



80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive S.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3050

January 14, 2009

David Hankerson
Cobb County
100 Cherokee Street
Marietta, Georgia 30090



COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE
DATE RECEIVED:

JAN 16 REC'D

ASSIGNED TO: *Chaurman*
FYI ___ ACTION ___ SEE ME ___

Dear Mr. Hankerson,

Grady Health System is the largest urban safety net teaching hospital in the Southeastern United States. Grady's operating loss in 2008 is \$140 million. Throughout our 115 year history, our mission has been to provide healthcare services to all patients without regard to their ability to pay. Meeting that mission resulted in estimated cost of uncompensated care of \$211.9 million dollars in 2007, up from \$192.7 million in 2006 and the estimates for 2008 are to exceed \$250 million. Obviously neither Grady nor any other provider of care can sustain losses of this magnitude and survive over the long term.

Of the \$250 million on 2008, approximately 35.4% or \$80.6 million was provided to residents that live outside of Fulton and DeKalb Counties. While these two counties make a significant effort to pay for the cost of care to their residents, Grady, by itself, cannot continue to provide uncompensated care at the current level. Therefore, Grady Health System is requesting that other counties pay for the services provided to their patients. Based on our records, we have provided clinical services to 5,718 patients who have presented evidence of residency in your county. The cost Grady has incurred related to the uncompensated services to your citizens is \$10,062,010.99. Please make the payment for your residents to Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation and forward to the attention of:

Mr. Robert Losier, Vice President Treasury
Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation
80 Jesse Hill Jr. Drive, SE
Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Grady will be willing to provide you with detailed information on each of these patients as allowed by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). If you wish additional details please let me know and I will send you the necessary forms to complete.

Sincerely yours,

Michael D. Ayres

Sr. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer