From: <u>Damaris Jimenez</u>

To: <u>DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings</u>

Subject: [External] Keep Mercy Hospital Open!

Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:00:33 PM

Hello,

This email is to attest the closing of Mercy Hospital. I am a healthcare worker at Community First Medical Center and I am concerned for the well being of the southside. During the midst of a pandemic, it is immoral and unethical to close a "safety-net" hospital who provides care to those who do not have the ability to pay. Healthcare is a right, not a privilege. Our hospital has been bombarded with patients recently, and some even wait 7 to 10 days for a ICU bed. Mercy hospital closing probably has to do with our busy ER wait times.

Please reconsider and keep this safety-net hospital open.

Thank You, Damaris Jimenez, RHIA 773-397-9971