

April 15, 2020

Dena R. Diorio
Mecklenburg County Manager
Charlotte Mecklenburg Government Center
600 East 4th Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

County Manager Diorio:

Thank you, again, for working collaboratively with our local health systems to combat coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), as we collectively commit to doing everything in our power to keep the citizens of Mecklenburg County and the surrounding communities safe. More specifically, we appreciate the proactive steps taken by the County to enact stay-at-home policies. In short, it is clear they are beginning to work. We are seeing a flattening of the curve, resulting in a continued decline in peak hospital census projections. Instead of positive cases doubling every 2.85 days, as they were previously, the current trajectory is showing positive cases now doubling every 6 days.

As you are aware, our health systems have also come together and committed massive resources to identify and create thousands of acute care beds on or near our facilities to manage the surge. In the past week, our teams have continued to explore additional opportunities to expand capacity on our respective campuses.

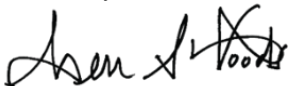
For example, Atrium Health's College of Health Sciences on the campus of Carolinas Medical Center was just approved for patient care by the state on Friday, April 10, and has a capacity for approximately 200 beds. Further, Atrium Health has identified additional capacity of up to 235 beds at one of our facilities that can be active within 72 hours. Novant Health has also been identifying and re-allocating space, including the conversion of non-ICU units into ICU units taking the ICU bed available from 48-245, and re-utilization of space for additional beds.

As a result of our combined efforts, we believe we are now in position to meet the 600 medical beds needed that were previously requested in a field hospital, assuming the effects of social distancing trend continues the current trajectory.

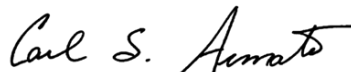
It is important to note this trend could reverse quickly if social distancing is eased prematurely without supporting data. Recognizing the dynamic nature of this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic, we must stay committed to ongoing, prudent assessment of the situation and remain ready to adjust as needed. Should the data trends reverse, we would appreciate the Charlotte Convention Center being considered for a viable option in the future, if needed.

Finally, we would like to thank the local community for the phenomenal, overall support of stay-at-home directive. It is making a big difference and a true demonstration of who we can be at our best.

Sincerely,



Eugene A. Woods
President and CEO
Atrium Health



Carl S. Armato
President and CEO
Novant Health