

Ms. Debra Savage
Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: University of Chicago Medicine - Cancer Facility Project Letter of Support

Dear Chairwoman Savage and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

As the CEO of The Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago dba Shirley Ryan Abilitylab, I write to you in support of the University of Chicago Medicine's (UCM) application for a proposed dedicated Cancer Facility as part of its Medical Center on Chicago's South Side. The proposed cancer facility will increase access to complex care for patients, offer convenient and compassionate care to neighborhoods where cancer is most prevalent, and bring a world class cancer facility to the city of Chicago.

Our hospital, is dedicated to providing the best patient outcomes through the highest-quality clinical care, translational research, scientific discovery and education, located in Chicago. We have partnered with UCM for the past 4 years to provide rehabilitation services to their patients with functional deficits resulting from illness or injury. UCNM has a proven history of providing the highest quality of care to patients with Cancer resulting in ever improving survival rates and together we help those patient truly thrive.

We know that inequities in health outcomes related to cancer are largely a product of the social determinants of health, including access to cancer prevention and care. A new cancer facility will provide Chicago residents and our suburban patients with healthcare resources that are accessible, reflect their excellent care and cutting edge.

Building a world-class cancer facility in Chicagoland will bring technologically advanced care incorporating the newest therapies and treatment innovations to the region. As one of only two NCI designated cancer facilities in the state of Illinois, a cancer facility constructed by UCM stands to reimagine cancer care for the entire city of Chicago and its neighboring communities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and I hope you will vote to approve UCM's application to build a cancer facility that will transform the lives of so many families in my community.

Thank you,



Peggy Kirk,

President & CEO