RESOLUTION NO.  74 - 12

Offered By Councilperson LEFKOVITS
Seconded By Councilperson

WHEREAS, five years ago, the future of Mountainside Hospital was uncertain and was ranked 32nd on the New Jersey Hospital Association’s Financial Status of Hospitals; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of Mountainside Hospital in 2007 by Merit Health Systems, LLC, a private company based in Louisville, KY. was initially met with some skepticism; and,

WHEREAS, the acquisition of Mountainside Hospital by Merit Systems led to an unprecedented turnaround. The hospital has amassed an impressive array of achievements, ascending to the position of the most fiscally stable facility in the state while simultaneously improving the quality and safety of patient care and expanding services that address emerging health care needs; and,

WHEREAS, the transfer of ownership of Mountainside Hospital to Montclair Health System, LLC (“Montclair Health”) will benefit the community by bringing to bear the partnered resources of LHP Hospital Group, Inc. and Hackensack UMC, the members of Montclair Health. LHP brings the ability to achieve discounted pricing for medical supplies and high-tech medical equipment through its nationally priced GPO arrangement, as well as favorable pricing from other contracted vendors due to significant construction and medical equipment investments at other LHP facilities. HUMC brings significant resources and synergies to Mountainside Hospital in the areas of shared quality and case management, shared educational resources, shared personnel / staffing / recruiting resources, and marketing and public relations; and,

WHEREAS, The community will also benefit from an enhanced role in the governance and oversight of the hospital.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by The Mayor and Borough Council that the governing body supports the transfer of Mountainside Hospital to Montclair Health System, LLC; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services.