



**COMMISSIONER - 11TH DISTRICT
COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

October 25, 2019

Dr. John Jay Shannon
Chief Executive Officer
Cook County Health
761 S. Damen
Chicago, IL 60612

Dear Dr. Shannon

To assist the Board of Commissioners in consideration of Item #19-5916 (Executive Budget Recommendation FY20) which was referred to the Finance Committee please provide a written response to the following questions regarding the CCH's FY20 budget recommendation.

1. Do CCH personnel participate at all during the union negotiations (salary and other items, like work rules)? If not, would you comment on any difficulties you have in cutting labor costs as a result of not participating in those negotiations?
2. Do you have any suggestions as to how the County (and Commissioners) can encourage other hospitals within Cook County to start providing more charity care?
3. Is the County requiring CCH to bear the costs for providing services that were previously provided by other areas under the County? Specifically, the mental health services provided to the Juvenile Temporary Detention Center? Or is the County covering those costs?
4. Are the costs of the Direct Access Program (over \$230 million) contributing to the costs of charity care provided, or do you think this managed care program for those making less than or equal to 200% of the poverty level ultimately saves money that CCH would otherwise spend on emergency charity care? Do you think CCH can continue to bear the costs of this program?
5. What strategies is CCH using to bring down the overtime to the goal of 5%?

These questions were brought forth by the League of Women's Voters and I believe a discussion of these issues will be helpful to Commissioners during this budget process.

Thank you for your prompt response to this inquiry.

Sincerely,

John P. Daley
Chairman, Finance Committee

cc: Board of Commissioners