

January 9, 2026

Dr. Esmaeil Porsa  
President & CEO  
Harris Health

RE: Ben Taub Hospital Expansion

Dear Dr. Porsa,

On behalf of UH Health Family Care Center, I am pleased to offer this letter of support to Harris Health for the expansion of Ben Taub Hospital. As a federally qualified health center look-alike serving many of Houston's most vulnerable populations, we recognize Ben Taub Hospital as a critical cornerstone of the city's healthcare safety net and an essential partner in supporting our patients' needs.

Our health center is the heart of Third Ward, serving the surrounding medically underserved community. Many of our patients rely on Harris Health and Ben Taub Hospital for specialty services, inpatient care, trauma services, and complex medical needs that extend beyond the scope of primary care. The proposed expansion of Ben Taub Hospital represents a vital investment in meeting the growing healthcare demands of Houston and ensuring timely, equitable access to lifesaving services.

As patient volumes and needs for acute and specialty care, rise across the county, the expansion of Ben Taub Hospital will help alleviate these pressures by increasing access to specialty services, improving care coordination, and reducing delays in treatment for patients with complex and chronic conditions. These improvements are especially critical for communities experiencing persistent health disparities, where timely access to advanced care can significantly impact outcomes.

UH Health Family Care Center **fully supports** this expansion and appreciates the opportunity to partner with Harris Health in advancing a more accessible, resilient, and equitable healthcare system for our community.

Sincerely,



Neena Arora  
CEO/COO, UH Health Family Care Center  
Assistant Vice President, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine