



Maryland
Hospital Association

May 17, 2021

Dianne Feeney
Associate Director, Quality Initiatives
Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Ms. Feeney,

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) 60 member hospitals and health systems, I urge you to fund the Maryland Patient Safety Center's full request of \$523,000 in undesignated funds for fiscal year 2022. Increasing funding beyond the proposed \$248,000 would allow state's patient safety organization to begin its Clean Collaborative with another 10 Maryland nursing homes. The Clean Collaborative improves infection control and rigorous environmental cleaning to prevent transmission of infectious diseases, such as Clostridium difficile, Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), and COVID-19. All of these infections can result in unnecessary visits to the emergency department and other, more serious, outcomes. Preliminary results show a decline in these infections at the facilities and improvement in overall cleanliness.

As we enter the fourth year of the Total Cost of Care Model, stakeholders are coming together in ways that we have not before seen to do their part in improving care for Marylanders. The Maryland Patient Safety Center offered relevant, well-received programs for all sectors of health care to improve the quality and safety of patient care. Their timely response to support hospitals, nursing homes and others through the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates the important role they play.

Sincerely,

Traci LaValle
Senior Vice President, Quality & Health Improvement

cc: Adam Kane, Chairman
Joseph Antos, Ph.D., Vice Chairman
Victoria W. Bayless
Stacia Cohen, RN

John M. Colmers
James N. Elliott, M.D.
Sam Malhotra
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director