From: Sarah Foos
To: Council Clerk
Cc: City Council Email
Subject: Grady Family Birthplace City Council Meeting 6/22
Date: Sunday, June 21, 2026 10:25:16 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am a current OhioHealth associate and wish to remain anonymous. I live in Delaware County and work at Grady Memorial Hospital. The Grady Family Birthplace is one of the hospital's greatest assets. Many families specifically choose Grady because of the exceptional care, compassion, and personalized experience provided by its maternity team. The announcement that the unit will close at the end of July has been heartbreaking for employees, patients, and the community.

OhioHealth has cited safety concerns and stated that the number of births at Grady does not meet nationally recommended thresholds. To my knowledge, there have been no major safety events within Grady's maternity unit. In fact, I had the opportunity to witness an unexpected delivery of a 24-week infant in the maternity unit one December evening. With my own training and experience in critical care and emergency medicine, I was genuinely impressed by the composure, knowledge, and dedication of the staff. Their expertise and compassionate care played a critical role in ensuring that child survived and is thriving today.

OhioHealth has also stated that Grady's Emergency Department will be prepared to manage laboring patients or emergent deliveries. I have great respect for my emergency department colleagues and do not question their abilities. However, I am deeply concerned about the safety of laboring women who may now be routed through the emergency department. Given our current emergency department volumes and staffing challenges, I worry that laboring mothers may not receive the specialized care they need, particularly during obstetrical emergencies. Without the immediate support and expertise of our experienced maternity team, what is the plan if a serious complication arises? Would patients need to be transferred to Dublin Methodist or Riverside Methodist in the midst of an emergency?

Additionally, OhioHealth has stated that fewer than 10% of babies born to Delaware County families at OhioHealth facilities were delivered at Grady. This statistic does not account for the many patients from surrounding counties who choose Grady for their

prenatal care and deliveries. The families who deliver at Grady do so intentionally. They do not want to deliver at Dublin or Riverside. Many already travel significant distances to receive care at Grady, and asking them to travel an additional 20 to 60+ minutes, depending on traffic and time of day, places an unreasonable burden on expectant mothers and their families.

I understand that OhioHealth is a business and that difficult decisions must sometimes be made. Realistically, I recognize that this decision may already be final. However, I remain hopeful that there may still be an opportunity to reconsider the impact this closure will have on our community and the families who depend on Grady's maternity services.

Thank you for your time and consideration.