From: Beth Reichard
To: Council Clerk
Cc: City Council Email
Subject: Save Grady Memorial Maternity
Date: Friday, June 19, 2026 10:00:26 AM

You don't often get email from emschultz9@gmail.com. Learn why this is important

Dear Members of Delaware City Council,

I am writing as a Delaware resident and mother to urge you to oppose the planned closure of maternity services at Grady Memorial Hospital and to advocate for preserving and strengthening local obstetric care.

My family has firsthand experience with Grady's maternity unit. My oldest son was born there in February 2020, and the care I received was exceptional. The nurses were compassionate, attentive, and highly skilled. My labor was very long and difficult, and one of the few bright spots of that experience was the nurses and care team who went above and beyond.

When I delivered my second son in 2023, I chose OhioHealth Dublin Methodist Hospital. However, that decision was driven by access to a higher-level NICU and more immediate anesthesia services for an epidural, and not because Grady's care was lacking. In fact, the nursing care I received at Grady was among the best I experienced and far exceeded what I received at Dublin.

Closing Grady's maternity services would create a significant gap in care for families in Delaware County. Expectant mothers would be forced to travel farther for labor and delivery services (at least 30+ minutes), adding more stress and risk during a time that is already fraught with stress and worry. Not every labor follows a predictable timeline, and increasing travel distances can have profound consequences for mothers and babies.

Delaware County continues to grow rapidly. At a time when more families are choosing to live here, reducing access to local maternity care seems counterproductive. Rather than eliminating these services, OhioHealth should be exploring opportunities to invest in and expand them. Enhancing maternity care at Grady would better serve the needs of our growing community and help ensure that families have access to high-quality care close to home.

I respectfully ask that City Council advocate for maintaining maternity services at Grady Memorial Hospital and work with OhioHealth and community stakeholders to find solutions that preserve access to obstetric care in Delaware.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our community.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Reichard
Delaware, Ohio