From: larry ryan

To: <u>DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings</u>
Subject: [External] Mercy Hospital

Date: Saturday, January 2, 2021 7:33:08 PM

Hi. My name is Peggy Ryan and I have spent my entire career (39 years so far)at Mercy Hospital. I witnessed the increase in patients when Michael Reese Hospital closed in our neighborhood. Several other hospitals have closed since then. I know people at other hospitals in Chicago and have been told how they are often overburdened with the volume of patients. I view the EMResource website and have evidence that many hospitals are holding ICU, telemetry and medical admissions in the ED. I don't know where the patients I have cared for will go if Mercy closes. I also know that our patients will not be the only patients affected. All patients at the surrounding hospitals will be affected.

Trinity has said the need is for an outpatient center and perhaps they have "studies" to prove their point. Everyday I see dozens of patients that require an inpatient setting. Are they included in these studies? Where will the pregnant women in the community give birth? How much further will ambulances travel to get a stroke victim to a stroke center or a heart attack patient to a Chest Pain Center?

I am begging you to see our Mercy patients as I see them. They need a hospital. They don't need another outpatient center or a hotel or a casino or whatever business wants to buy the land that Sisters of Mercy Devoted to the care of the poor and the sick. Please help us to continue the Mercy mission. Thank you for your consideration.

Peggy Ryan RN

Sent from my iPhone