



Banner
University Medical Center
Tucson

ADDENDUM MATERIAL

DATE 2-21-23

ITEM NO. ADD 2

Hospital Administration
1625 N. Campbell Ave
Tucson, AZ 85719

February 20, 2023

To: Pima County Clerk of the Board:

Banner – University Medical Center Tucson, Banner – University Medical Center South, Diamond Children's Medical Center, Banner – University Medicine North and many specialty clinics, together represent the largest hospital system in southern Arizona and are part of Banner – University Medicine, a premier academic medical network.

The hospitals are academic medical centers for the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson, working to provide clinical care while training future health care providers. As part of Arizona-based Banner Health, Banner – University Medicine Tucson is part of one of the largest nonprofit health care systems in the country. Banner Health is in six states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Nebraska, Nevada and Wyoming.

As the largest health system in southern Arizona, Banner – University Medicine works closely with the Pima County Health Department which has served as a valued community partner, due in part to the leadership of Dr. Theresa Cullen. During her five years as director, Dr. Cullen has worked to successfully address many community health challenges while also working to strengthen the Pima County Health Department's reputation as a trusted community resource.

Our organizations work together to address health issues that impact our community to ensure we are providing relevant, accurate, accessible, and understandable health information and resources to advance the health of the public during health emergencies or to respond appropriately to existing community health concerns.

For instance, her dedication to address pressing health issues within our community, resulted in a recent Banner – University Medicine and Pima County Health Department free, virtual Senior Health Town Hall led by geriatric experts within our hospital system and the community sharing senior health best practices and community resources.

During the COVID pandemic, Dr. Cullen provided a community-oriented approach with an emphasis on creating or nurturing partnerships with local, state, tribal and federal agencies to ensure resources were available to serve the community including historically underserved areas. These included working with partners, including Banner, to implement mobile vaccination, COVID-19 testing and other community resources.

Dr. Cullen's leadership resulted in lower rates of COVID-19 deaths in Pima County than the rest of the state, as well as the county's vaccination rates outpacing the state of Arizona by several percentage points across all age groups.

To ensure ethical decision-making into public health actions, Dr. Cullen established an ethics committee, set up a COVID-19 Response and Recovery Community Advisory Committee to ensure appropriate input and dialogue with the community, established the Office of Health Equity to address issues of ability, race, gender, income, geography, and other social determinants of health and has developed a comprehensive approach to the opioid crisis.

Dr. Cullen has established herself as a trusted community partner and a valued community health resources and we look forward to our continued partnership to continue working to improve the health of our community.

Sincerely,

Sarah Frost
Chief Executive Officer
Banner- University Medical Center Tucson
Banner- University Medical Center South

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