

Mid-Illinois Medical District Biennial Report to the Illinois General Assembly

Covering Activities and Events for CY 2017 and CY 2018



SIU School of Medicine



Mid-Illinois Medical District

2019

Cover photograph features SIU School of Medicine Asst. Professor Erin Hascup and team. See pages 12-13 for more detail.

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Covering Activities and Events for CY 2017 and CY 2018



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Springfield, Illinois 62702
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HSHS St. John's Hospital Women's and Children's Facility and Skybridge.



Prepared by the Mid-Illinois Medical District pursuant to 70 ILCS 925/10(f),
May 2019.

Photo credits are as given.

Purpose of This Report

The Mid-Illinois Medical District (MIMD), was established by act of the Illinois General Assembly [70 ILCS 925/, Mid-Illinois Medical District Act] which became effective January 1, 2003. The Act calls for the Commission overseeing the District to submit to the General Assembly a detailed report covering its operations for the two preceding calendar years no later than March 1 of each odd-numbered year, as well as a statement of its program for the next two years [70 ILCS 925/10(f)]. This report is intended to fulfill this obligation.

This report addresses significant actions during the reporting period, including District growth activities and Commission leadership activities, as well as limitations on its efforts that the Commission has identified. It also addresses what the Commission believes are necessary efforts to be undertaken going forward.

About the District

The MIMD, only the second such district to be established by the General Assembly, was created to achieve a number of ends, including such general goals as attracting and retaining within its bounds academic centers of excellence, viable health care facilities, medical research facilities, and emerging high technology enterprises. In addition, the work of the MIMD's Commission was seen as important in supporting a number of other purposes, including the retention of the various historic residential neighborhoods that are included within the District's bounds.

To achieve these goals, the Act encourages certain specific efforts. This includes calling upon the MIMD Commission to encourage and support maintaining within the area the proper surroundings necessary to attract, stabilize and retain hospitals, clinics, research facilities, educational, and various other facilities entertained under the Act.

Associated with this is providing for the orderly creation, maintenance, development, and expansion of health care and their ancillary or related facilities, specifically those involved in the study, diagnosis and treatment of both physical and mental human ailments. It also calls for the MIMD and its Commission to promote medical, surgical, and scientific research and the creation of new knowledge consistent with the District's mission. To do this, the Act allows for the MIMD Commission to encourage and support the creation of medical research and high technology parks, along with the necessary lands, buildings, facilities, equipment, and personal property needs to advance their operation.

The Commission's Members

By statute, the Commission is made up of nine members: four members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, four members appointed by the Mayor of Springfield with the advice and consent of the Springfield City Council, and one member appointed by the Chairperson of the Sangamon County Board.

As of December 31, 2018, 10 members had been appointed and were serving terms. One seat was vacant, as Dr. Charles Lucore, a Springfield appointee, had resigned from the MIMD Commission as of Oct. 31, 2018, and the position had not yet been filled. The serving members were:

Dr. Charlotte Warren, President
Mr. Mitch Johnson, Vice-President
Mr. Joe Hurwitz, Secretary
Mr. Jack Mazzotti
Mr. Rex Brown
Mr. Rob Cross
Ms. Jennifer Lee
Mr. Guerry Suggs
Mr. Norman Sims
Ms. Michelle Ownby



Photo: SIU School of Medicine

The Act also specifically calls for the Commission to convene dialogue among leaders in the public and private sectors on topics and issues associated with training in the delivery of health care services in the District's Training Program Area. This approach is particularly consequential for the MIMD as due to changes in the Act effective Nov. 5, 2007, the training area was expanded to cover nine central Illinois counties in addition to Sangamon: Cass, Christian, Logan, Macoupin, Mason, Menard, Montgomery,

Morgan, and Scott.

It is with these charges in mind that the Commission worked during CY 2017-2018 to not necessarily be the "Doer" of all activities in the District, but instead to be the supporter and champion for them; what David Osborne and Ted Gaebler recommend as public agency "steering" rather than "rowing" in their seminal book, *Reinventing Government: How the Entrepreneurial Spirit is Transforming the Public Sector* (Addison-Wesley, 1992).

This approach is particularly relevant in light of the limited financial and staff resources the Commission has had available to it since its inception. The Commission has therefore endeavored to work with and through a number of significant partners to advance its agenda during CY 2017-2018.

These partners included:

- The **major patient care providers** located in the District: HSHS St. John's Hospital, Memorial Medical Center, the Springfield Clinic, and Prairie Heart Institute.
- The **various institutions providing education and training** in medicine and related fields: the Lincoln Land Community College Capital City Training Center, St. John's School of Nursing, the University of Illinois-Springfield's School of Nursing, and the Memorial Center for Learning and Innovation. This last institution was specifically designed to foster communication, education, collaboration and innovation across the healthcare workforce.
- The District's primary **medical research and development resource**, the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. SIU-Med is not only a well-respected educational facility located within the District, but one with a very active knowledge creation mission driving its research and technology transfer activities.
- Two vital **neighborhood areas**: Springfield's center city, as represented by Downtown Springfield, Inc. (DSI), and the historic Enos Park neighborhood, represented by the Enos Park Neighborhood Association (EPNA). While the Commission considers the interests and needs of all residents living

in or adjacent to the MIMD as it goes about its work, these two organizations have become active partners in the area's planned development.

- The primary **professional association** serving the physicians in the District; the Sangamon County Medical Society.
- The District's **principal governmental partners**: the State of Illinois and its various agencies, the City of Springfield and its Public Works and Planning and Economic Development departments, and Sangamon County and its Department of Public Health. During the reporting year the potential for increased regional community support for the economic development work of the MIMD Commission was increased with the establishment of the Land of Lincoln Economic Development Corporation in CY 2017 and the hiring of its first Executive Director in CY 2018.

Actions by these various partners resulted in the District benefiting from \$600 million in capital investment over the past five years, now hosting over 4.7 million square feet of medical facilities, as well as the area being ranked first in clinical care in Illinois.

The Commission also makes note of the fact that according to the *Springfield Business Journal*, by June of 2018, four of the top 10 employers in Sangamon County were residents of the MIMD: Memorial Health System, with 5,181 employees; Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS), 4,123 employees; Springfield Clinic, 2,350 employees; and SIU School of Medicine, 1,536 employees. To provide some context, if employment by the State of Illinois (est. at 17,800 employees in June 2018) is removed, the total employment of the other nine employers in the top 10 accounted for 20,345 workers. Of this amount, 13,180 were employed by the four MIMD partners noted above. This represents almost 65% of the employment by top Sangamon County based employers with State of Illinois employment removed. To show how consequential medicine related employment is to the region, during the reporting period medically-related employment in Sangamon County for the first time exceeded State of Illinois employment. And it is noteworthy that this occurred at a time of difficulty for the medical institutions as the State struggled with budgeting and paying its bills to local healthcare providers.

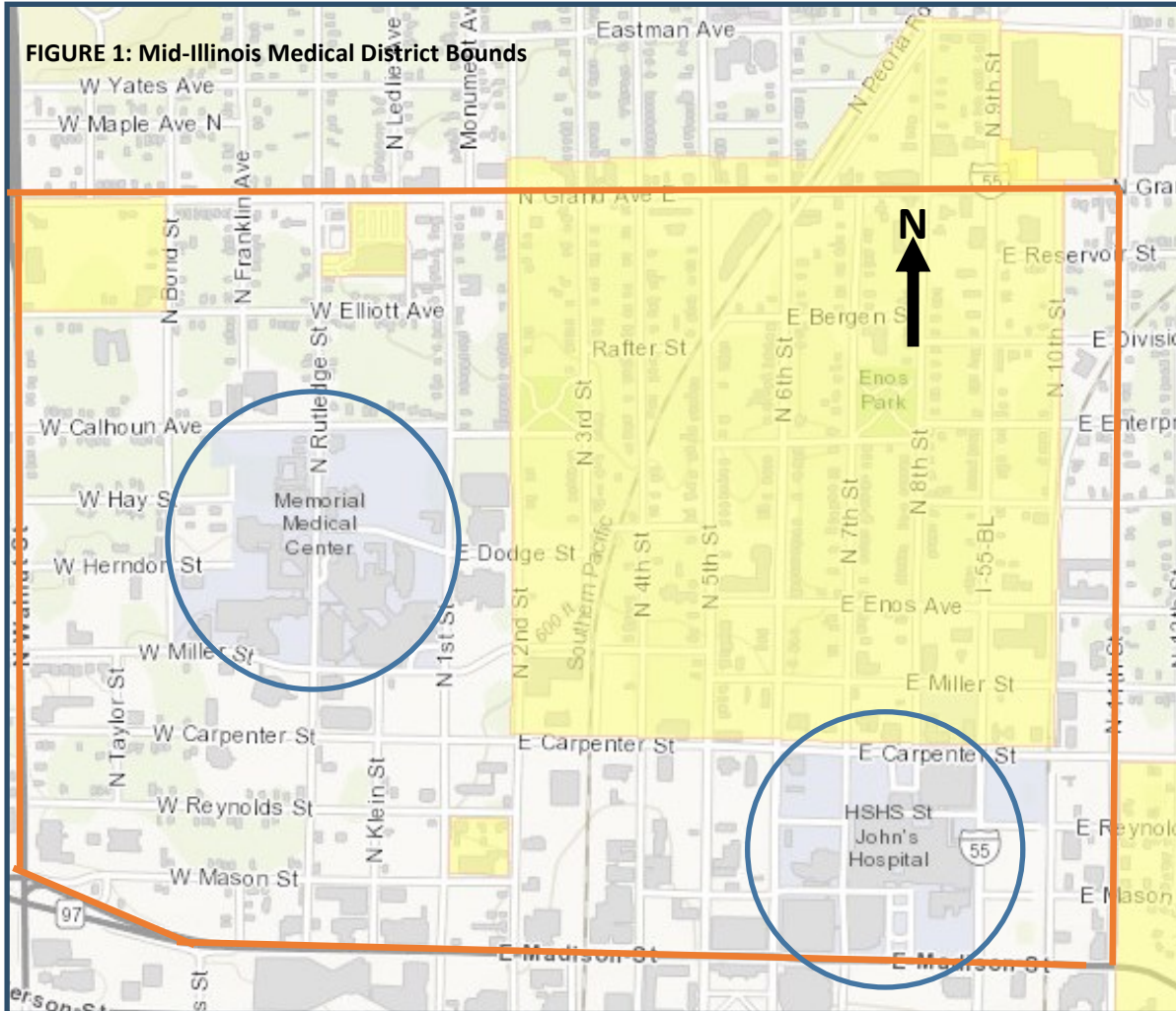


Mid-Illinois Medical District Bounds

As per its establishing legislation, the one-square mile Mid-Illinois Medical District (shown in Figure 1 on the next page) is bounded by Springfield's 11th Street on the east, North Grand Avenue on the north, Walnut Street on the west, and Madison Street on the south.

To help orient the readers of this report, major medical facilities are identified on the figure within and adjacent to the two blue circles. The SIU School of Medicine is located immediately to the west of Memorial Medical Center, and a major Springfield Clinic facility is located to Memorial's immediate east. Prairie Heart Institute's Cardiovascular Center is located immediately to the west of HSHS St. John's Hospital. The yellow areas represent existing Springfield-Sangamon County Enterprise Zone sub-zones. Two

TIF Project Areas not shown on the map are also relevant to the MIMD: the Enos Park TIF, which makes up a large part of the eastern half of the MIMD, and the Central (Downtown) TIF, which encroaches into the MIMD from the south.



Actions of Note During the Reporting Period

As noted previously, the MIMD Commission sees its role and responsibilities as involving some direct administrative actions, but primarily works with and through its various partnering agencies, organizations and institutions. For this reason the Commission will address actions during the reporting period as being of two types: District Growth Activities and Commission Leadership Activities.

In order to not overly lengthen this document, the Commission limits its comments in this section to some exemplary efforts and activities of MIMD partners during CY 2017-2018 that it believes strengthened the District overall and assisted the Commission in advancing its mission.

District Growth Activities: Facility Development

New Women and Children's Facility Built and Opened: HSHS St. John's Hospital, SIU Medicine and HSHS Medical Group unveiled a new women and children's clinic in October 2018. A project planned

and developed during the CY 2017-2018 MIMD reporting period, the new 85,000 square foot outpatient center will improve care coordination by providing numerous services under one roof. Patients will be able to see their physicians, receive follow-up and diagnostic services with easy access to both St. John's Hospital and St. John's Children's Hospital.

The \$48.4 million project includes a four-story medical facility, a parking garage, and a sky bridge across 9th Street that connects the new facility to St. John's Children's Hospital. Along with access to their physicians, patients and families coming to it will have access to a lab and pharmacy, pediatric rehabilitation with an expanded therapy gym, pediatric cardiology services and diagnostic testing, mammography and other imaging tests, pediatric orthopedics and general surgery, maternal-fetal medicine, a pediatric multi-specialty clinic, and obstetrics and gynecology practice. A café and healing garden are also part of the new facility. It's location also places it near the District's Ronald McDonald House.



New YMCA Facility Announced for MIMD

Area: In 2016 the Springfield YMCA Board of Directors engaged a local architectural firm to conduct a comprehensive facility assessment of the existing downtown YMCA. The report indicated that the upkeep of the existing building was cost prohibitive and a new one should be constructed. Keeping in mind its promise to retain a facility in the downtown area, and following a comprehensive review during 2017, a new site in the MIMD was announced in 2018. Land at Fourth and Carpenter Streets was provided for the facility by MIMD partner Memorial Health System, saving approximately \$2 million for the project.



The proximity of the site in the MIMD to the Enos Park neighborhood ensures that underserved members of the community will have better access to YMCA facilities and services. The location between the campuses of both major health care providers and many other downtown businesses allows easy access to over 7,000 people in the workforce.

The new 86,000 square foot facility will include a number of amenities, including an Aquatics Center, Gymnastics center, Youth Enrichment Area, racquetball courts, indoor track, and full-court gymnasi-

um. It will also include designated spaces for youth programs.

Related to its presence in the MIMD, the new YMCA will include Health & Wellness programs — including personal training, Lose Big, and Total Body Transformation — as well as be a vital site for self-directed patient rehabilitation.

Memorial Health System and Heritage Health Opened 19-Bed Inpatient Hospice Unit in

MIMD: A 19-bed inpatient hospice unit opened in June 2017 in the Mid-Illinois Medical District. The project was part of an expansion of a partnership between Memorial Health System and Heritage Health.

The project required approval by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The 10,946-square-foot skilled nursing unit, Memorial Hospice at Heritage, occupies part of the newly renovated first floor of Heritage Health, 900 N. Rutledge St.



Photo: Memorial Hospice at Heritage

Memorial Hospice at Heritage features private patient rooms with comfortable seating for family members. Rooms have couches that fold out to beds to allow family members to stay overnight. The unit includes three family lounge areas and a kitchenette with an ice machine and complimentary beverages.

The hospice unit has 48 new full- and part-time staff members managed by Heritage Health plus access to chaplains from Memorial Medical Center for spiritual support. Hospice staff from Memorial Home Services provides grief support services to families for more than a year after the passing of a loved one and also provides ongoing training and education of unit staff in the hospice philosophy of care.

Patients receive the same level of services through Memorial Hospice at Heritage as they do through Memorial Home Services' at-home hospice program. Memorial Home Services provides a nonprofit home-hospice program serving 14 central Illinois counties.

Patients with Memorial Hospice at Heritage typically require a higher level of care and must meet specific skilled nursing facility criteria to qualify for placement on the unit.

Memorial Health System and Heritage Health have operated the four-story MIMD location, formerly Heritage Manor, as a joint venture since 1996.

Prairie Heart Institute at HSHS St. John's Hospital Establishes Cardiovascular Intensive Care

Unit: In July 2018 the Prairie Heart Institute and HSHS St. John's Hospital opened a new cardiovascular intensive care unit (CVICU). This new facility is dedicated to helping cardiac patients recover after open heart, cardiovascular, vascular, and thoracic surgeries.

This \$7.9 million new project in the MIMD added 14 beds and additional workspace for patients, but it also added support areas, family waiting areas, and nurses' stations.

DeVita Relocates to Northwest Corner of the District: Denver-based DaVita Inc. has relocated and expanded DaVita Dialysis Springfield Central outpatient dialysis center into a new facility located at 600 North Grand Avenue West in the Mid-Illinois Medical District. The new facility opened in early 2018.



DaVita operates dialysis centers in several countries. DaVita's prior location at 932 N. Rutledge St. on the Memorial Medical Center campus relocated to the new building in order to allow the hospital to expand into the vacated space.

The contractor for the 8,434-square-foot facility was TRK Construction. The Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approved the center in January 2017. The board's permit letter estimates the center's cost at \$5.1 million.

Palastra Real Estate Partners, based in Pennsylvania, purchased the land for the dialysis center from Charles Salvo and Peter Salvo of Springfield. Charles Salvo, owner of Charles P. Salvo & Associates LP real estate management firm, says the new center should be a catalyst for further development along North Grand Avenue West in the Mid-Illinois Medical District, which he notes is along the route coming from Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport.

"DaVita will be an anchor for the whole street," he said.

District Growth Activities: Health Care Partnerships

Medical District Anchor Institutions Received National Award for Enos Park Access to Care

Collaborative: The American Hospital Association presented a national award on August 15, 2018, to Mid-Illinois Medical District anchor institutions Memorial Medical Center and HSHS St. John's Hospital for their work to improve the health and quality of life in the Springfield Enos Park neighborhood. The neighborhood is located in the heart of the Mid-Illinois Medical District.

The two nonprofit hospitals received the AHA's NOVA Award, which recognizes hospitals and health systems across the nation for their collaborative efforts toward improving community health. The hospitals were among five recipients of the national award.



Doug Shaw, the AHA's vice president for member engagement, presented the award. Speakers at the ceremony included five MIMD partners: Michelle Ownbey with the Enos Park Neighborhood Improvement Association (who was also a MIMD Commissioner during the CY 2018—2018 period); Ed Curtis, president and CEO of Memorial Health System; Dr. Charles Lucore, president and CEO of HSHS St. John's Hospital; Tracey Smith, director of population health integration and community health with the

SIU Center for Family Medicine; and Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder.

Launched in 2015, the Enos Park Access to Care Collaborative was a partnership between the two hospitals and the third Mid-Illinois Medical District anchor institution SIU School of Medicine's Center for Family Medicine, a federally qualified health center.

