

## HANDOUT 2

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February 10, 2020

Senator Kim Hammer  
500 Woodlane Street  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Representative Les Warren  
500 Woodlane Street  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Hammer and Representative Warren,

The purpose of this letter is to express support for your request of Governor Hutchinson for \$175,000 to provide support for a full-time nurse in the Arkansas Children's Hospital/UAMS PANS/PANDAS clinic and for the establishment of the PANS/PANDAS healthcare education program at UAMS. We will use \$100,000 of the funds for the initial funding of salary and benefits of a full-time nurse and the \$75,000 will be used for the education of healthcare professionals across the state of Arkansas.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of Arkansas Children's Hospital, UAMS and the care and welfare of children of Arkansas. As you know, Act 878 of 2019 provided insurance coverage for the treatment of Childhood Post-infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (PANS/PANDAS) and as required by Act 878, every available tool will be utilized to make healthcare services for the treatment of PANS and PANDAS available statewide. Since the enactment of Act 878 in 2019, we have been working to develop a program to serve the needs of children with PANS/PANDAS. Through this work, we have worked closely with Mr. Paul Ryan, founder of the PACE Foundation, a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of PANS/PANDAS. Their foundation has collaborated with other academic medical centers in the development of four clinics for treatment of PANS/PANDAS. These clinics are located at the University of Arizona, the University of California at Los Angeles, Stanford University, and the University of Wisconsin Health. The PACE Foundation has already been working with us to establish our clinic at Arkansas Children's Hospital /UAMS. The PACE Foundation has provided valuable support and guidance to us, including training our two co-medical directors that work with patients with this rare condition.

Thank you again for your support of the care and welfare of the children of Arkansas and your continued support of Arkansas Children's Hospital and UAMS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Smith", is written over a horizontal line.

G. Richard Smith, M.D.

cc: Dr. Cam Patterson  
Dr. Steppe Mette  
Dr. Christopher Westfall