



South Shore Chamber, Inc.  
1750 E. 71st Street  
Chicago, IL 60649  
P: (773) 955-9508  
F: (773) 955-0554  
[southshorechamberinc.org](http://southshorechamberinc.org)

Henry English  
Chairman Emeritus  
Black United Fund of Illinois

**Board of Directors**  
**Chairman – Cory Thames**  
Thames Strategies

**Vice Chairman - Helena Wright**  
Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP

**Vice Chairman - Michelle Redd Newell**  
Building Blocks Learning Academy

**Dr. Maureen M. White**  
Dolton School District 149

**Joyce Gibson**  
JA Gibson Realty

**Pamela Gates**  
Salesforce

**Eli Williamson**  
Leave No Veteran Behind

**Christopher Brooks**  
Golub & Associates

**Keiana Barrett**  
Sterling Bay

**Ronald Milsap**  
BMO Harris

**Staff**  
**Tonya Trice**, Executive Director

**Jonathan Trey Scott**, Director of  
Real Estate Development

**Edie Moore**, Executive Assistant

**Ciera Whitaker**, Office Manager

**Miranda Adams**, Administrative  
Assistant

**LaShawn Brown**, SSA #42  
Program Manager

**Kimberley Mbayiwa**  
CBA Coach

January 17, 2025

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

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

As the Executive Director of the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, I am thrilled to support Advocate's \$1 billion investment in the South Side of Chicago. This initiative is a monumental step towards closing the 30-year life expectancy gap between the South and North Sides.

The creation of 10 new Neighborhood Care locations in familiar spaces like churches, and community centers, ensures accessible healthcare deeply embedded in our community. Advocate's investment in managing chronic diseases and addressing social determinants of health is crucial for our neighborhoods.

The recent plans to expand specialty care and use technology to reduce wait times demonstrate Advocate's commitment to improving access to care. The new state-of-the-art hospital at the former U.S. Steel South Works site will provide advanced treatments and high-quality care tailored to our community's needs.

At the South Shore Chamber of Commerce, our mission is to strengthen and support business corridors and small businesses, by empowering our members with effective training, technical assistance and access to private sector and governmental resources. Advocate's transformational project honors our strengths and addresses critical health disparities in our community. We are eager to collaborate to enhance the health and wellness of the South Side.

With appreciation and optimism,

Tonya Trice  
Executive Director  
[ttrice@southshorechamberinc.org](mailto:ttrice@southshorechamberinc.org)  
773-503-8491