

## WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Nemours has wide-spread support from physicians and community members throughout the defined service area.

Nemours has received numerous letters of support from physician, community leaders, families of patients, and other members of the community throughout the proposed service area. The following excerpts from some letters received clearly document the wide-spread support and need for the NOCH.

### Physicians wrote:

- *“I have been a physician working at ORHS for almost 25 years. I helped open the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Women and Children in the renovated Holiday Hospital in 1989. Throughout my career at ORHS it was readily apparent to me that the overwhelming focus of the administration was the flagship hospital, the Orange Division/ORMC/Downtown Division and that much less support was given to other hospitals in the system...I support the creation of the dedicated pediatric hospital by Nemours. The children of this community deserve an outstanding medical facility.”*  
– **James E. Yoachim, M.D., Orlando**
- *“I have been practicing Pediatric Medicine in Orlando since 1994, have worked for and with both major hospitals in Orlando as well as Nemours. ...children and parents continue to wait for hospital admissions...longer than any of us would like. In the ED there may be a wait for a bed to such a degree that the child actually stays for more than a day and in many cases is discharged from the ED without ever getting to their hospital bed!... It makes a good deal of sense to allow an independent entity to invest the required funding to help the already overburdened and resource challenged systems to overcome these problems..”*  
– **Robert J. Cooper, M.D., FAAP, Orlando**
- *“A state-of-the art children’s hospital will join the elite group of the most advanced children’s hospitals (i.e. Children’s hospital of Philadelphia, Boston, A.I. DuPont Hospital for Children) in the nation, and will attract doctors and benefit children from the entire southeastern region of the United States; there is no such facility in Florida or in any neighboring state.”*  
– **Floyd Livingston, M.D., Orlando**

### Community members wrote:

- *“...Our city has the worldwide reputation of being a fun destination for children and families. It is only fitting that the area should also have a cutting-edge, high quality hospital where children with any kind of chronic illness or pediatric ailments can travel for quality and in some cases, life saving care. It would also allow the children of area taxpayers the opportunity to receive first class care regardless of their ability to pay. A new Nemours children’s hospital will bring Orlando to the ranks of other cities (i.e. Houston and Boston) known for their outstanding reputation for comprehensive medical care.”*  
– **Sandy Hostetter, Winter Park**

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- *“My son, Trevor is six years old. The minute he was born, we knew something was wrong. That something turned out to be congenital toxoplasmosis. ... Trevor has many pulmonary issues, as do most children with CP. He has thyroid and growth problems. We are in and out of the hospital on a regular basis. We are currently, or have in the past been followed by just about every specialty at Nemours Orlando. The doctors have all been wonderful – they have led me through my new life which is called Trevor. Because all of his records are kept in one system, the doctors, from every specialty can refer to his chart and respond together when changes need to be made. When labs are done, every one of these doctors can review the results. ... Having this resource available to us has made all the difference for Trevor’s care and health. I am extremely excited about the prospect of a new, first-rate children’s hospital in Orlando...”*  
– **Suzanne Levi, Windermere**
  
- *“There is nothing more frustrating than not being able to find care for your child. Recently [my] friend was [informed] that her son had [experienced] a seizure. During the workup it was determined that he had a brain tumor. Ironically she had no problem finding a neurosurgeon, but finding an available hospital bed in Orlando was formidable. ... Her preference was to stay in Orlando but ultimately she elected to have the surgery in Jacksonville where a surgeon and bed could be found, and the surgery could be done immediately. Pediatric Hospitals are vital, they are filled with people who understand the unique needs of kids...Nemours has an international reputation of excellence. We should be honored and pleased that they would like to build a hospital here...”*  
– **Barbara Styne, Orlando**
  
- *“We have been involved with Nemours doctors for 8 years. ... Every experience with Nemours is a positive one, and expanding the Nemours presence in Orlando with its hospital can only benefit our community. It’s interesting that both Florida Hospital and ORMC are opposed to this new hospital when combined they are unable to meet the needs of all children in the Orlando area. A personal example is my daughter Chelsea, who is now 17. For many years Chelsea has received IVIG for a rare auto-immune neurological disorder. ... Florida Hospital no longer does routine IVIG. They only admit and administer it on a life threatening basis only. ... Arnold Palmer Hospital rarely has a bed available when we need it, necessitating a wait. While sometimes the wait is only 24 hours, because of the after effects of Chelsea’s IVIG infusion, the delay often requires her to miss more school than necessary. Obviously this impacts a parent’s ability to go to work as well. ... Not only is there room for the Nemours Hospital in Orlando, but the need is there.”*  
– **Karen DeNoya, Oviedo**

These excerpts clearly document the need and support for a free-standing, top tier children’s hospital in Orlando.