



Robert Sengstacke Abbott Foundation

(formerly Chicago Defender Charities Inc.)

3509 S. King Drive Suite #203 CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60653

OFFICE: 773-536-3710 FAX: 773-536-5140

Email: info@defendercharities.org Website:

www.budbillikennarade.org

September 9, 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,

Many years ago the founder of our organization, John H.H. Sengstacke worked diligently to raise over \$50 million dollars for what is currently Provident Hospital. Our Board of Directors is happy to know that the legacy of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams and John H. H. Sengstacke will continue with a new updated facility. 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 in the South Side of Chicago. As an anchor institution in the African American community, Provident Hospital keeps being a good neighbor and providing 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 90 year old organization based in 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 that 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 close to where they live. In keeping the mission of John H. H. Sengstacke, It will also eliminate the need for many existing Cook County Health patients to travel to Stroger Hospital for more complex care.

We are more than happy to continue our collaboration with Provident to ensure the John H. H. Sengstacke and Dr. Daniel Hale Williams legacies remain as an integral part of the planning of the building. I am encouraged by the great future that this new facility, when approved and built, will bring to my/our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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President And CEO