



HELEN & HARRY GRAY  
CANCER CENTER

HARTFORD HOSPITAL

THE CANCER PROGRAM

80 SEYMOUR STREET

P.O. BOX 5037

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*One of only 14 cancer centers in the nation  
selected for the National Cancer Institute  
Community Cancer Centers Program*

February 11, 2009

Senator Toni Harp and Representative John Geragosian  
Appropriation Committee Co-Chairs  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700  
Capital Ave.  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Toni Harp and Representative John Geragosian,

My name is Devon Latney, and I am the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center at Hartford Hospital. My role is to coordinate cancer screenings in the community with the intention of reducing disparities for the medically underserved population. I write to enthusiastically support the mission of the African-American Affairs Commission and urge you to continue state funding of this organization.

One of the primary goals of Hartford Hospital's cancer program is community outreach and education. The Cancer Center was recently chosen by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), as one of 14 hospitals nationwide to participate in the pilot phase of a program that will help bring state of the art cancer care to patients in community hospitals. This collaboration known as the NCI Community Cancer Centers Program (NCCCP) will research new and enhanced ways to assist, educate, and treat the needs of underserved populations.

We have worked with the AAAC on the Hartford Cancer Taskforce and regard their work as essential to the well-being of the African-American community. Outreach is an important component of the AAAC as they work to establish protocols and standards for culturally competent service delivery.

Hartford Hospital works to improve the care of underserved populations by providing community cancer screening and educational programs and the AAAC is an important partner to reaching at -risk populations. The partnership with the AAAC is invaluable to Hartford Hospital and the community as they work diligently to protect the interests of African-Americans, the medically underserved and all others who have sought refuge in their services. In conclusion, Hartford Hospital supports the AAAC and we look forward to their continued efforts in the community we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devon Latney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D".

Devon Latney, MS