Hospital, Emory University and Morehouse College.

DEPARTMENT: Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC HEARING: No

ATTACHMENT: Yes, 2 pages

INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Stokes, Commissioner
Larry Johnson, Commissioner
PHONE NUMBER 404-371-3053/2425

PURPOSE: To enact a resolution concerning the relationship between Grady Hospital, Emory University and Morehouse College.

NEED/IMPACT:

Grady Hospital is the largest public health system in the United States and serves as the major safety net for residents of Georgia who are uninsured, underinsured and is the first line of defense when emergencies, both biological and natural, occur. Grady Hospital receives funding from DeKalb and Fulton counties, although Grady Hospital accepts and treats patients from the other 157 counties in Georgia without equitable compensation for the services rendered to these out-of-service area patients. The State of Georgia has reduced its funding to Grady by 60 million dollars during a time when healthcare costs are skyrocketing and the number of charity and indigent cases at Grady Hospital is on the rise. Grady Hospital must have a dedicated funding stream that will ensure its continued financial viability for the present as well as future operation of Grady Hospital.

This Resolution seeks to encourage the amendment of the agreements between the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, Emory University and Morehouse College to reduce the payments made by the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority to those institutions to reflect the in-kind benefits those institutions receive by using Grady Hospital as a training ground for their medical students.

(The italicized portion of the need and impact describes the substance of the Resolution).

RECOMMENDATION(S): Adopt the attached Resolution.

**RESOLUTION BY THE DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY
CONCERNING GRADY HOSPITAL, MEDICAL SCHOOL PAYMENTS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital has been recognized as the only Level I Trauma Center serving residents within a 500-mile radius of the metropolitan Atlanta area; and

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital is the home to Georgia's only Poison Center and one of the nation's largest Burn Units; the Grady Burn Unit being one of only two in the state; and

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital is home to the *Regional* Perinatal Center and NICU as well as being nationally known for its Diabetes Center, the first comprehensive Sickle Cell Center and has been named as having one of the nation's best Infectious Disease Programs; and

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital is the largest public health system in the United States and serves as the major safety net for residents of Georgia who are uninsured, underinsured and is the first line of defense when emergencies, both biological and natural, occur; and

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital receives funding from DeKalb and Fulton counties, although Grady Hospital accepts and treats patients from the other 157 counties in Georgia without equitable compensation for the services rendered to these out-of-service area patients; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has reduced its funding to Grady by 60 million dollars during a time when healthcare costs are skyrocketing and the number of charity and indigent cases at Grady Hospital is on the rise --- for the year 2007 charity care at Grady Hospital has increased by 73 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements to Grady Hospital are not at a level that adequately meet the expenditures made by Grady Hospital to provide treatment for Medicare and Medicaid recipients; and

WHEREAS, Grady Hospital must have a dedicated funding stream that will ensure its continued financial viability for the present as well as future operation of Grady Hospital;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IS HEREBY DECLARED, BY
THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA, THAT:**

1. The agreements between the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority, Emory University and Morehouse College be amended to reduce the payments made by the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Authority to those institutions to reflect the in-kind benefits those institutions receive by using Grady Hospital as a training ground for their medical students.

SO RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this _____ day of _____, 2007.

BURRELL ELLIS
Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this _____ day of _____, 2007.

VERNON JONES
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

Michael J. Bell
Ex-Officio Clerk
Board of Commissioners and
Finance Director, DeKalb County

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

William J. Linkous, III
County Attorney
DeKalb County, Georgia