TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019:

Is the area the new medical center is being built in safe?

What types of safety measures will be in place once the medical center is open?

We have received some comments and questions about the safety of the area in which the new medical center is being built. We worked with the City of Utica Police Department to analyze the current crime rate in that region over a five-year period (2014 to 2018). Here is what they found:

- Crime committed within the proposed hospital footprint is less than one percent of the overall crime compared to the rest of the city.
- In the five year period reviewed, there were no homicides or sexual assaults and only two robberies. Both robberies occurred just on the border of the new medical center footprint (Columbia Street).
- Violent crime is nearly non-existent within the footprint.
- The largest reported offenses in the footprint are larcenies with unlocked/parked vehicles. However, larcenies from vehicles are occurring everywhere in Oneida County, especially in the suburbs.

Once the new medical center is open, there will be a lot more people and activity in that area. So what measures are we putting in place to keep our patients, visitors, employees, volunteers and medical staff safe once the medical center is open?

- Campus security will be in place as it currently is on all of our main campuses. They will regularly make rounds throughout the campus to ensure its safety.
- Emergency call boxes will be located around the campus.
- The parking lots, walkways and the parking garage will be well lit for increased security.
- Security cameras will be located throughout the campus.
- There will only be two public entrances into the new medical center: the main entrance and the Emergency Department entrance. Both entrances will require visitors to check in and receive a visitor badge.
- The close proximity of the new medical center to the Utica Police Department should help serve as a deterrent to crime.
- We will continue to work with the Utica Police Department to maintain the excellent security of that area and to ensure the safety of all those visiting the new campus.