



# UPSTATE

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION · HEALTHCARE · RESEARCH

*Office of the President & Health System CEO*

Nov. 22, 2017

To the Upstate Community:

Yesterday I had the opportunity to listen to our Leadership Academy participants present ideas to address key issues at Upstate and in our community.

The presentations focused on issues such as how Upstate can better care for patients addicted to opioids, help curb violence in our community and develop a more coordinated care model for refugees, including opportunities for our students to learn about the delivery of health care in diverse communities.

Each presentation was solid, making its case with data-infused reasoning. Each presentation touched on an element of our university's strategic plan.

These presentations offer an example of how important it is to hear and gather different ideas from across the institution. Listening to each presentation, I was reminded of the extraordinary talent we have here on campus among our employees and how we all want the best for our patients, students, the community—and Upstate.

A reminder of our support beyond campus came this weekend as we announced an exceptional gift from Sam and Carol Nappi, generous benefactors in our community who share our vision of improving the health of our communities through education, biomedical research and health care. And last week the senior leadership met for a two-day retreat to reflect, think and learn together how to make wiser decisions based on the keen examination of alternative choices in the context of our values.

During this season of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the generosity of our supporters and for the commitment and compassion you bring to all you do at Upstate and in our community.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Danielle Laraque-Arena'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and a long horizontal stroke.

Danielle Laraque-Arena, MD, FAAP  
President & Health System CEO  
SUNY Upstate Medical University