

Constantino, Mike

12-084

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 11:19 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: FW: Letter of Support for Free-Standing Birth Center

FYI

From: Emilia Oldaker [mailto:emiliaoldaker@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2013 9:29 PM
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: Letter of Support for Free-Standing Birth Center

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to voice my support for the free-standing birth center proposal in Illinois. I am a wife, a mother, and a professional who believes that women in the 21st century should be afforded safe options and the opportunity to make educated choices about where and how they give birth. While I was grateful to be able to give birth to my child in the facility of my choosing and without any unnecessary medical interventions, I am nonetheless saddened that many hospitals in Illinois still refuse to respect their patients' choices--indeed, their humanity and their physical well-being--by adhering to unnecessary medical interventions such as drugs, forced inductions, and recommended pre-scheduled CEs. These restrictions not only dehumanize women by assuming they cannot make educated choices about their bodies but additionally trivialize the birthing process, an important rite and experience in a woman's life and her family's lives as well. Moreover, extensive medical interventions that are not used to benefit the present and future health of both the patient and the newborn should not be forced on any patient who is not comfortable with them, or who is not in a position to make a conscientious decision about an intervention.

Birth is a contradictory experience; beautiful, terrifying, incredible, indescribable. For medical professionals to dictate the timing and the method of someone else's birth when it is not medically necessary to intervene is a violation of human rights, and a detriment to humanity's health and survivability. Allowing women and families choices in how they bring children into our world is nothing more than any human being deserves--the right to be educated about themselves, their bodies, and their own capabilities--and about the options that will best benefit their health and the health of those they love.

Please consider the needs and rights of our 21st century families, and vote yes for the birth center. I appreciate your time and support.

Sincerely,
Emilia R. Oldaker

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 11:34 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: FW: attention HSFRB board-I support Birth Centers

From: Jessie Jo [mailto:jtothej40@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2013 4:38 PM
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: attention HSFRB board-I support Birth Centers

Hi! My name is Jessie Jo Warner. I strongly support implementing, not one, but many birth centers throughout Illinois. I am a young woman in my 20s, a working woman, and mom of one. Please, send my support and words forward in hopes of attaining this goal for Illinois.

We want Birth Centers!!!!!!

Warmly,
Jessie Jo Warner

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 12:40 PM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: FW: IL Birth Center

-----Original Message-----

From: Elizabeth Egge [mailto:eaegge80@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2013 7:11 AM
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: IL Birth Center

Ms. Avery,

I am writing in regards to the possibility of a birth center in Illinois. I was delighted to hear that a birth center may be an option in the future for birthing mothers. It is so important to give women an option in their maternal care, an in such, respect as well. Not all women want a heavily mediated and intervened birth experience. Statistics show that hospital births are much more likely to end in intervention an c-sections. A birth center would give women a chance to birth naturally, while having medical care only when necessary. This would be a much needed step in the right direction for Illinois. Thank you for you for your time.

Elizabeth Egge

Sent from my iPhone

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 12:34 PM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: FW: Birth Center Application for Bolingbrook IL
Attachments: RE Application for Birthing Center in Bolingbrook IL.pdf

From: francesca franze [mailto:anihead1980@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2013 12:28 PM
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: Birth Center Application for Bolingbrook IL

Ms. Avery,

Please review the attached letter regarding the application for a birthing center in Bolingbrook, IL.

Thank you,

Francesca Franze

January 15, 2013

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Courtney Avery

Ms. Avery,

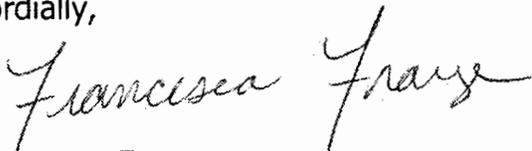
I am writing this letter to express my support for the application to open a birthing center in Bolingbrook, IL by PCC South. As a woman who could be using the services this center would provide, I would like to explain my support to you.

If a woman wants to deliver in a traditional hospital setting, there are many options available to her. However, if a woman has the desire to deliver her child in a non-hospital setting, the options are very limited. There are only two hospitals in the southwest and west suburbs of Illinois (as far as I know) that offer a comfortable, non-invasive, natural birth environment, and only one that offers the water birth option. Even if there are a few more that I am unaware of, the number of facilities that offer that type of birth are exceedingly limited. A birthing center in Bolingbrook, IL would offer the type of birth choices that a traditional hospital does not to a community that does not have that option within a reasonable distance.

As a woman who is currently pregnant, I must say that if this center were open right now, I would have looking into birthing my child in the facility.

I cannot stress how important additional birth options for expectant mothers are. I ask that the board approve the application for the birthing center in Bolingbrook, IL; I also hope that as additional applications are submitted the Board reviews and approves them quickly. Our babies aren't waiting!

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francesca Franze". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Francesca Franze

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 1:48 PM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: FW: Birth Center Application support

From: Ashley Price [mailto:ashrprice@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 1:31 PM
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: Birth Center Application support

To the HSFRB board,

I'm writing to urge your support of PCC Wellness Center's application as the first free-standing birth center in Illinois. Illinois as a state is sorely in need of more options for maternity care, and approving a birth center will be a boon to our community and the health of Illinois women. It's known that free-standing birth centers staffed by certified and trained birth professionals provide excellent and inexpensive maternity care by minimizing unnecessary interventions. Please help Illinois' mothers and approve this application.

Sincerely,

Ashley Price
Urbana, IL