



August 8, 2022

Singing River Health System Retirees,

As you have no doubt heard, our Singing River leadership, Singing River Board of Trustees and Jackson County Board of Supervisors agree that the time is right to sell our health system.

This decision comes after a very long and thorough process to explore all options, always with our patients, nearly 4,000 team members and retirees in mind. In a nutshell, the costs for capital, operations, staffing, pension funding, technology and expertise are needed to continue providing high quality care which far exceed what a county-owned system could ever deliver for the long term. This would require raising county taxes year over year, which no one wants to see. We must find a like-minded, larger health system partner to secure our future. Our best option is to take that leap now – while we are in a position of strength.

The impact of this collective decision is far-reaching and we are working diligently to explain how we got here and where we go next. ***As a retiree, you should know that a sale of Singing River would not jeopardize your pension payments; in fact, a sale to a larger and financially stronger partner would better secure future funding of the settlement.*** It is important to note that the pension settlement fund is supported strictly by Singing River contributions, not by Jackson County taxpayers.

We encourage you to look over the findings shared by the Raymond James Company, an outside consulting firm hired by the County to evaluate the financial health of Singing River. The Raymond James Company echoed what the Singing River leadership and Board of Trustees already knew – that the only way to ensure sustainable, high-quality healthcare in the communities we serve is to sell to a larger organization. That report is available on the Jackson County website at www.co.jackson.ms.us and on the SingingRiverRetirement.com website.

It is important for everyone to study this issue for themselves and know the facts around it. Please check out the attached “Frequently Asked Questions” and contact us if we can provide more information. Our key objective is to preserve this outstanding system that you helped build, and we hope to have your support. We will keep you informed as this process continues.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Murdock
Chief Executive Officer

SingingRiverHealthSystem.com

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