

March 19, 2021

Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support- Mercy Hospital and Medical Center, Exemption #003-21

Dear Ms. Avery,

My name is Naveed Mallick and I am a practicing internist, primary care doctor and sleep specialist in the Southside of Chicago. I have lived and practiced in the Southside of Chicago for the last 20 years and currently reside in North Kenwood. I was born on the west side of Chicago went to medical school at University of Illinois Chicago and have great memories of rotating at Mercy Hospital.

Many of my clinical skills that I rely on to this day were formed at Mercy Hospital. Many of my patients still go to Mercy. Just this week my patient called me with lightheadedness and was sent to Mercy. Thankfully she did well and was discharged home safely today. Many of my mentors worked and practiced at Mercy. Let's get them back.

We need Mercy Hospital to continue in our neighborhood for the safety of the community and most importantly to provide world class quality care to its patients. We should not settle for a crippled hospital in which doctors cannot practice to the best of their abilities.

But first Mercy Hospital needs financial stability. I have seen firsthand how finances interrupt taking care of local residents. I was on the picket line helping to save Provident hospital, where I worked for 16 years, when it was slated to close due to "financial issues." I was tired of being told we could not afford state of the art equipment that was not in our budget.

I was honored to serve alongside my friends at KOCO playing a very small role as the doctor for hunger striking residents who saved Dyett high school from closing, for "financial reasons." The neighborhood deserves better.

I have known Dr. Jawad Shah for 30 years and I know how serious he is about taking care of patients and running institutions with the highest levels of professionalism, integrity, and compassion.

We want world class care on the Southside of Chicago. Insight can deliver that. Our neighbors deserve that. Let's not deprive them of this opportunity.

Respectfully,

Naveed K Mallick MD

Founder and President, Chicago Center for Adult Medicine
Board certified Internal Medicine, ABIM
Diplomate in Sleep Medicine, ABIM