



MARTIN O'MALLEY
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TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

June 12, 2012

Mrs. Terry Lawlah, Executive Director
The Maryland Center at Bowie State University
14000 Jericho Park Road, Robinson Hall
Bowie, Maryland 20715

Dear Mrs. Lawlah:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Maryland Center at Bowie State University. The Maryland Center, through its collaboration with the University and the establishment of the National Emergency Preparedness and Response (NEPR) Research Center, is helping to lead health research and response in Maryland.

As you know, the Maryland Center has established public-private partnerships with VisualMED Clinical Solutions Corporation, Intelaform Inc., and Verizon Communications. These partnerships will encourage innovative management of health information when responding to public health threats, integrate surveillance data, generate diagnosis and treatment identifications, and monitor health information. Maryland has continued to make steady progress to enhance homeland security and emergency preparedness by connecting all 46 acute care hospitals in the State and more than 300 private retail pharmacies to an electronic biosurveillance system that detects early indicators of virus outbreaks and public health threats. We continue to strive to improve biosurveillance. The Maryland Center's public-private partnership will help us better protect Marylanders and improve Maryland's preparation for and response to public health threats and other emergency situations, while providing tools that can be utilized nationwide.

Through the Maryland Center and its groundbreaking efforts, our State has the potential for improved access to medical technology and information that can be used to protect residents, prepare for major catastrophes, and improve collaboration with the federal government and across state lines. I strongly support the Maryland Center at Bowie State University and this public-private partnership and commend them for their work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin O'Malley".

Governor