



June 17, 2022

Chairwoman Debra Savage
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support for Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Campus - Project No. 22-017

Dear Chairwoman Savage and Members:

The Partnership for a Healthy Community (PFHC) is a community-driven partnership of public and private partners working together to address priority health issues in Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford Counties in Illinois. PFHC serves as the local health improvement partnership for Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford Counties. Through partnership, procedure and operation, the PFHC addresses priority health areas identified by the most current cycle of the local health improvement process. Priority health issues are assessed at least every 5 years as part of a full community health improvement process.

In both the current improvement cycle and the upcoming cycle, beginning in January of 2023, Mental Health has been identified as a priority health issue in the Tri-County.

Through correlational analysis younger people were found to have higher levels of Depression, Stress and Anxiety across the Tri- County region.

Investment in services in behavioral health for adolescents is clearly a need. We are proud of the investment that UnityPoint Health is making in child and adolescent behavioral health and of their recent purchase and planned renovation of the Heddington Oaks property. This investment will build the infrastructure to address the gaps and unmet needs of young people while keeping services for families close to home.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this project and request. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Amy Fox

Co- Chair