

## Constantino, Mike

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**From:** Court Petros <court.petros@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2020 2:46 PM  
**To:** DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings  
**Subject:** Re: FW: [External] Mercy Hospital closing

Received. Thank you.

On Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 2:29 PM DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings <[DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings@illinois.gov](mailto:DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings@illinois.gov)> wrote:

Please add – thanks!

Dear Governor,

I am a registered nurse. Mercy Hospital, where I worked for forty years before I retired is slated to close next year. The people of Bronzeville, Bridgeport, Canaryville and Chinatown do not need an outpatient center, as has been proposed to replace it. They need an inpatient, fully functioning hospital. There is not enough capacity in the hospitals remaining to accommodate these people

Many of the people I care for were elderly, had chronic conditions, had little support from family or friends. Many lived alone. Many of them have to take the bus or a medicar to get to the hospital. Having the place they've depended on for their healthcare is not just an inconvenience to them. Many of these people have lives affected by poverty, and discrimination. Their neighborhoods can be unsafe. Some of them don't have a loving family member, a friendly neighbor, a loyal friend to help them and look after them if they become ill or have surgery or a procedure. I've seen this, and it's so sad. Mercy Hospital was one constant in their lives and now it's being taken away from them, in the middle of a pandemic. It's so unfair.

The emergency department at Mercy saw over 50,000 visits last year. Where are all these people going to go?

Most sincerely,

Patricia Lynch, BSN RN

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