

# DURHAM-ORANGE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 27167 - Raleigh, NC 27611

February 4, 2008

Dear Colleague:

RE: PROJECT ACCESS DURHAM COUNTY

The Durham Orange County Medical Society (DOCMS), along with several community partners, is pleased to announce that, in the summer of 2008, a coordinated system of charitable care called "Project Access Durham County (PADC)" will be launched to help address the health needs of the uninsured, non-Medicaid residents of Durham County. Project Access Durham County, which is comprised of multiple partners, represents an unprecedented commitment to improve the availability of healthcare services to our most needy citizens. While still in final development, components of PADC will include:

- Outpatient office visits donated by physicians throughout Durham County
- Inpatient services donated by Duke University Hospital, Durham Regional Hospital, and North Carolina Specialty Hospital
- Diagnostic procedures donated by LabCorp, Duke University Health System, and Durham Diagnostics
- Screening for specialty care needs of patients receiving primary care at Lincoln Community Health Center (with a plan to add other primary care sites over time)
- Monitoring of donated services and their value by PrimaHealth
- Funding provided by the Durham County Government (and additional funding currently being sought from the Duke Endowment, the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation, local businesses, and the community)

PADC patients will not be charged for care and will pay only modest co-pays for prescriptions. Patients must agree to keep scheduled appointments, adhere to treatment recommendations, and follow-up with their primary care physicians. PADC will exist as a separate entity with its own staff and a Governing Board representing all stakeholders. The primary role of the DOCMS will be to recruit and to recognize physician participation and provide feedback. DOCMS will have 3 members on the Governing Board. A separate Medical Advisory Board will also be created to address the specific needs of participating physicians.

Please take a few minutes to peruse the attached "Frequently Asked Questions" about this program. A PADC representative will call on you soon to ask you and your group for specific commitments. We hope you will join with your colleagues in donating care to Project Access. Should you have any questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Andy Barada, MD  
Chair, Access to Care Committee  
North Carolina Medical Society  
DOCMS Member

Chuck Cooperberg, MD  
President-elect, Durham Regional Hospital Medical Staff  
DOCMS Member

Howard Eisenson, MD  
President-elect, DOCMS

Peter Jacobi, MD  
Medical Director, PrimaHealth  
DOCMS Member

Attachments: FAQ's  
Commitment Form