

Barrett Hatches, PhD
Chicago Family Health Center
9119 S. Exchange
Chicago, Illinois 60617



September 24, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Provident Hospital of Cook County
Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I submit this letter in support of Cook County Health's (CCH) Certificate of Need application to construct a modernized replacement Provident Hospital facility.

As a partner to Provident Hospital in the Washington Park community, we recognize the need to bring a new modern facility to fill the medical needs of the residents on the South Side of Chicago. As an anchor institution in the African American community, Provident Hospital continues to be a good neighbor and provide access to people in need. From their yearly "4 Men Only" Health Fair in April to managing the first aid stations along the Bud Billiken Parade route, Provident Hospital's staff are committed to changing and improving people's lives.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center based on the South Side of Chicago, we have collaborated with Provident and can attest to the benefits that a new building will bring to the area. We understand the existing Provident Hospital building is dated and requires significant financial investment to modernize. Building a replacement Provident Hospital facility with expanded inpatient and outpatient services will allow Cook County Health to better invest limited financial resources while continuing to provide patients with comprehensive, high-quality healthcare and increasing access to care in their neighborhoods. It will also eliminate the need for many existing Cook County Health patients to travel to Stroger Hospital for more complex care.

I am encouraged by the great future that this new facility, when approved and built, will bring to our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barrett Hatches", written in a cursive style.

Barrett Hatches
Chief Executive Officer