



**BOND COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, Inc.**

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Attachment # 5  
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October 14, 2009

Dear Mr. Stockwell:

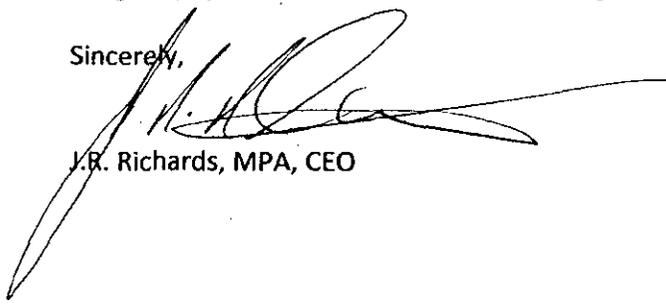
As discussed at the September HAB's monthly meeting, the Bond Community Health Center, Inc. (BCHC) has seen significant growth over the past years and has expanded all of its services including moving to a 30,000 square foot building to increase access to primary and preventive health services to the residents of Leon and surrounding counties. Since the beginning of 2009 Bond has also increased its new patient visits by nearly 100 per month. Augmenting the administrative staff also increases the expertise to successfully take Bond to yet another level. It is with this in mind that a request was made in September to the HAB to recommend to the LCBCC to reinstate directly to the BCHC those funds that are allocated by the county for pharmaceutical services to operate our own pharmacy program.

As also stated, most of the FQHC's in the Nation offer 340B pharmacy services either through a contract or an in-house pharmacy. The majority of larger FQHC does, with considerable prescription volume, often choose to manage its own in-house pharmacy. This measure allows for the center to continue striving in meeting its goal to be an autonomous, independent, compliant organization. This request gained support of the majority of the HAB members at the above mentioned meeting as many believed that we are capable of and should conduct our own pharmaceutical services. Again, due to the fact that the majority of larger FQHC's in the nation operate their own pharmacy program, Bond is encouraged to do the same. As you may be aware, BCHC, under the auspices and regulations of the Health Resources and Services Administration, has the privilege to purchase medications at 340B Drug Discount Pricing for distribution to our patients and extends that privilege to FAMU. Considering that the Health Resources and Services Administration holds Bond accountable for all services provided under its 340B program, it is in the best interest of the center to ascertain that it has full responsibility for operating a compliant pharmaceutical program. BCHC prefers to take on this responsibility instead of leaving it to another entity. Hence, BCHC is in agreement and accepts the changes to the FAMU and Bond contracts for BCHC to begin provision of pharmacy services. This recommendation was voted on and approved by HAB at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting in October 2009 and Bond is pleased with the change in the arrangement between the FAMU School of Pharmacy and the Bond Community Health Center, Inc.

The BCHC cannot conduct these services without funding for personnel to staff the pharmacy. The Bond Community Health Center, Inc. requests \$88,750 from the County which is half of the 2009-2010 budgeted year amount of \$177,500. It is expected that for Bond to continue successful operation of the pharmacy that the entire \$177,500 will be available in County budget year 2010-2011. As previously stated, it will take Bond approximately six months to implement the pharmacy program. Accordingly, and as discussed with Dean Lewis, it will take FAMU approximately six months to phase down/out their pharmacy program. Hence, the request is for partial funding in the first year and full funding the second year and beyond if budget permits. The Bond Community Health Center, Inc. is grateful for your continued support to this end and look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship with the HAB

Board, Leon County Board of County Commissioners and the community at large. As Bond continues to grow and expand services we become quite aware of the impact we have in mitigating the existing disparities by providing quality comprehensive services to the underserved, uninsured, underinsured, indigent population in Leon and surrounding counties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.R. Richards', written over a horizontal line.

J.R. Richards, MPA, CEO