

March 10, 2022

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center Bed Tower and CAC Expansion Project Support Letter

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing this letter to communicate my support for Illinois Masonic Center's Certificate of Need application to construct their Center for Advanced Care Expansion Project where the goal is to fill the need for all private inpatient rooms, modernize their ORs, and focus on bringing the spaces up to contemporary standards in their Women's Health unit. As President and CEO of the Midwest's largest LGBTQ+ health organization, I fully understand the impact this expansion would have on Chicagoland area patients when accessing adequate care, allowing AIMMC to provide trauma and tertiary clinical services for the community at large.

Howard Brown exists to eliminate the disparities in healthcare experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people through research, education and the provision of services that promote health and wellness. Howard Brown Health was founded in 1974 and is now one of the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) organizations. With an annual budget of over \$145 million, the agency serves over 40,000 adults and youth in its diverse health and social service delivery system focused around seven major programmatic divisions: primary medical care, behavioral health, research, HIV/STI prevention, youth services, elder services, and community initiatives. Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center is an ally and partner to our mission, and advanced care coordination for our patients as a leader in specialty and hospital-based health care services.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of AIMMC as they seek to modernize their healthcare services and advance their founding principle of being dedicated to changing patient expectations by giving them easy access to all they need to stay well, live well, and achieve outstanding treatment outcomes.

Please contact me should you have questions.

Sincerely,

David Ernesto Munar President & CEO