

# New York State Academy of Family Physicians

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August 3, 2022

Philip Ozuah, MD, PhD  
President & CEO  
Montefiore Medical Center  
111 East 210<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bronx, NY 10467

Dear Dr. Ozuah:

The New York State Academy of Family Physicians represents more than 6,500 Family Physicians, residents, and medical students throughout New York State. I am writing to urge you to reconsider the decision to relocate the Family Health Center at Fordham Plaza.

The disruption caused by relocation of a clinic with more than three decades of connection to the community will devastate the relationship which thousands of patients have with trusted clinicians at a time when continuity of care and maintenance of confidence in our health care system are more important than ever.

Relocation of the clinic will jeopardize the training of primary care physicians at a time when the shortage of primary care physicians threatens to delay care for patients generally, and leave marginalized and vulnerable populations with inadequate access to quality care.

I am surprised and disappointed by this decision. With more than \$8 billion in annual revenue the Montefiore system certainly has the resources to support the clinic. I urge you to reverse this decision and restore the public trust and confidence which have been endangered by what is easily perceived as abandonment by an institution which has a proud history of community service and presence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Symons".

Andrew Symons, MD, FAAFP  
President