



**SIERRA PROVIDENCE EAST  
MEDICAL CENTER**

**May 10, 2012**

**James N. Valenti  
President & Chief Executive Officer  
University Medical Center of El Paso  
4815 Alameda Avenue  
El Paso, TX 79905**

**RE: Sierra Providence East Medical Center and Region #15 Regional Healthcare Partnership**

Dear Mr. Valenti,

Thank you to you and your staff for organizing and hosting the orientation session on April 25<sup>th</sup> for the Regional Healthcare Partnership ("RHP") - Region #15. As a follow-up to this meeting, please accept this letter as Sierra Providence East Medical Center's ("SPEMC") expressed interest and desire to participate in the Region #15 RHP. Under the recently approved Texas Medicaid 1115 Waiver program by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"), we understand that the University Medical Center of El Paso ("UMC") will serve as the anchor for the Region #15 Regional Healthcare Partnership.

SPEMC would very much appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Region #15 Regional Healthcare Partnership as structured and designed under the Texas Medicaid 1115 Waiver program. We understand this will involve a financial commitment as well as a time involvement commitment from the hospital, but we are ready and prepared to make such commitments. We are also sensitive to the fact that UMC has a relationship with other El Paso providers through the historical Private Upper Payment Limit ("UPL") program in Texas. Our intent is not to disrupt such long-standing relationships, but rather to find a way for our hospital to also work in collaboration with UMC and other participating providers in this RHP.

We look forward to the opportunity to participate in this RHP and to collaborate with UMC and other participating providers of this program on how to best meet the needs of the communities we serve through innovative healthcare delivery and educational programs. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

**Thomas Casaday  
Interim – SVP of the Central Region  
Tenet Healthcare Corporation**

Cc: Cathy Gibson  
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