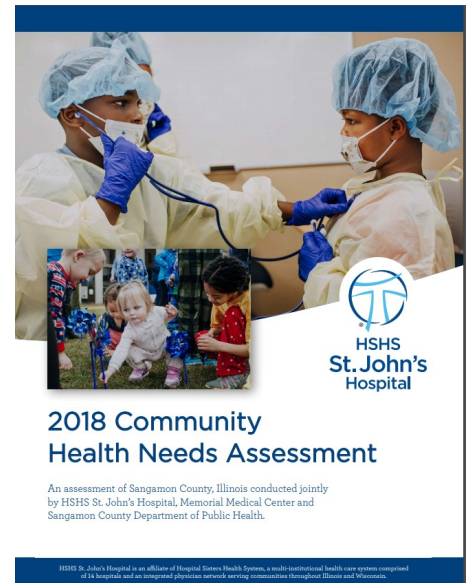
Memorial Medical Center and HSHS St. John's split the \$500,000 cost of the three-year initiative to address health care access and social issues in the 36 square-block Enos Park area. The investment paid the salary of the project director and three community health workers. The hospitals and SIU-M launched a community health worker program to serve the approximately 2,300 residents of the neighborhood, which is located in the MIMD between the two hospitals.

The program has increased the number of people with a medical home, reduced emergency department visits for non-emergent health issues and improved the self-sufficiency of program participants. The program has also increased access to pediatric mental health services through screening intervention and educational services at its local elementary school and other neighborhood sites. It has also reduced calls to the Springfield Police Department and reduced crime rates in the neighborhood.

Project Assessing Sangamon County's Health Needs: During CY 2018, HSHS St. John's Hospital, Memorial Medical Center, and the Sangamon County Department of Public Health once again collaborated on a project to assess the health needs of Sangamon County residents. As part of the assessment process, MIMD's two non-profit hospitals and the health department asked county residents to help identify pressing community health needs through an online community survey managed by the Survey Research Center at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

Following the collection of data through the survey, the university provided the partnering organizations with an outcomes report that was used to determine health priorities to be addressed over the following three years and how those priorities might be addressed.

This 2018 study is a follow-up on a previous project that took place in 2015. The results of the 2015 study resulted in the Enos Park Access to Care Collaborative project mentioned above.



District Growth Activities: Medical Research and Development

Two National Institute of Health Grants Boost SIU School of Medicine's Alzheimer's Research: In 2018 a laboratory team led by Erin Hascup, PhD, assistant professor in the Departments of Neurology and Pharmacology at MIMD's partnering SIU School of Medicine, was awarded two grants totaling \$6.33 million from the National Institute of Aging (NIA), a part of the National Institute of Health (NIH).

The group has shown that glutamate dysregulation is likely occurring prior to cognitive decline due to Alzheimer's disease, and the funding will be used by the team to study how glutamate neurotransmission changes over the course of the disease's progression.

The first award, a \$2.95 million grant, will support experiments to explore how specific protein changes cumulatively affect glutamate levels and brain activity. Dr. Hascup believes that this work could produce useful early biomarkers and therapeutic targets for fighting Alzheimer's.

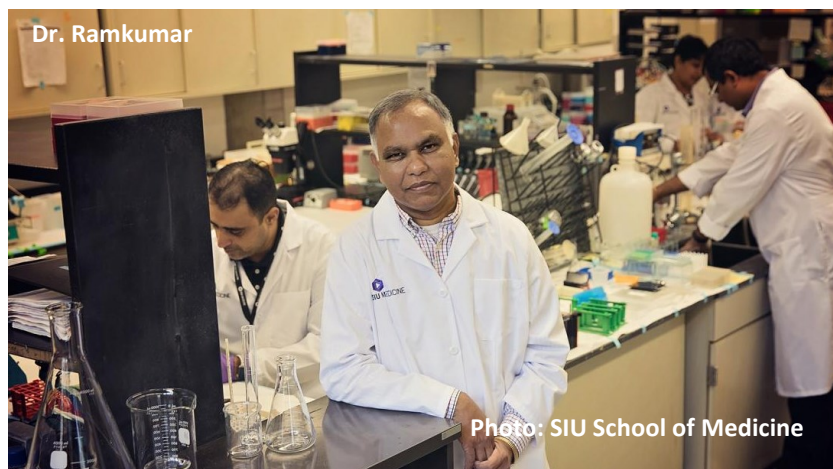
The second award, \$3.38 million, will fund studies of cellular aging, inflammation, neurotransmission and cognition in Alzheimer's disease.

This research is seen as particularly significant to the MIMD as about 5.7 million Americans are presently living with Alzheimer's, and this number is projected to rise to nearly 14 million by 2050. Early and accurate diagnosis could save up to \$7.9 trillion in medical and care costs, according to the Alzheimer's Association, and it could also result in possible technology transfer opportunities.

SIU's School of Medicine is significantly involved in this research and practice area. It operates the Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders in the MIMD. In 2018 this Center, along with its Memory and Aging Network, served more than 4,000 patients and their families.

