

Jackson Patient Care Remains Strong and of the Highest Caliber

Ongoing discussions with supply vendors have had - and will have - no effect on the high level of excellent, quality care Jackson is known for worldwide.

MIAMI, FL - Jackson Health System is, and will continue to be, committed to providing the highest quality of medical care for all of its patients. Although Jackson is in the midst of a financial crisis, we want to assure the community and all patients - past, current and future - that our hospitals, emergency rooms and clinics throughout Miami-Dade County are open for business.

Recently, it has been reported that Jackson is running out of necessary medical supplies and that some of our suppliers are ceasing their business relationships with the health system. The community can rest assured that Jackson is fully operational, with all the necessary supplies for the most routine procedures to the most complex surgeries. We are working with all of our vendors to maintain working relationships in order to continue providing much-needed medical care to all Miami-Dade residents.

"Above all, safe patient care is always our first priority - and that has not changed," said Dr. Gerard A. Kaiser, chief medical officer of Jackson Health System. "The people of Miami-Dade County can have faith in the tremendous health care provided throughout Jackson Health System."

While our leadership team is working around the clock to find ways to close our \$229 million budget gap, our caregivers remain on the front lines, saving lives everyday. Despite the challenges we are confronting, the medical care at Jackson has not been compromised. And it will not be.

"Each day at Jackson, our doctors and nurses brings babies into this world, save lives in our trauma center and bring hope to hundreds of people," said Dr. Eneida O. Roldan, president & CEO of Jackson Health System. "We are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, continuing to provide the incredible health care that has made Jackson into one of the best medical centers in the world."

Now, more than ever, Jackson needs the community's support. Rally behind us by making doctor's appointments at any Jackson facility, by choosing Jackson for surgical procedures and recommending Jackson to friends and family. For 91 years, Jackson has been a landmark in South Florida and has grown into a medical destination, known globally for its top-

notch medical care.

Dr. Roldan and hospital leaders are continuing to explore options to save the health system and are working with our partners - union leaders, academic partners, county officials, and state and federal elected leaders - to find additional dollars and solutions. The proposed recovery plan, which outlines cuts Jackson may have to make if no other help comes our way, calls for the closing of Jackson North Medical Center and Jackson South Community Hospital, the reduction of patient beds at Jackson Memorial Hospital by 283, the elimination of other services and facilities, and the reduction of our workforce by 4,487.

However, this plan is not final. It is now a work in progress and a starting point for the Public Health Trust Board of Trustees and management to strategize how to align Jackson's mission and services with our fiscal reality. That strategic discussion formally began Tuesday at an all-day PHT meeting that brought the board together with Jackson's leadership team, unions, academic partners, elected officials and members of the community. We will continue to meet in the coming days, as often as necessary, with our ultimate goal in mind - ensuring a sustainable future for Jackson Health System and saving the health of our community.