

Good evening, I'm **Eva Turbiner**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Zufall Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center, with eight offices and a mobile medical van, serving six counties in Northwest New Jersey. In 2013, the Health Center served almost 21,000 patients with 70,000 visits for primary medical, dental and supportive services. Our patients are among the most vulnerable and medically underserved in the region. More than 65% are uninsured, 90% have incomes under 200% of the federal poverty level, and more than half need services in a language other than English.

Zufall has sites offering adult and pediatric primary care in both Morris and Warren Counties. As a result, we work very closely with both HRMC and Morristown Medical Center and we accept referrals from their Emergency Departments and discharge planners for individuals who do not have a primary care provider. Currently, Zufall is not able to provide specialty and surgical services to the low-income, predominantly minority population. This is a significant challenge, but one that we hope can eventually be overcome, in part through creative health care solutions and combined efforts and resources, such as those that could result from the proposed transfer of ownership of HRMC to Atlantic Health System.

We look to our partner hospitals to provide services that, as a primary care provider, we are unable to offer. In Morris County, we have actively worked with Atlantic Health System to provide some limited access to specialty and surgical services for Zufall's patients, but appointments are in short supply and waits are long. In Warren County, there is currently very limited access, and we need to accommodate low income patients in HRMC's service area. With this transfer of ownership of HRMC to Atlantic Health System, I see an invaluable opportunity to expand services within the Hackettstown community and provide local access to specialty and surgical care to individuals who do not have access to the transportation necessary to travel for needed services.