University of Alabama (UAB) Health System
Cooper Green Hospital
Jefferson County Health Department

Birmingham, Alabama MSA

OPERATIONAL

Organizational structure and affiliations—specific role of academic affiliate

- UAB Health System, founded in 1996, is the not-for-profit partnership between the University of Alabama Board of Trustees and the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation.

None of the following mentions sliding fee scale/safety net services on the Web site:

- **UAB Hospital**—licensed for 908 beds and dedicated to top quality patient care.
- **The Kirklin Clinic®**—covering a full city block with 430,000 square feet, more than 30 distinct clinical units of multidisciplinary teams, and an adjacent covered parking deck that accommodates 1,450 vehicles.
- **The Kirklin Clinic® at Acton Road**—offers a multidisciplinary approach to cancer care and provides a wide array of patient care services south of town.
- **UAB Health Centers**—including five neighborhood clinics in Birmingham and a new one in Hoover, Alabama. For the convenience of our patients, UAB also has locations in Huntsville, Montgomery, Selma, and Tuscaloosa.

None of these health centers mentions safety net care, in fact:

"It is our policy to file insurance claims with Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare, Medicaid, UAB VIVA, and VIVA Health, as well as most other insurances. When you call 934-9700 for an appointment, the appointment clerk will verify your coverage."

- **Callahan Eye Foundation Hospital**—offering the latest ophthalmic microsurgery, corneal transplantation, and an emergency department dedicated to treating trauma to the eye.
- **UAB Highlands**—a general acute care facility located in the Medical Center District of Birmingham, Alabama, at 1201 11th Avenue South.
- **The University of Alabama Health Services Foundation, P.C.**—a 790+ multi-specialty physician practice serving UAB through 16 departments, 59 divisions, and 32 centers of excellence.
- **1917 Clinic** (not mentioned on primary Web site) is an HIV Clinic. The 1917 Clinic receives Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act funding to provide access to care for low-income, uninsured, and under-insured clinic HIV infected adults. Serving more than 1,500 patients annually, this academically based clinic is the largest HIV health care unit in Alabama.

- **The University of Alabama School of Medicine**—with clinical training programs in Birmingham, Huntsville, Tuscaloosa, Selma, and Montgomery.

The UAB Health Center Huntsville is the North Alabama anchor of the UAB Health System. The UAB Health Center Huntsville boasts the largest physician practice in North Alabama and the only academic, multispecialty facility in this part of the state.

The UAB Health Center Huntsville

- Is home to 30 faculty physicians, providing care in five specialties including:
  - Family Practice
  - Internal Medicine
  - Pediatrics
  - Obstetrics and Gynecology
  - Psychiatry
- Is the primary ambulatory training site for 36 family medicine resident physicians who care for patients of all ages, including children.
- Accepts most types of insurance including Medicare, Medicaid, and Blue Cross.
- Provides a charity care program for those who qualify.
- Is home to a very active research program, involving the assessment, education, and treatment of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, and asthma.
- Provides the highest quality continuity of care available in North Alabama with physicians on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Offers on-site laboratory.
- Offers on-site pharmacy.

Affiliates

- **UAB Medical West**—a medical center to provide quality health care to west Jefferson County
- **Baptist Health Montgomery**—hospitals and healthcare programs serving the Montgomery, Alabama region

Outpatient Statistics

Kirklin Clinic

- Outpatient visits 364,786
- Procedures performed 333,899

Inpatient Statistics

Hospital

- Currently licensed beds 908
- Average beds in service 908
- Discharges 41,802

- Emergency Department Visits 54,654
- Average % of occupancy 73.6%
- Average length of patient stay (days) 6.92
- Medical staff active staff 922
- Primary Care 66
- Specialists 856

Callahan Eye Foundation Hospital

- Licensed beds 106
- Medical Staff 130
- Surgeries 8,499
- Emergency room visits 5,340

Managed Care Contracts

Viva Health

- Members 78,585
- Employer Groups 217
- Contracted Providers 5,146
- Hospitals 69
- Licensed Counties 28

Call Centers

- MIST Calls 106,163
- HealthFinder Calls 78,410

Research

- Active Grants/Contracts
  (does not include federal/state student aid) $420,765,682
- All-UAB in NIH Funds (total direct costs) $160,270,856
- School of Medicine in NIH Funds
  (total direct costs) $86,348,959

SERVICES OFFERED/AREAS OF EMPHASIS

- Cardiovascular center.
- The Comprehensive Cancer Center.
- Only adult level I trauma center in Alabama.
- Level III Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit is the only of its kind in Alabama.
- UAB's Comprehensive Transplant Center is a national leader in kidney transplants.

SIMILARITIES TO NASHVILLE

- Located in southern state.
- Association with academic medical program.
- The hospital system may include some outpatient clinics that offer charity care, but it is not readily apparent/does not appear to have a coherent safety net system.
- FQHCs in Birmingham (e.g., Birmingham Health Care, including dental, pharmacy, and mental health) do not appear to be linked with the UAB system.
- Has a few (2–3) faith-based free clinics.
- Uninsured and unemployment rate is higher than that of the nation.

DIFFERENCES FROM NASHVILLE

- Birmingham does not appear to be working toward a more cohesive system.

OTHER NOTABLE FACTS/ISSUES

December 1, 2008:

Federal authorities arrested the mayor of Birmingham, Alabama, on Monday in a corruption probe surrounding a sewer bond debt that could lead to the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history.