

Our community's health is in good hands

We, the dedicated members of the **Board of Trustees of Quincy Medical Center**, are writing after reflection on the editorial in the May 22 *Patriot Ledger*. We want our community to know that the Board along with our physician partners, leadership and staff and elected officials are in united agreement that a strong, viable Quincy Medical Center is essential to our community and we will make that a reality for years to come.

The Board has devoted many, many hours working together with our community stakeholders to guide Quincy Medical Center through a leadership transition while allowing no impact on the excellent medical care we provide to our community. We have invested our time and our talent to maximize the many well-recognized strengths of Quincy Medical Center. We do this because, as the *Ledger* acknowledges, we all believe Quincy Medical is a tremendous asset to our community and vitally important to our patients.

The Board, working with senior staff, has thoughtfully and carefully developed our goals and expectations during this time of transition not only at QMC, but also in anticipation of the far-reaching transition we expect on a national level in the health care world. As we recruit a permanent leader for Quincy Medical Center, our interim CEO, John Kastanis has joined the Medical Center to contribute his demonstrated and industry-recognized capabilities and skills to successfully implement these goals. We have been clear that it is his highly successful experiences with hospitals like Southampton Hospital and the Hospital for Joint Diseases that is relevant to the Board's decision to retain his services. John Kastanis is here to help us strengthen our financial position, to grow our volumes, to build new service lines and strengthen the excellent services we already provide. He is here to help us pursue and finalize the best clinical affiliation for Quincy Medical Center and to assist the Board in a search for a new and permanent CEO.

The *Ledger* editorial makes much appreciated points about the importance of Quincy Medical Center to our community. Community hospitals like Quincy Medical Center have a critical role to play in this new health care world where the provision of high quality services at affordable cost will be paramount. We are engaged in very robust discussions with potential partners that recognize the importance that QMC, which has already achieved high quality and low cost provider status, will have in a viable health care system. Quincy Medical Center will play a major role in an integrated, patient-centered health care network of the future.

We are a major employer in the area with a tremendously talented staff who put their heart and souls into excellent service. We have an active and engaged medical staff that is working hard alongside administration and the Board for QMC's future. We have incredible support from our community leaders and residents demonstrated in many ways from support for our fundraising events over the past several weeks to pushing hard at the State House for critically needed support for QMC. Despite the significant financial challenges that QMC faces, we are working to strengthen QMC for the years ahead. We believe this will be successful because we have so much going for us, and so many relying on us.

The QMC Board will continue to engage our community partners, community leaders, patients and all our stakeholders as we move Quincy Medical Center to financial health. We will take every opportunity to make sure our community knows about and can be as proud as we are of the high quality care we provide evidenced by recent recognition by national experts like the Joint Commission and the American Heart Association. Quincy Medical Center is an invaluable community resource and as the trustees of Quincy Medical Center, we are committed to preserve and grow this wonderful hospital.

The Quincy Medical Center Board of Trustees

Grace E. Murphy-McAuliffe, Chairman
Vice President
Citizens Bank

Richard P. Barry, Esquire
Partner
Barry & Associates

Richard Black, MD
Internist
Granite Medical Group

Nissage Cadet, MD
Surgeon
Quincy Medical Center

Robert L. Curry, Immediate Past Chair
Owner
Curry Ace Hardware

Thomas Fitzgerald, MD
President, QMC Medical Staff
Quincy Medical Center

Raymond K. Tung
Senior Vice President
East West Bank

Donald P. Uvanitte
Vice President of Sales
Eastern Insurance

Wan C. Wu, Ph.D.
Principal
Kam Man Food