

May 1, 2023

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

Dear Ms. Savage,

I am writing to you as Chief Medical Officer, to acknowledge my support for the Advocate Christ Medical Center medical/surgical expansion project. I have been an active member of the medical staff for 23 years and have served in several leadership roles at the hospital and in our health-care system. My time serving as the Chair of Emergency Medicine and as System Medical Director for Emergency Medicine has given me a front row seat to, and a deep appreciation for, the quality and breadth of services that an institution like Advocate Christ can provide to the community. Those roles along with my CMO work also gives me a direct view on the adverse impact that might result when access is limited.

With Advocate Christ Medical Center being the only tertiary/quaternary referral center and Level 1 trauma center in the region, the medical/surgical expansion project will significantly help to improve access for the residents in the South Chicagoland Area. The COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated the need for additional medical/surgical beds at Advocate Christ Medical Center, a shortage of beds creates access issues for patients requiring the specialized care that we can provide on this campus. Patients residing in the region depend on Advocate Christ Medical Center for their higher level of care. Additionally, it is the hospital in the service area that admits the most critically ill patients.

I respectfully ask the Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board to approve Advocate Christ Medical Center's med-surg expansion project. The med-surg expansion project will further the ability to reliably deliver access to high quality and safe care for patients and communities that we are privileged to serve.

Sincerely,



Chintan D. Mistry, MD, FACEP, FAAEM
Chief Medical Officer, South Chicagoland Area
Advocate Christ Medical Center
Advocate Medical Group

