

Connecticut Commission on Health Equity

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To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the CT. Commission on Health Equity, I am writing in support of Governor M. Jodi Rell's proposed UConn Health Network, and specifically in enthusiastic support of the planned Health Disparities Institute. As an educator and investigator involved in research on health disparities and its affect on health status in this region, I am acutely aware of the need for community education and outreach. I believe that it is of greatest importance to partner with area hospitals, community health centers, educational institutions, workforce investment boards, and community-based organizations to create a web of services that will enhance the well being of people in this state and positively influence our leaders and policy makers. Working with community residents, we believe that bringing effective, efficient, culturally competent and person-centered sensitive health care to the under- represented diverse populations in our state will have a positive impact on all people of the state. The development of a Health Disparities Institute represents a large step toward this prime goal of eliminating health disparities and inequities.

Sincerely,

Marie M. Spivey, Ed.D., RN, MPA
Chair, CT. Commission on Health Equity

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