Study of Green Tea Extract May Be Key to Hearing Protection for Cancer Patients:

One of the dilemmas that some cancer patients face is that the drugs that may help cure their cancer may make them go deaf. Cisplatin, for example, is a widely used anticancer treatment that unfortunately carries some major side effects, including hearing loss and damage to the nerves and kidneys. However, in 2018 SIU School of Medicine Professor of Pharmacology Vickram Ramkumar, PhD, received a \$2.3 million grant from the NIH to explore the properties of a green tea extract that offers protection against Cisplatin-induced hearing loss. This work builds upon work by to of Dr. Ramkumar's colleagues in the School's Division of Otolaryngology, Department of Surgery.



The research team had earlier identified a protein involved in the activation of inflammation and cell death pathway in the ear induced by Cisplatin. The new studies will test how the protein is affected by different doses of the green tea extract, and examine if it has different benefits by gender and by timing of the doses. The group will also examine whether the extract negatively affects the anticancer benefits of Cisplatin.

SIU Clinic First to Study New High Blood Pressure Device-Based Treatment: Over 100 million Americans suffer from hypertension, and more than half of those on medication for hypertension still do not have their blood pressure under control. This being the case, in 2018 doctors at SIUM began a

groundbreaking clinical trial to test the effectiveness of a new device to lower blood pressure: the MobiusHD from Vascular Dynamics, which is funding the investigation. People participating in the trial will be among the first in the world to undergo an investigational implant procedure which is designed to reduce blood pressure after a single treatment.

The catheter-delivered MobiusHD device is inserted in the body in a similar way as heart stents, and once in place, it reshapes the carotid artery and triggers the body's "baroreceptors". These are specialized nerves that send amplified signals to the brain that may lead to long-lasting control of high blood pressure.

If successful, the MobiusHD could have an important role to play, as uncontrolled hypertension increases the risk of heart attack, stroke, long-term damage to the circulatory system, mild cognitive impairment, and premature death.

MIMD partner SIU-M research teams regularly take part in ongoing, national clinical testing of drugs to treat hypertension and other illnesses so as to improve individuals' ability to function or improve their quality of life. This exemplifies but another strength of the MIMD and its partnering institutions.

MIMD Commission Leadership Activities During CY 2017-2018 and Future Priorities

Continued Support for the Springfield Rail Improvement Project: During CY 2017-2018 the MIMD Commission continued to support and offer assistance to the Springfield Rail Improvement Project. Through this project the City of Springfield intends to address issues of public safety, traffic congestion, community livability and commercial development associated with the movement of rail traffic through the area. The project intends to achieve these ends in part by eliminating the 3rd Street (Union Pacific) rail corridor and shifting the traffic on this corridor to an expanded 10th Street one.

This component of the project is of significant interest to the MIMD Commission as the 3rd Street rail corridor runs from north to south bisecting the District. It's placement is almost in the center of the District, cutting the east side of the MIMD from the west for development and transportation improvement purposes.



There are a number of reasons why the MIMD and its partners continued to encourage and support this project during CY 2017-2018.

With regard to public safety, there are currently 68 at-grade rail crossings and 24 miles of unfenced

right-of-way throughout the Springfield project area. A number of these at-grade rail crossings are present in the MIMD. At-grade crossings create conflict points for cars, trains and pedestrians that can result in train-vehicle collisions, personal injury and death, reduced train and vehicular speeds, and increased congestion. Overall, they jeopardize public safety and lengthen travel times. These conflicts can even create unique problems for emergency vehicles attempting to move injured or ill people to the MIMD's two major emergency trauma treatment centers.

In addition, rail consolidation that eliminates the rail corridor running through the MIMD will remove some of the barriers to commercial activity, technology-based business development, and residential growth that train traffic presents. For example, in addition to increased traffic delays caused by rail crossings, more train traffic promises to generate considerably more noise and ground vibrations in the district. Train horns must be sounded at all public crossings 24 hours each day, seven days each week, to warn motorists and pedestrians when a train is approaching. At present, each of the city's rail lines is beset by noise from train horns. However, the Springfield Rail Project will remove the rail corridor now bisecting the MIMD, meaning that no horns will be heard in the district. This will help encourage both residential and small commercial development and redevelopment in the area.

The removal of the corridor will also remove the ground vibrations associated with train traffic. This will provide a tremendous benefit to the medical facilities in the MIMD as their diagnostic equipment can be affected by such vibrations. Reducing ground vibrations caused by trains will also help advance the MIMD Commission's efforts to encourage medical technology and research-related businesses to locate there, as the equipment these businesses use and develop can also be affected by train generated vibrations.

The Springfield Rail Improvements Project involves the planning and design, land acquisition and construction necessary to consolidate the 3rd Street rail corridor onto the 10th Street one. Completion of the project is being accomplished by conducting the work around "usable segments". Each segment focuses on design, land acquisition, and construction. Carpenter Street is one of the major transportation arteries serving the MIMD, and runs along the southern portion of the District from east to west. This being the case it cuts across both the 3rd Street rail corridor and the 10th Street one. To provide for the consolidation of the two corridors an underpass needed to be created for Carpenter where it crosses the 10th Street corridor. This Carpenter Street underpass was designated "Usable Segment 1" for the Springfield Rail Improvement Project. The construction of this underpass began in September 2014 and was completed during this MIMD reporting period.

