



Daniel F. Evans, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer

February 27, 2009

Senator Richard Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Lugar,

On behalf of Clarian Health, we respectfully request your consideration of the following appropriations request:

Minimal Access Operating Rooms at Riley Hospital

One of the most significant advances in pediatric surgery over the past 15 years has been the introduction of minimal access surgical procedures. Riley Hospital is proposing to outfit two of our current 19 rooms for these techniques. This will allow the hospital to have the equipment mounted on ceiling booms allowing easy access and adjustments during the surgical procedure.

Children from across the state of Indiana have benefitted tremendously from these types of surgical procedures. This technique demonstrated a 50% reduction in postoperative narcotic medication use in the laparoscopic group compared to the traditional open procedures. This reflected less pain experienced by the child. In addition, the length of stay was significantly shortened with the laparoscopic procedure. Less pain, shorter length of stay and fast recovery allows the child to return to daycare or school earlier and shortens the parents' leave of absence from work or other activities.

We appreciate your consideration of the aforementioned project and look forward to addressing any questions you might have with regard to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Evans, Jr.", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Daniel F. Evans, Jr.
President & CEO

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