



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health

John R. Nickens IV
President & CEO

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August 27, 2020

Dear Children's Hospital New Orleans Neighbor,

As you know, we proudly serve kids in crisis all over the State of Louisiana as the only Critical Care Air Transport Program dedicated to Pediatrics. Today I must update you on a new development that impacts how we communicate with you regarding Helicopter "Abby".

We have made every effort to listen carefully to your concerns and work with you to find solutions. We are especially grateful to Councilman Joe Giarrusso for convening a collaborative meeting with neighbors and representatives of the Audubon Riverside Neighborhood Association (ARNA). Councilman Giarrusso was instrumental in assisting with successfully adjusting the primary FAA pre-programmed flight patterns which had a significant positive impact to hundreds of neighbors.

We feel that open communication and dialogue are essential to resolution of issues like this and appreciate the efforts of the Councilman to facilitate impactful discussions.

We learned last week that some of our neighbors have engaged an attorney to represent their interests against Children's Hospital. The nature, tone, and frequency of the correspondence and other inquiries we have received from this attorney do not align with the spirit of collaboration we hoped would guide this process.

We assure you that our efforts to respond to your concerns will continue and we hope that we can return to a collaborative problem-solving process. Unfortunately, because legal counsel has been engaged, we must limit our communication on this matter.

Thank you to those who have shared concerns with us and to the many others who have contacted us in support of the hospital. We prefer conversation to confrontation, and we look forward to a time when we can continue to work collaboratively towards solutions.

We care deeply about our neighborhood and those who live closest to the hospital and will continue to make every effort to be a great neighbor while providing expert care for children across Louisiana.

For other matters, please feel free to contact our neighborhood representative, Benjamin Whitworth, Vice President of Hospital Operations, at (504) 896-2176 or Benjamin.Whitworth@LCMCHealth.org.

Respectfully,

John R. Nickens IV
President and Chief Executive Officer