- ***Continued assistance with the Springfield Rail Improvement Project will remain a priority for the Commission during CY 2019-2020.***

Improving Wayfinding to the MIMD: While thousands of people find their way into the MIMD every day to work, thousands of others must find their way there as patients or visitors. Workers are expected to know how to get to their places of work, but one should not expect others to know. And since the MIMD and its many medical facilities serve a client base well beyond Springfield and Sanga-

mon County, it is imperative that adequate signage and wayfinding information be provided so that the public can easily, safely and efficiently get to the places where they need to go there.

Ever since the establishment of the MIMD its Commission has worked to provide better highway wayfinding for it, but without notable success. This effort was renewed in 2018 when the Commission again approached the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) with the request that signage directing motorists on I-55 and I-72 to the MIMD and its major facilities be created and put in place. Fortunately the Department was more positive concerning the request than it had been in the past, and provided drafts of what such signage would look like. This signage proposal was reviewed by the Commissioner working on the project, and the Commission now expects that the signage will be put in place in CY 2019.

This does not end the MIMD Commission’s wayfinding work, however. The placement of the signage on the interstate highways is seen as the first stage of a three part plan to improve wayfinding. The second phase will be to provide “place-marking” signs within the MIMD so that patients and visitors will know that they are in the district once they arrive. Discussions concerning this signage was begun with Springfield’s Office of Public Works in CY 2017.

The third stage will be to identify appropriate wayfinding devices that can be used to move patients and visitors from the interstate highways to the MIMD along two major corridors: Springfield’s east-west Clear Lake Ave. corridor, and the north-south 5th Street/6th Street one. Work on this stage will involve both IDOT and Springfield Public Works and will not commence until stage two is completed.

- **Discussions with the City of Springfield concerning place-marking signage will recommence in CY 2019 with the intent to have such signage in place by CY 2020. Efforts in CY 2019 will include the identification of potential locations for such signage, the design of the signage, barriers to placement, and ways to eliminate or mitigate of those barriers.**

Assistance With Site Selection and Land Development: In its role supporting additional development in the area, the MIMD Commission and volunteer staff continued to assist those looking to develop sites in the district during both CY 2017 and CY 2018. Commissioners played a role in several of the projects mentioned above, but also worked with both local and external development interests as they considered various development and redevelopment projects. These activities generally included such things as helping the principals of a potential development understand the MIMD Master Plan, assessing zoning matters related to sites, considering the advantages of both TIF and Enterprise Zone assistance, considering MIMD-related bond financing options, and even exploring options related to the Commission’s condemnation powers.

Where MIMD faces its greatest difficulty arises from its lack of finan-

Sangamon County, Illinois COUNTY PROFILE			
Sangamon County - At The Heart of Illinois May 2015			
County Population & Demographics			
POPULATION		AGE DISTRIBUTION Percent	
Year	Population	0-9	12.2%
2010	183,951	10-19	12.2%
2014	197,265	20-24	12.1%
2014	198,056	25-34	12.2%
2019 estimate*	212,257	35-44	12.2%
2010-2014 Annual Rate	6.84%	45-54	12.2%
2010-2014 Annual Rate	6.19%	55-64	12.2%
Change 2010-2019	9.57%	75 and above	6.7%
Change 2010-2019	5.81%		
MEDIAN AGE		AGE DISTRIBUTION Percent	
Year	Age	0-9	24,427
2010	39.1	10-19	22,441
2014	40.8	20-24	37,884
2019 est.	40.7	35-44	52,394
		45-54	44,073
		75 and above	13,247
			14,589
DESBY 2014 (unweighted)		CHANGE IN POPULATION BY AGE GROUP 2010-2014	
Percent		Percent	
White Alone		0-9	
Black Alone		10-19	
Asian Alone		20-24	
Native American		25-34	
Pacific Islander		35-44	
Other		45-54	
Two or more races		55-64	
Hispanic or Latino		75 and above	

cial resources for marketing the district, as well as the lack of staff resources to support on-going marketing efforts, including maintaining the MIMD web presence. Even such a simple thing as development of a marketing profile for the district has foundered in the past. However some steps can be taken in partnership with others who have needed resources and are willing to share them.

