

From: jlmakela@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Janice Makels](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)
Subject: [External] Save Mercy Hospital!
Date: Friday, November 27, 2020 2:56:22 PM

Dear Illinois Health Facilities Board,

Hi,

I have worked at both MacNeal and Mercy. Both are Trinity properties. When Trinity bought MacNeal, they invested in infrastructure, changed our computer system to Epic (The standard for all Trinity hospitals), and branded McNeil hospital as Loyola at MacNeal. They did the same thing for Gotlieb hospital. They did this within a year of buying these properties. However in the in the years that they have owned Mercy hospital, they have made no effort to change the computer system, have done minimal infrastructure changes, and have formed no ties with Loyola, much less name brand in it as Loyola. Indeed, Mercy has often been treated as the proverbial stepchild of the Trinity Chicago health Care system.

Therefore I believe that Trinity Health Care's association that Mercy was not profitable is disingenuous at the least. Indeed their treatment of Mercy was substantially different from other properties that they have owned.

And I ask why did they treat Mercy hospital so differently? The South Loop is a very profitable neighborhood, And the Loyola name brand (and ties to a tertiary research hospital) could have attracted many patients with private insurance, It could have easily become profitable. It would have helped Loyola compete with Northwestern and University of Chicago for patients, by being a South loop location of Loyola.

But this was never done. despite it being done for other community hospitals owned by Trinity. The only conclusion I can make, is that they never intended to let Mercy be profitable. Rather, they have treated it in a way that would make it fail. As far as motive, I do not know. it could be they wanted the valuable property in the area to be sold as condos. Or it could be a tax write off. Or it could be racial bias. .

But I ask you to demand an answer from Trinity as to why they treated Mercy hospital so differently from other properties. And do not accept their answer of it being non-profitable at face value. Make them prove that they put every effort into saving Mercy hospital prior to letting them close it. I believe there is substantial evidence that they did not. And I believethat their pattern of behavior towards mercy indicates that they intended for it to fail.

Please vote against its closing. And demand that Trinity do right by Mercy, or allow other buyers to buy it.

Thank you.

Dr Janice Makela MD

Sincerely,
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