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PASNAP Statement Regarding Unit Closures at DCMH

We are disappointed and gravely concerned that Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc., the California-based, for-profit owner of Delaware County Memorial Hospital (DCMH), has announced that it is shutting down hospital units at DCMH. This is a decision clearly motivated by financial considerations and not by what's best for patient care in Delaware County and the frontline caregivers there who carried the hospital through the deadliest pandemic of our lifetimes.

Management informed the DCMH Nurses Association yesterday that Prospect will be temporarily closing intensive care services and some outpatient services at the hospital in the coming months. When this decision takes effect, there will be no ICU beds in densely populated Upper Darby Township.

The situation, while still fluid, is par for the course for Prospect.

Over the last several years, Prospect has seemed more concerned with generating profits for its hedge fund owners in California than in serving the people of Delaware County or those who care for them. "Profits should never take precedence over patients or those who care for them," says Maureen May, R.N., president of PASNAP, the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals, which represents 125 nurses and technical and professional employees at DCMH. "Prospect must reverse its decision immediately and do what's right for our community of patients and caregivers. It's called 'healthcare' for a reason—where's the care?"