



AT THE FOREFRONT  
**UChicago**  
**Medicine**

Sharon O'Keefe  
*President*

MC 1000, S-115  
5841 South Maryland Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60637-1470  
*phone* (773) 702-8908  
*fax* (773) 702-1897

October 1, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Provident Hospital of Cook County  
Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I submit this letter on behalf of the University of Chicago Medical Center (UCMC) in support of Cook County Health's Certificate of Need application to construct a modernized replacement Provident Hospital facility.

Provident and UCMC are both key anchor institutions on the South Side of Chicago. We recognize the need for a new modern County facility to address the medical needs of the South Side of Chicago. Our community is challenged by exceptionally high morbidity and mortality outcomes and the health care needs in our community are very significant.

Building a replacement Provident Hospital facility with expanded inpatient and outpatient services will allow Cook County Health to strategically invest limited financial resources while continuing to provide patients with comprehensive, high-quality healthcare while enhancing access to care for patients in our community.

We look forward to working with our colleagues at Provident and congratulate the County on this important investment.

We strongly support the Provident Hospital Certificate of Need application.

Sincerely,

  
Sharon O'Keefe