

Office of the President & Health System CEO

Dec. 15, 2017

To the Upstate Community:

An opportunity to energize the economic viability, sustainability and livability of the Central New York region benefits all of us. And this week, Central New York took a big step forward as it received the largest investment of support<u>\$86.4</u> million for 112 projects—in the latest round of funding.

This support represents opportunities for growth, job creation and a real commitment to ensuring economic opportunities become available to those who call this region home.

Recognized with the Top Performer award, the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council's (CNYREDC) success is shared with hundreds of individuals—business and community leaders, small business representatives, entrepreneurs and innovative thinkers—who want the best for this region. As president of SUNY Upstate Medical University and co-chair of the CNYREDC, I am proud of our collective enthusiasm and support of this region.

I also extend my sincerest thanks to Rob Simpson, who has served as my co-chair on the CNYREDC since my appointment in August 2016, and look forward to serving the region with my new co-chair, Randy Wolken, president and CEO of the Manufacturers Association of Central New York, in the coming year.

The REDC is a signature New York State program. The economic vitality of this region has a major impact on our university, especially as the region's largest employer. A healthy economy helps us find success in attracting talent for the

variety of positions throughout our system, fostering innovation, funding research and educating the future health care workforce.

So, we end the year on an optimistic note. Happy Holidays to you all and be safe.

Warmly,

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