



UNITED MEDICAL CENTER REGAINS JOINT ACCREDITATION

WASHINGTON, DC (January 21, 2009)—United Medical Center CEO Frank DeLisi announced today that the facility was officially notified by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations that the hospital satisfied the conditions for certification during a 4-day inspection last December. This announcement is a further demonstration of the amazing turnaround this hospital has seen since its purchase by Specialty Hospitals of America (SHA) in November 2007.

Before SHA's purchase of the facility, UMC (formerly called Greater Southeast Community Hospital) was downgraded to provisional status by the Joint Commission in June 2007. This change prompted a re-inspection in October 2007, which resulted in the loss of accreditation shortly thereafter. GSCH had been failing for years in meeting the healthcare needs of the citizens of Washington DC, and more specifically, those of Southeast Washington.

“Just over 12 months ago, the notion that UMC would be reaccredited in a year seemed unlikely at best, impossible at worst,” said Councilmember David Catania (At-Large), a supporter of the government investment in the facility. “The doctors, nurses, and staff of UMC are to be commended for the phenomenal progress they have made. Regaining Joint Commission accreditation is welcome news to the many people who have put forth enormous effort to improve the quality of healthcare offered east of the river.”

We are grateful to the District Government for the support they have provided to our hospital,” said DeLisi. “We understand that they were taking a risk in rebuilding this facility, and by receiving our accreditation, we have shown that it was a risk worth taking. The accreditation also proves that UMC is a reliable and safe hospital that is dedicated to helping our patients.”

Since SHA's purchase, the facility has quickly regained the trust of the community and the healthcare population through not only the change in name, but the quality of medical care that they offer to residents. Some of the most recent improvements include a vast array of new and state-of-the-art radiological equipment, new emergency systems, telemetry and intensive care monitoring equipment, patient furniture, among others.

“The accomplishment of Joint Commission Accreditation represents a pivotal milestone in the three-year process of restoring high quality healthcare to the residents of DC, specifically from Southeast Washington,” said Eric Rieseberg, United Medical Center Board Chair and President. “This task was accomplished in record time by the thousands of people who have worked hard to restore the community's faith in our hospital, and we look forward to our continued journey with them.”



About United Medical Center

United Medical Center has provided medical services to residents of the Washington metropolitan area since 1965. Under the leadership of Specialty Hospitals of America, LLC, United Medical Center is committed to its evolution into a full-service, state-of-the-art facility where physicians and staff provide expertise in medical and surgical specialties with the combined results of improved patient care and a sustainable business model. For more information, visit www.united-medicalcenter.com.

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