

12-084

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 8:44 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: Fw: PCC Birth Center Letter of Support
Attachments: PCC Birth Center Letter of Support.docx

From: Jocelyn Alt [mailto:jocelynalt7@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 05:21 PM Central Standard Time
To: Avery, Courtney
Cc: cbacom@pccwellness.org <cbacom@pccwellness.org>
Subject: PCC Birth Center Letter of Support

Dear Courtney,

Please find attached a letter of support for the application for the establishment of a birth center submitted by PCC. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Thank you!

Best,
Jocelyn

jocelyn@ohanaparents.com

Sent from my iPad

January 16, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my support for the application to establish a birth center submitted by PCC.

A growing number of women and their partners are seeking more holistic and natural approaches for the pregnancy and birth process. Birth centers like the one proposed by PCC provide women with an option for their birth that emphasizes natural approaches, yet is also fully integrated into the medical system with a strong and dependable physician and hospital back-up if needed.

There has recently been a renewed focus on the need to improve maternity care in the U.S. around a number of key metrics. The Joint Commission that accredits hospitals announced in November that it was adding five measures related to perinatal care to the mandatory set of measures on which hospitals must report. These new measures include the number of elective inductions before 39 weeks gestation, the C section rate, and the breastfeeding rate. The addition of these measures signals a renewed emphasis on improving maternity care in this country. In its comments on these measures, the Joint Commission expressed the strong opinion that it is important for the health of mothers and babies that hospitals in the U.S. focus on reducing the rate of elective inductions before 39 weeks and of C sections for first-time mothers, and on increasing the rate of breastfeeding. Birth centers can be an important piece of the puzzle in further improving outcomes in these areas. Birth centers' emphasis on natural approaches to birth promotes the goals that the Joint Commission established in putting forth the new required measures.

Both because of the added choice that birth centers provide to women and their partners and because of their potential to help improve the overall quality of maternity care provided in this country, I would like to reiterate my support for the PCC birth center application.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Alt, President and CEO, Ohana

1735 Chicago Ave #618

Evanston, IL 60201

www.ohanaparents.com

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 8:44 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: Fw: Support letter for PCC Birthing Center
Attachments: MCHAC PCC Letter.docx

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

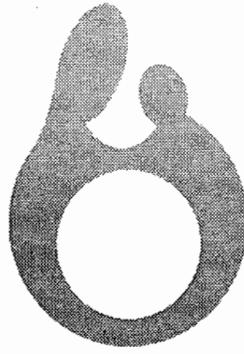
From: Melanie Wolf [mailto:ramie6@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 16, 2013 05:46 PM Central Standard Time
To: Avery, Courtney
Cc: Mary Sommers <masmmrs@aol.com>; Cecelia Bacom <cbacom@pccwellness.org>
Subject: Support letter for PCC Birthing Center

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please find attached my support letter for the planned PCC Birthing Center.

Thank you kindly for your time,

Melanie Wolf



MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH
**ADVOCACY
COUNCIL**

16 January 2013

To the Health Facilities Planning Board:

My name is Melanie Wolf and I'm writing to you as president of the Maternal Child Health Advocacy Council ("MCHAC"), a charitable organization whose mission is to raise awareness and support for maternal child health initiatives in the Chicagoland area. As such, we at MCHAC would like to voice our enthusiastic support for the planned PCC Birthing Center.

We feel there is an acute need for a third birthing option for expectant mothers, who at present, have only a hospital birth or a home birth as choices for delivery of their babies. Birthing centers provide an appealing alternative, offering a professional-caliber level of care in a comfortable, home-like setting.

I have had the privilege of being a patient at PCC South for the last four years, including using their well-established Midwifery Practice for the birth of my first child. What a wonderful resource they are, conveniently located just South of Oak Park, and opening their doors to all segments of the population, especially the medically underserved.

Thank you kindly for your time and know that we appreciate your support on this important matter.

Best regards,

Melanie Wolf
President, MCHAC

Constantino, Mike

From: Avery, Courtney
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 8:44 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: Fw: Letter in support of Birth Center
Attachments: Support PCC Birth Center.doc

From: Rachel Dolan Wickersham [mailto:jiandra@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2013 12:32 AM Central Standard Time
To: Avery, Courtney
Subject: Letter in support of Birth Center

Hello,

Please see the attached letter in support of approving PCC Wellness' application to establish a free-standing birth center.

best wishes,

Rachel Dolan Wickersham
Rachel Dolan Wickersham, CD(DONA), LCCE, CPM, LM
president, Coalition for Illinois Midwifery
secretary, Illinois Council of Certified Professional Midwives
Certified Professional Midwife
Licensed Midwife (Wisconsin)
Jiandra@aol.com
630-750-9444

"You cannot discover new oceans without the courage to lose sight of the shore"
~Andre Gide

"The color of truth is gray"
~Andre Gide

January 16, 2013

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to request that the board approve of PCC Wellness Clinic's application to open a free-standing birth center. This center is a well-needed, safe alternative for the women in our community.

With a national epidemic of unnecessary birth interventions, especially cesarean sections, more and more women are seeking alternatives to hospital birth. As President of the Coalition for Illinois Midwifery, an organization dedicated to expanding maternity care options in Illinois, I often hear stories of the desperate, and sometimes unsafe, measures women take to avoid hospital birth in our state.

The opening of free-standing birth centers in Illinois would give these women a safe option in a state where options are few. The maternity care providers at PCC are well experienced in alternative birth options and it would be fitting to have them open the first center.

Good health begins at birth, and the board's approval of this application will go a long way toward creating better health in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Wickersham".

Rachel Dolan Wickersham, CPM, LM
President, Coalition for Illinois Midwifery
Secretary, Illinois Council of Certified Professional Midwives