

October 13, 2009

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

On behalf of Nemours, we would like to thank you for your leadership and support for community-based prevention in health reform. At Nemours, we believe a focus on prevention initiatives for the population is critical to achieving the reform our health system needs to improve health outcomes and drive down costs over the long term. We urge you to continue to ensure that funding for community-based prevention is included in the final legislation.

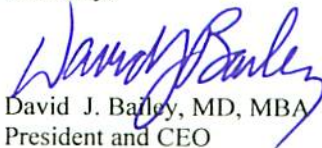
Nemours is a premier integrated child health system directly serving 250,000 children mainly in Delaware and North Central Florida. Nemours has taken on the challenge of putting a prevention-oriented child health system into practice by integrating medical care with community-based prevention to improve the health of children in Delaware. Through its Health and Prevention Services Division (NHPS), Nemours acts as a catalyst to change social determinants of health within and beyond the medical care system. The Nemours system, which previously cared for approximately 25% of the state's children, now works to improve the health of all 228,000 children in Delaware and is working to do the same in North Central Florida.

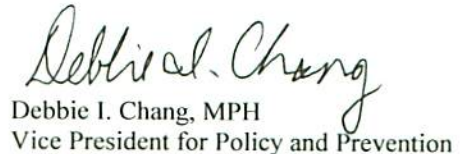
We know there is market failure when it comes to prevention. Health systems are not rewarded when they invest in prevention. As you consider various incentives to spur greater investment in health promotion and disease prevention, Nemours, as an early adopter, stands ready to work with you to ensure a public-private partnership in this effort to improve the health of the public, particularly our children. Nemours has shown leadership in this area by allocating \$15 million toward a population-based health and prevention program for children in 2009, in addition to the usual elements of individual prevention incorporated in our pediatric health care system.

We believe that community-based prevention works best when it is done in partnership with local health providers and others who care for children. The government cannot do this alone, and we are ready to work with you to encourage investment of both public and private resources for the long-term benefit of our nation's children.

We greatly appreciate your leadership and commitment to prevention. Our nation's children deserve it.

Sincerely,


David J. Bailey, MD, MBA
President and CEO


Debbie I. Chang, MPH
Vice President for Policy and Prevention

Alfred I. duPont
Hospital for Children
Wilmington, Delaware

Nemours BrightStart!
Dyslexia Initiative

Nemours Center for
Children's Health Media

Nemours Children's Clinic
Jacksonville, Florida
Orlando, Florida
Pensacola, Florida
Wilmington, Delaware

Nemours Health &
Prevention Services

Nemours Health Clinic
Wilmington, Delaware

Nemours Mansion & Gardens

Nemours Partnership
for Children's Health

Nemours Pediatrics

Nemours.org

KidsHealth.org

PedsEducation.org