



The Medical Center of Aurora
North Suburban Medical Center
Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center &
Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children
Rose Medical Center
Sky Ridge Medical Center
Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital
Swedish Medical Center
LEADING HOSPITALS. TRUSTED CARE.

**Statement from Jeff Dorsey, CEO HCA-HealthONE
Dec. 19, 2011**

We're extremely disappointed and surprised the Task Force did not recommend HealthONE's proposal given all the facts. With just a month to evaluate five proposals and thousands of pages, they rushed to judgment. Members still do not understand the real value of the bids because they ignored the City Attorney's advice to obtain independent financial valuations. They should send the top two bids to City Council for more detailed analysis and an opportunity to obtain a better deal.

We thank Tim Leigh and Brandy Williams for their time and leadership in this effort.

HealthONE laid out the clearest path for improving the quality of care and turning Memorial around financially to ensure stability and save jobs. Our plan is much stronger in quality improvement, financial investment, local control, and experience in growing a hospital system. We also bring the same experience and commitment to establishing a branch medical school for Colorado Springs.

We believe voters will have serious concerns about the objectiveness of the task force, since some members made it clear from the beginning they would not review HealthONE's bid with open minds. The Task Force has recommended a bid that relies on the formation of two new entities that don't yet exist. And University Hospital, which has never run a community hospital, faces an extreme challenge of blending academic and community hospital cultures.

We will continue to have an interest in Memorial's future. The City Council and Colorado Springs voters will have the final say. We recommend the City Council review both the HealthONE and University Hospital bids more thoroughly, so they can be confident the decision they send to voters is objective, educated and the right choice for the community.

Five Key Differentiators:

- **Financially**, HealthONE's proposal offers at least \$332 million more to the people of Colorado Springs and the surrounding region than the University Hospital's plan.
- Only HealthONE has the necessary **experience** in this type of transaction. We bring an established, successful hospital system with the resources to step in on day one to begin working with Memorial employees and medical staff. HCA brings the experience of running 164 community hospitals – University Hospital has never operated a single *community* hospital.

By contrast, University Hospital has no experience in these business transactions. On closer examination, their proposal relies on forming two new entities that don't currently exist, and which could take many months to establish legally before moving forward. They also have an extremely difficult challenge of merging academic and community hospital cultures.

- From a **Quality** standpoint, independent reports verify that our 'patients first' culture and programs result in higher quality care.
- Both HealthONE and University Hospital would work with Colorado Springs and University of Colorado to establish a **branch medical school** campus. But we've also committed we would work to earn a Trauma Level I at Memorial, as well as bring enhanced education and clinical research.
- Finally, we haven't hedged about **local control**: Memorial will have a local Board of Trustees with significant decision-making power, far beyond the "advisory board" the University Hospital suggests.