

**Member Hospitals** 

Access Hospital

Atrium Medical Cente

Dayton Children's Hospita

Dayton Rehabilitation

Dayton Veterans Affair Medical Center

Fort Hamilton Hospita

Grandview Medical Center

Grand Lake Health System

Greene Memorial Hospita

Kettering Behaviord Medicine Center

Kettering Medical Center

Kindred Hospital Daytor

LifeCare Hospitals of Dayton

The Medical Center at Elizabeth Place

Mercy Memorial Hospital

Miami Valley Hospital

Miami Valley Hospital North

Miami Valley Hospital South

Indu and Raj Soir Medical Center

Springfield Regional Medical Center

Southview Medical Center

Sycamore Medical Center

Upper Valley
Medical Cente

Wayne HealthCare

Wilson Memorial Hospital

Wright Patterson Medical Center March 23, 2021

The Honorable Michael DeWine Governor of Ohio 77 S. High Street, 30th Floor Columbus, OH 43215

## Dear Governor DeWine:

On behalf of the 26 hospitals and health systems in the Dayton region, thank you for your exemplary leadership over the past year as we have battled COVID-19. Our member hospitals take their responsibility to care of our community seriously and have been prepared to serve our region from the onset of this global pandemic. Unfortunately, much work remains to defeat COVID-19. And so, we urge you to veto Senate Bill 22 - legislation that would interfere with the process by which the governor and state health department issue statewide orders regarding the pandemic.

The leadership and tone set at the state provided a framework for our coordinated response in Region 3. In the Dayton region, hospital and public health leadership coordinated infection control protocols, testing guidance, and emergency response efforts and operations to ensure we were prepared for the potential COVID-19 patient surge and the long-term management of a global pandemic at the local level. Guidance from our state public health experts strengthened our partnership with local public health departments and allowed for clear communication to our fellow citizens in the early days of the pandemic through daily briefings with our local media and community partners.

And now, our shared responsibility of vaccinating our community members is done so in concert with public health, federally qualified health centers, hospitals and health systems, and a variety of community partners. 22 percent of eligible Ohioans in Region 3 have started their vaccine protocol and 13 percent have completed the vaccine. We are pleased that more individuals are signing up every day to receive their dose as new categories and age groups are eligible. However, we must remain vigilant in our efforts as healthcare institutions and partners with our public health agencies to ensure that we continue on a path to recovery.

We have made significant progress in our management of COVID-19 due to the governor's administration and state health department's ability to act quickly. By applying an evidenced-based framework, your actions saved the lives of our fellow citizens and protected our healthcare professionals who were and continue to serve on the front lines of the pandemic. Thank you for your continued leadership during this difficult time.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hackenbracht President & CEO

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