

From: [Karen Spaccarelli](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)
Subject: [External] Please keep Mercy open
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I am an MD anesthesiologist. I worked at Mercy for 17 years, just retiring in 2020 after risking my life during Covid to save patients at Mercy. What a terrible time to close Mercy during this horrible pandemic!!

I know a lot about the community and believe that an acute care hospital is needed right where Mercy is. Mercy is loved and historic and it's patients trust it and need it's care. The patients have kept coming even though there are rumors of closure. Many Mercy patients simply would not seek care at all if it weren't for Mercy. They may not feel welcome further from their neighborhood and they may not have transportation a few miles further. Additionally obstetric care locations in the South side have been closing and yet the women continue to need obstetric care. Where will they go?

Additionally, Trinity has threatened employees and medical staff with their jobs if they speak out in favor of Mercy staying open.
How cruel!

The "Center" Mercy proposes is a joke. It has nothing to do with replacing Mercy Hospital. Will it have an ICU? Will it have an obstetric unit? Will it have operating rooms? NO! It seems to be a center for people with qualifying health insurance only.

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