- **During CY 2019 the Commission will work with Springfield's Office of Planning and Economic Development and the Springfield-Sangamon County Regional Planning Commission to develop a marketing profile for the MIMD similar to ones that presently exist for Springfield and Sangamon County.**
- **During CY 2019-2020 the Commission will partner with the new Land of Lincoln Economic Development Corporation (LLEDC) to identify and implement ways to market the District to the enterprises entertained by the MIMD Act. The MIMD Commission will also work with the LLEDC, workforce employers and local educational institutions to address workforce preparation and expansion opportunities.**
- **During CY 2019-2020 the Commission will partner with the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau in that organization's efforts to bring additional medicine – and medical-technology related conventions and meetings to Springfield.**
- **During CY 2019-2020 the Commission will seek to identify partners interested in developing a marketing plan for the MIMD directed toward those involved in biomedicine, medical technology, medical logistics, and agri-pharmaceutical research and development.**

In assessing its future plans the Commission remained cognizant of some fundamental limitations.

Limitations on Commission Activities ---

While all organizations must operate within certain limits, there are significant factors limiting the activities of the MIMD Commission that must be recognized in assessing its past activities and planning its new ones.

Status of Appointments to the Commission: During CY 2017-2018 the work of the Commission was severely limited by delays in the appointment of members to it. The MIMD Act establishes both the membership of the Commission and then number of members present constituting a quorum. The quorum count is based upon the total number of Commissioners that *could* be appointed rather than the number that *have been* appointed. Because of this there were times during both CY 2017 and CY 2018 when delays in appointment meant that either a quorum could not be constituted or a single missing member would result in lack of a quorum.

This, of course, significantly limited the ability of the Commission to conduct business. Such a limitation is severe in cases in which the Commission is in discussions with a development prospect but cannot assure the prospect that a quorum would be available to conduct business.

The Commission respectfully requests that attention be given to this problem by all appointing authorities.

Lack of On-Going and Assured Staff Support: Since its inception the Commission has struggled with the need for staff support. Presently staff support is provided by a small portion of work time of one person who does not work for the MIMD but is volunteered by his employer to assist it. This assistance was first provided by the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce but is now provided by the Land of Lincoln Economic Development Corporation. This is helpful, but is made up of a rather limited amount of staff time and with no institutional promise that this assistance will continue in the future.

Aside from the volunteered staff time, the only other assistance the Commission can muster is from the Commissioners themselves. Members of the Commission have been of great help in the past, but it is of the very nature of those selected for appointment to a body such as the MIMD Commission that they are involved in a number of other activities and their time limited. In fact, the very people that one might encourage to serve on a body such as the MIMD Commission are those with a number of “irons in the fire”. And when such people find that a good amount of their Commission executive time must be spent on administrative tasks rather than the important work of actually building upon the strengths of the MIMD, they are inclined to lose interest or resign.

For example, Commission members, who are all volunteering their time without any sort of compensation, spent an onerous amount of time during CY 2018 on a Compliance Examination required by the Office of the Illinois Auditor General. When one considers that the MIMD Commission has no institutionalized full or part-time staff and had a cash balance of only \$196.53 on hand Jan. 1, 2019, it is clear that more state taxpayer dollars were spent by the Auditor General on this one Compliance Examination than the Commission had available to employ over the past two years to conduct its business and advance the mission the General Assembly provided for it in the MIMD Act.

Again, the Commission respectfully requests that attention be given to this problem by all appointing authorities.

Lack of Marketing Resources: The Commission hopes and trusts that this report provides some flavor as to the positive efforts of its various District partners. It’s important to recognize, however, that so much more could be done if the Commission were provide with the financial resources necessary to adequately market its advantages to potential prospects.

While our District partners often conduct marketing activities, these activities are directed toward the individual partner’s needs rather than the District as a whole. This is not only a rational action by the partner, it is one that should be anticipated and even encouraged. However, it is not one that will expedite the growth in the District that all hoped for when the MIMD was created.

Relevant appointing authorities must give particular attention to this limitation if the MIMD is to grow, and grow in ways that help diversify the local and regional economies. As research and experience show, the economic base of a place or region does not grow from what currently exists. Economic di-

iversity arises from the encouragement of start-ups different from the enterprises already existing in the local economic base, or by capturing expansions and new starts being created by existing firms in other places.

For example, if what the appointing authorities desire of the MIMD is predominately growth arising from patient care alone, that is likely to happen over the near term. Presently the economic mix in the MIMD is made up of patient care providers and those who serve them. While potential exists in other areas, these areas are not likely to be explored by existing secure enterprises. But additional growth of the type we already see will not increase the diversity of the local or regional economic base, nor will it be likely to attract the kinds of new firms and start-ups that are becoming the fodder for economic progress in the knowledge economy.



Photo: SIU School of Medicine

The MIMD Commission strongly encourages all involved to consider the District as a strategic tool for long term economic growth and development, linking it to the partners' development plans, and assist it in obtaining the human and financial resources it needs to prosper. If this does not occur, it will simply become a limited political subdivision known only for including groups of local healthcare providers.



Mid-Illinois Medical District