



May 16, 2019

On Tuesday, the DC Council, led by **Vincent Gray**, **betrayed the residents of Wards 7 and 8** by voting to cut the funds to United Medical Center by \$25 million and to close the hospital in January of 2023 with no viable alternative available.

On Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, the DC Council will make its final vote on the budget. If we do not get the \$ 25 million restored, UMC will be forced to implement massive layoffs of DCNA & 1199 SEIU members.

These cuts, along with cuts in patient services, will also send shock waves throughout the health care community in DC. Already overburdened hospitals, including Washington Hospital Center and Howard University, will see an influx of patients especially in emergency rooms, where it is already not uncommon to have waits of 12 hours or more prior to receiving care.

**We need your help NOW.** I ask you to **call and write to the DC Council and the Mayor** and demand that the UMC funding is fully restored to the Budget. I also ask you to attend a **rally on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the DC Council at 9am**, to show labor's power. Finally, I ask that you **engage your members**, especially those who live in DC and if any wish **to volunteer** in our efforts at community outreach, please have them contact me at [esmith@dcna.org](mailto:esmith@dcna.org).

Thank you for your help. "If workers aren't at the table, they are on the menu."\*

Sincerely,  
Edward J. Smith, Esq.  
Executive Director  
DCNA

\* unknown origin