



Family Christian Health Center

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May 8, 2026

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

Dear Ms. Savage,

Family Christian Health Center is pleased to offer its strong support for South Suburban Hospital's Certificate of Need application to establish a dedicated observation unit. As a community-based organization focused on supporting individuals and families through critical transitions and life challenges, Family Christian Health Center has a longstanding relationship with South Suburban Hospital and Advocate Health as partners committed to improving access to timely, coordinated, and compassionate care across the South Suburban and South Chicago communities.

Since April 1, 2000, Family Christian Health Center has been committed to providing quality family practice, dental, OB/GYN, pediatric, TodayCare, behavioral/mental, wellness and mobile health care services and increasing access by breaking down barriers of care for our shared underserved communities in the Chicago southland. The services are provided in a way that communicates in the Love and Deed of Jesus Christ.

The proposed dedicated observation unit, comprised of 30 observation beds in a contiguous first-floor space located near the Emergency Department and key diagnostic and procedural services, will ensure patients receive the appropriate level of care following emergency visits or during short-term clinical evaluation. This model allows for focused monitoring and clinical decision-making, reduces emergency department overcrowding, shortens wait times, helps prevent unnecessary inpatient admissions, and supports continuity of care. The unit will not increase the hospital's licensed bed count, which will remain at 244 total licensed beds.

From our perspective, the establishment of a centralized observation unit staffed by a dedicated physician lead and nursing team represents a thoughtful, patient-centered investment in a community where access to care remains a critical and ongoing need. For these reasons, Family Christian Health Center strongly supports approval of this project and commends South Suburban Hospital for its continued efforts to meet the healthcare needs of the communities it serves.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lisa Green, MPH
Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder