

## Hills, Bonnie

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**From:** John Kniery [JKniery@foleyandassociates.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 14, 2013 3:59 PM  
**To:** Hills, Bonnie  
**Cc:** Cara D. Goldsberry  
**Subject:** 12-090 Public Comments  
**Attachments:** scfa.pdf

Ms Hills: Please accept the attached letters from:

Mary Visconti, CEO of Better Boys Foundation; Perry D. Browley, COE/Director of Tumbling for Success, Inc.; Tonja Robinson-Harri, Founder/Executive Director of The Mirror Project, Inc.; Hon. Jesus G. Garcia, Cook County Commissioner 7th District; Maureen Hallagan, Executive Director of Marillac St. Vincent Family Services; Roberto Medina, Executive Director of The YMCA; Rev. Don Nevins of St. Agnes of Bohemia, Rev. Brendan Curran, OP of St. Pius, Rev. Sean O'Sullivan of St. Procopius, Rev. Rigoberto Gamez of Our Lady of Tepeyac, Rev. Jose Maria Garcia of Good Shepard, Rev. Arturo Perez of Assumption, Rev. Felipe Vaglienty, of St. Ann, and Rev. Alejandro Garrido of Providence of God; Lorenzo O'Bryant, Program Manager of Family Focus-Lawndale Center; Dr. Sherryl Moore-Ollie, Principal of William Penn Elementary; Cheryl B. White, Principal of Dvorak Technology Academy; Kimberlie Jackson, Executive Director of Lawndale Christian Development Corporation; Darren Tillis of State Farm Insurance Pastor Wayne Gordon and Associate Pastor Phil Jackson of Lawndale Community Church; Robert Castaneda of Beyond the Ball; Olivia Flores Godinez, Executive Director of Universidad Popular; and Carathel Burnett, Executive Director of Carole Robertson Center for Learning

as public comments in support of the above subject project. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Many Thanks.

John P. Kniery  
Health Care Consultant  
Foley & Associates, Inc.  
1638 So. MacArthur Boulevard  
Springfield, Illinois 62704  
217.544.1551 - Office  
217.544.3615 - Facsimile  
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January 10, 2013

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Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

Better Boys Foundation (BBF) believes in the Power of Potential. We have created a solid foundation to nurture hope, build confidence, and give children and youth the strength and support they need to build a brighter future. We serve boys and girls ranging in age from five to 18 through innovative out-of-school time programming. We also address the needs of young adults through scholarships for post-secondary study and work with families via integrated crisis intervention, counseling, case management, and referral services.

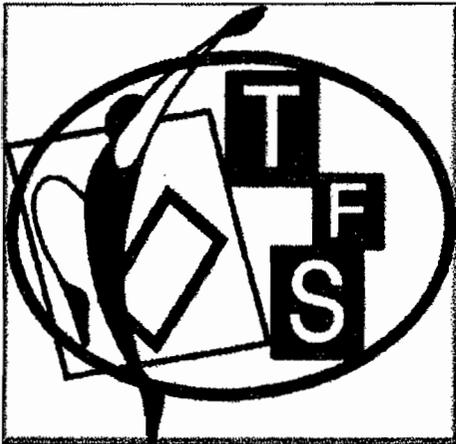
Saint Anthony Hospital has been a supportive partner to BBF, and provides much needed services to the North Lawndale Community, a community BBF has served for 51 years. Among these, Saint Anthony's Community Wellness team has presented the ACT program, which supports parents by providing resources to aide in the raising of violence-free, safe kids. The ACT curriculum teaches parents effective parenting skills, which builds strong communication between parent and child, as well as activities to help families deal with conflict in a positive manner. Saint Anthony Hospital has always delivered quality services while addressing health needs and working to keep our community well. For these reasons, BBF strongly supports the proposed dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital wishes to establish on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Visconti,  
Chief Executive Officer

1512 S. PULASKI ROAD | CHICAGO, IL 60623  
TEL: (773) 542-7300 FAX: (773) 521-4153  
[www.betterboys.org](http://www.betterboys.org)



# TUMBLING FOR SUCCESS INC.

*We don't put emphasis on tumbling, we put emphasis on SUCCESS!*

January 2, 2013

Chairman Dale Galassie  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Chairman Galassie:

Tumbling for Success and Saint Anthony Hospital have had a fruitful relationship right from the start. When I started this company in 1999, the mission was and continues to Reach, Teach and Motivate the youth in the city's North Lawndale and Austin neighborhoods. The focus is on fundamental motor and basic gymnastic skills to enhance young people's coordination, body awareness, and self-confidence. Tumbling is just the catch. Once we have motivated youth to achieve their academic goals, develop self-esteem and bring guidance and continue to discourage students against the use of drug and gang activities. These goals will promote positive thinking, enhance confidence and develop social skills for our youth in order for them to become great citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

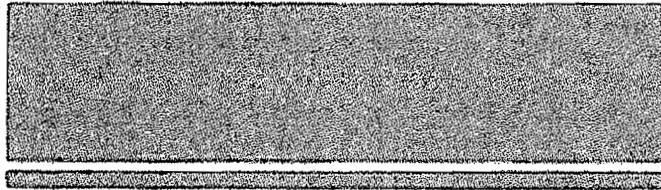
For the last 6 years Tumbling for Success has participated in Saint Anthony Hospital's Summer Fest Event. The FREE event is a fun opportunity for parents to gather information about healthy lifestyles as well as for children to play carnival games, learn about healthy eating, participate in bike safety training and enjoy local entertainment. This event is just one example of how Saint Anthony Hospital has opened their doors to the residents of the community.

Saint Anthony gives particular attention to the health and well-being of the poor, the uninsured, and the underinsured, regardless of their religious affiliations. Together, Saint Anthony and Tumbling for Success promote the healthy physical and emotional development of low-income youth in North Lawndale, offering them hope for success in school and contentment at home.

Sincerely,

Perry D. Browley  
CEO/Director

PO Box 198935 • Chicago, IL 60619 • Ph: 773/269-2113  
Website: [www.tumbling4success.com](http://www.tumbling4success.com) or email: [tfs@tumbling4success.com](mailto:tfs@tumbling4success.com)



## The Mirror Project, Inc.

1847 South Pulaski Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60623

January 11, 2013

Dale Galassie, Chairman

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

I have lived in North Lawndale for my entire life. As I blossomed into a young adult it was the many different programs that supported me through my teenage and college years. As an adult I returned to my community to be a service agent and contribute my life to addressing the challenges in my community. Living out my passion has allowed me the opportunity to start my own organization "The Mirror Project"

The Mirror Project is a 501(C)(3), not-for-profit organization, providing mentoring for at risk adolescents and teens, pregnant and parenting teens and adults in the North Lawndale Community. The Mirror Project seeks to celebrate the lives of adolescents, teens and adults through mentoring and coaching, and by presenting to them opportunities to ensure that their tomorrow is more powerful, healthy and centered than today.

Saint Anthony Hospital is a key health organization that partners with us to provide information to our program participants. Through their sexual and reproductive health programs, adolescents are able to learn and identify reproductive organs and understand the male/female anatomy. Saint Anthony's health program also teaches young people about STI's and HIV/AIDS. The community educators are very professional but relates well to the youth and they are also very resourceful when young people need additional support.

I strongly support the proposed dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital wishes to establish on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely

  
Tonja Robinson-Harris, MA, EdD (ABD)

Founder/Executive Director

PHONE  
773 396 4060

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themirrorproject7011@gmail.com

WEB  
www.themirrorproject.org/www.com/themirrorproject7011

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4249 SOUTH ARCHER  
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January 14, 2013

Chairman Dale Galassie  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Mr. Chairman,

I am writing in support of Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center at 26<sup>th</sup> Street. I have represented the people of the southwest side of Chicago since 1986 when I was elected to City Council. I emigrated to Chicago from Mexico at the age of ten and I have lived in Pilsen and Little Village neighborhoods since that time. As an elected official from 1986 continuing through the present as the Cook County Commissioner for the 7<sup>th</sup> District, I have been working tirelessly on behalf of my community members to improve their quality of life.

To help improve the quality of our life in our communities, I continue to work for job growth in our area, promote safe neighborhoods, improve educational opportunities for our children, and make government more accessible to the public. Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed project is a positive development for my community as it serves to bridge routine healthcare practices and promote wellness education. We in the Latino community understand that we are at an increased risk for obesity, hypertension and diabetes.

I believe this is the type of proactive model my community needs. The accessibility of primary care, dialysis and immediate care services ensures that patients' healthcare needs are cared for by a team of physicians and other medical care providers in one setting.

Kindly accept this letter as my support of the SAH Dialysis Center at 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Thank you for your attention,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesús G. García".

Jesús G. García  
Cook County Commissioner  
7<sup>th</sup> District



**MARILLAC  
St. VINCENT**

January 11, 2013

Dale Galassie  
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie,

Since 1914, Marillac Social Center has been serving the needs of the poor and working poor of the west side of Chicago. Sponsored by the Daughters of Charity, the Center provides vital programs and services in the area of child development, social services, family services, senior services and youth programs. Almost a century later we are still on the unwavering mission to strength and empowering those most in need to reach their greatest potential. We fulfill our mission through quality programs for children, teens, families and seniors.

Our partnership with Saint Anthony Hospital began many years ago, when they arranged to have a Pediatrician and Midwife onsite to offer healthcare to our families. The dedication of their staff is a testament to the type of outstanding care they have proven to provide to the North Lawndale and South Lawndale communities. Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center co-located in a primary care clinic will provide dialysis patients an opportunity to seek medical treatment, nutritional counseling and wellness education at one healthcare location.

This letter is in support of Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center on 26<sup>th</sup> Street because it's the right thing for the community.

Best Regards,

Maureen Hallagan  
Executive Director



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

January 14, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

The Rauner YMCA is, and always will be, dedicated to building healthy, confident, connected and secure children, adults, families, and community. We are community centered, nurture potential in everyone coming through our doors, bring people together for the good of the community and its residents. One of our long standing partners in a shared mission is Saint Anthony Hospital.

Saint Anthony Hospital has been an active participant in our 3 annual health fairs where health screenings, including Blood Pressure and Diabetes Screens as well as Flu Shots were provided to members and people in the community. At the start of our back to school programs the hospital has provided backpacks to enrolled day school and afterschool children and to our Head Start Program children. Their dedicated and involvement in community activities is a perfect example of the type of organization that Saint Anthony Hospital is.

I fully support the proposed Saint Anthony Hospitals Dialysis Center at 26<sup>th</sup> Street for the nearly 150,000 residents living in the Lower West Side (Pilsen), North and South Lawndale communities. This is one of the most densely packed community areas in the City of Chicago which collectively can strain the resource network that is available to residents. The proximity to valuable resources like recreation, education, healthcare or retail greatly limits quality options for residents. I support a project like the one Saint Anthony Hospital is proposing since it consolidates the need for patients and their families to visit multiple stops for their healthcare needs.

Saint Anthony's clinic where the proposed dialysis center is located will transform urban community health care by offering family support services, health and wellness services, educational initiatives, and other community services in the Pilsen, North and South Lawndale communities.

Many Thanks,

Roberto Medina  
Executive Director



**St. Agnes of Bohemia  
Santa Inés de Bohemia  
Founded 1904**

2651 S. Central Park Avenue ♦ Chicago ♦ Illinois 60623-4631  
Telephone (773) 522-0142 ♦ Fax (773) 522-0172  
[www.stagnesofbohemia.org](http://www.stagnesofbohemia.org)

January 10, 2013

Dale Galassie  
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie,

We are writing to lend our support to the St. Anthony Hospital Dialysis Center on 26<sup>th</sup> St. here in Chicago. As Catholic priests in the South Lawndale and Pilsen neighborhoods, we too often see the struggles our parishioners endure due to poor health. Over the years, SAH has worked tirelessly with our parishioners to promote a healthier lifestyle by offering community wellness programs from healthier cooking classes to how to care for love ones with medical needs. We know that even in this struggling economy, SAH continues to serve the health needs of our parishioners by providing quality care regardless of their ability to pay. Despite these efforts, our parishioners continue to be at a higher risk for end stage renal failure and the need for dialysis will continue to grow. St. Anthony Hospital's recognition of this situation and its willingness to address the multiple health needs of our members in a single outpatient location is a step in promoting a healthier environment.

We support Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center on 26<sup>th</sup> St. because Saint Anthony Hospital lives out the loving ministry of Jesus Christ offering health, healing and hope to the families of our community and this addition will be a wonderful resource for our parishioners.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Don Nevins  
St. Agnes of Bohemia

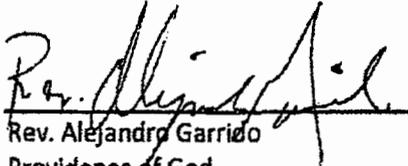
Rev. Brendan Curran, OP  
St. Pius

Rev. Sean O'Sullivan  
St. Procopius

Rev. Rigoberto Gamez  
Our Lady of Tepeyac

  
Rev. Jose Maria Garcia  
Good Shepherd

  
Rev. Arturo Perez  
Assumption

  
Rev. Alejandro Garrido  
Providence of God

  
Rev. Felipe Vaglienty  
St. Ann



**FAMILY  
FOCUS**

*Nurturing children  
Strengthening families*

Sherreron Hilliard, MSW  
Center Director

Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

January 11, 2013

Dear Chairman Galassie:

The mission of **Family Focus**—one of the nation's flagship family support programs since 1976—is to promote the well-being of children from birth by supporting and strengthening their families in and with their communities. Family Focus offers innovative, community-based programs that help parents, grandparents, and foster and adoptive parents, gain confidence and competence as the primary educators of their children.

All of Family Focus's programs are based on a set of guidelines that focus on the primacy of families in raising children and on working with, rather than for, families, empowering them to accomplish this task. Family Focus staff and families work together to build on families' own strengths for the healthy development of their children.

Family Focus-North Lawndale helps local families living in low-income communities to give their children the best possible start in life. We do whatever it takes to help families gain the confidence and skills to be the parents they want to be. We partner with local schools through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Programs as well as provide a Resource Coordinator in many of the neighborhood schools.

We have partnered with Saint Anthony Hospital's Community Wellness Department through their Mission Nutrition Program. North and South Lawndale have a high rate of obesity among youth in the community. Saint Anthony was so gracious to work with students in our programs to educate them about healthy eating habits. Through their cooking demonstration they were also able to demonstrate creative ways to incorporate fruit and vegetables into their diets. Saint Anthony is more than a hospital it's an institution that provides holistic services to address the needs of the ENTIRE community.

With the growing number of residents being diagnosed with diabetes and kidney disease we support Saint Anthony's proposal for the dialysis center on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely,

Lorenze Bryant, Program Manager  
Family Focus-Lawndale Center

FAMILY FOCUS LAWDALE  
3517 ARTHINGTON STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60624  
773/722-5057 • FAX 773/722-5169  
E-MAIL: lawndale@family-focus.org



**WILLIAM PENN ELEMENTARY**

1616 South Avers Ave. · Chicago, Illinois 60623 · Telephone 773/534-1665 · Fax 773/534-1673

**Dr. Sherryl Moore-Ollie**  
Principal  
[Smoore-ollie@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:Smoore-ollie@cps.k12.il.us)

**Dr. Chinyere Okafor-Conley**  
Assistant Principal  
[Okafor@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:Okafor@cps.k12.il.us)

January 8, 2013

Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

William Penn's mission is to prepare, persist, and perfect using best practices and a rigorous curriculum that will prepare our students for college and for a future of life-long learning and success. As a neighborhood school in North Lawndale, we know that we can't do this alone. We rely on our community partners to support our students, staff and parents.

Saint Anthony Hospital is one of those community partners we know we can call and depend on when needed. Through their community wellness department, Saint Anthony Hospital has provided several programs to our students and parents. One of their signature programs, Mission Nutrition has captured our youngest students with teaching them healthy eating habits. Last year, Saint Anthony Hospital hosted a end of school year health & fitness family event to celebrate our student's success and demonstrate physical activities our families can do for fun. Currently, Saint Anthony Hospital is training our parents through a Parent Education Curriculum entitled "ACT-Parents Raising Safe Kids". It's always great to have a community partner that supports the betterment of the entire community.

Penn School is pleased to support the proposed dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital wished to establish on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sherryl Moore-Ollie  
Principal



## Dvorak Technology Academy

3615 W. 16<sup>th</sup> Street

Chicago, IL 60623

Phone: 773-534-1690 Fax: 773-534-1676

Mrs. Cheryl White, Principal

Mrs. Jacqueline Brooks-Paige, Asst. Principal

January 8, 2013

Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

Dvorak School offers a liberal arts and science curriculum with an emphasis on technology for students in grades Pre-K to 8th grade. Dvorak's vision is to provide a climate for empowering all stakeholders -- staff members, students, parents, community members and partners in building a community of lifelong learners. We foresee that all of Dvorak's students will become productive and competent members of a global society by taking ownership of their education and succeeding in higher education and career goals.

Being one of the largest neighborhood schools in the North Lawndale Community, we look for partners such as Saint Anthony Hospital to support our students and parents. Saint Anthony hospital has been instrumental in providing our students and parents with nutrition classes. On several occasions their Community Wellness Department have provided cooking demonstrations which educated our families on healthy food preparation and the different food groups. Many of our parents and youth struggle with issues such as obesity, diabetes and heart disease. We are always searching for ways to create a healthier climate at our school as well as in our community and Saint Anthony Hospital has been helpful with assisting us in achieving our goal.

Dvorak School is pleased to support the proposed dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital wished to establish on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cheryl B. White,  
Principal



## LAWNDALE CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

3843 W. Ogden Avenue • Chicago, IL 60623

773.762.8889, phone • 773.762.8893, fax

www.lcdc.net

January 10, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie

Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital wishes to establish in Little Village.

Lawndale Christian Development Corporation (LCDC) has worked in partnership with Saint Anthony Hospital for several years on issues to improve the health and well-being of our communities. Two major initiatives that LCDC has partnered with Saint Anthony Hospital on are B-Ball on the Block, an outdoor traveling basketball tournament that encourages youth and residents of North and South Lawndale to come out and play sports and the creation of Chicago Cornerstone Center for Arts and Technology a replication of Bidwell Job Training Center in Pennsylvania, which provides career training to disadvantaged community residents and places them in jobs directly related to health, horticulture or culinary.

As a nonprofit, community, safety-net hospital, Saint Anthony Hospital's plan to create this proposed outpatient dialysis center guarantees access to life-sustaining dialysis treatment in our community. With the high percentage of African American and Latinos at risk of chronic kidney disease and end stage renal disease, it is a nonprofit hospital that we want taking care of our community. LCDC was established in 1987 by Lawndale Community Church to bring holistic revitalization to the lives and environments of Lawndale residents through economic empowerment, housing improvements, educational enrichments and community advocacy. We support this project and the positive resources that will be available to residents and impact it will have on the landscape of our community.

Sincerely,



Kimberlie Jackson  
Executive Director

*Faith-driven Community Revitalization*



Darren Tillis  
Auto-Life-Health-Home and Business  
3830 W. Roosevelt Road  
Chicago, IL 60624  
Office: (773) 826-0766 Fax: (773) 826-0715

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January 10, 2013

Dale Galassie, Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

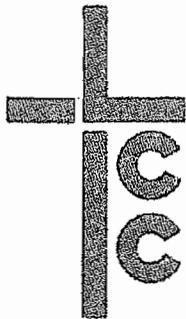
Community businesses are an integral part of all successful neighborhood efforts. In North Lawndale, State Farm Insurance brings a commitment to the community that goes beyond providing insurance to community residents. I, Darren Tillis, was born and raised in the neighborhood, and joined with dozens of residents to carry on one of the community's great traditions of supporting local, civic and cultural life.

As an insurance agent, I fully understand what it means to keep the community in great health and keep them well. Many of my clients often look to me for answers regarding their own personal health. Although I may not have the answers, I know where to refer them. Saint Anthony Hospital has a medical, dental and wellness clinic housed in North Lawndale. This demonstrates their commitment to the residents and the importance of community members accessing exceptional medical care. The newly opened wellness clinic, demonstrates Saint Anthony Hospital's approach to addressing the needs of the entire community. On any given day a resident can walk-in and receive services and various resources that will help them improve their quality of life. These quality services are why I support the proposed dialysis center that Saint Anthony Hospital will establish on 26<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darren Tillis".

Darren Tillis



# Lawndale Community Church

3827 W. Ogden Ave. • Chicago, IL 60623

Phone: (773) 762-6389 • Fax: (773) 762-5772

[www.lawndalechurch.org](http://www.lawndalechurch.org)

January 9, 2013

Dale Galassie

Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie,

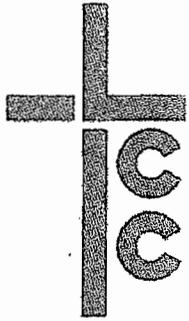
I am the founding Pastor of Lawndale Community Church (LCC) and President of the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA). In 1975, I moved to North Lawndale located on Chicago's Westside. At that time, North Lawndale was the 15th poorest neighborhood in the United States. I was a teacher and coach at Farragut High School, also located in North Lawndale. Today, LCC has over 1000 worshipping families and I continue to serve as pastor.

For over 37 years of ministry, I continue to help this community thrive through numerous community development initiatives. I am also one of the founders of the Lawndale Christian Health Center, a healthcare ministry that sees over 150,000 patients per year. Saint Anthony Hospital has been a strong partner in caring for many of these patients in allowing our patients to receive quality health care.

In addition, I am the founding president of the Lawndale Christian Development Corporation. The Development Corporation is the arm of Lawndale Community Church that facilitates economic development, education and housing. LCDC has seven different housing ministries and under Wayne's leadership, over 400 units of abandoned housing have been rehabbed. LCDC places special emphasis on home ownership for residents of the community.

I also helped formulate the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA). CCDA is a network of individuals and ministries nationwide who engage in Christian community development efforts. At various times, CCDA has had 1000 organizational members and 10,000 individual members. CCDA meets annually to share skills and network together. Over 3000 people attend the national CCDA conferences and the CCDA movement continues to expand.

Since moving to North Lawndale, I have remained committed to the mission of compassionately renewing lives and revitalizing our community. Our community, however, continues to be plagued with many challenges that I see every day. The violence that



# Lawndale Community Church

3827 W. Ogden Ave. • Chicago, IL 60623

Phone: (773) 762-6389 • Fax: (773) 762-5772

[www.lawndalechurch.org](http://www.lawndalechurch.org)

plagues our community requires parents to try and keep their children in the homes and off the streets. While we try to create safe havens by having open gyms for the children and creating The Firehouse Community Arts Center, it does not take the place of children developing healthy physical activity levels. The habits we form as children tend carry to our adult lives. Often times, diet and nutrition are compromised due to economic disparity. Poor diet and nutrition and a sedentary lifestyle often results in obesity, hypertension and diabetes. Lawndale Christian Health Center continues to treat many community members who struggle with obesity, hypertension and diabetes. Many times, the patients progress to develop End Stage Renal Disease requiring dialysis. Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center within a clinic setting would continue to provide the care that my community has been able to rely on.

I support Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center on 26<sup>th</sup> Street because Saint Anthony Hospital continues to provide very necessary services that my community needs. Supporting Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center is the right thing to do for my congregants.

Respectfully,

Pastor Wayne "Coach" Gordon  
Lawndale Community Church

Associate Pastor Phil Jackson  
Lawndale Community Church

January 8, 2013

Dale Galassie  
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie,

In 1998, my wife Amy and I moved into the Little Village neighborhood of Chicago, a primarily Mexican community on the west side of Chicago. Shortly thereafter, our lives were threatened by a local gang which was very active, including attempting to burn down our home after learning that I had talked to the police when I witnessed a crime by its members. Instead of leaving the neighborhood, we responded by getting more involved in the community.

Amy, who had been teaching at a local elementary school, transferred to another school closer to our home, and I started coaching the school's basketball team. In order to compete, the basketball players needed extra practice, so I opened the school gym on Saturdays. Access to basketball courts in the neighborhood was restricted due to gang boundary lines, so word of a safe place to play spread quickly. The kids on the team asked if they could bring relatives, then friends. Soon many other kids from even outside Little Village wanted to join. It wasn't long before 70 youth were regularly coming for open gyms. Beyond the Ball was born.

In 2005, we lost access to the school gym space and all of the programs were shut down. Not wanting to lose the relationships and community impact, Amy and I, along with a group of volunteers, attempted to keep some of the programming alive at a local high school, but the cost of renting space was high. Beyond the Ball became an official non-profit capable of applying for financial assistance to run programming and employ community members.

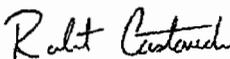
Beyond the Ball includes youth not only from Little Village, but the neighboring community of North Lawndale as well. North Lawndale has many of the same socio-economic issues as Little Village, but is almost entirely African-American. Traditionally, the two neighborhoods do not mix. But they do, successfully, in Beyond the Ball. Over one thousand youth are served each year by Beyond the Ball programming.

I enthusiastically support the SAH Dialysis Center on 26th Street. At Beyond the Ball, we see far too many family members of our youth who are at high risk for obesity, hypertension and diabetes which often results in end stage renal disease.

In working with the youth of the same communities served by Saint Anthony Hospital, we too are aware of the health issues the children of Little Village and North Lawndale face. From poor diets and lack of exercise, these children are at a high risk for childhood obesity and childhood diabetes. As role models and often care providers for the children of Little Village and North Lawndale, we appreciate our need to instill a healthy lifestyle in our youth to prevent chronic conditions as the children age.

We support Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center on 26th Street because Saint Anthony Hospital continues to provide very necessary services that our community needs. Supporting Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center is the right thing to do for our communities.

Respectfully,



Robert Castaneda  
Beyond the Ball





**universidadpopular**

*education with, by and for the people*

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Dr. Elio DeArrudah  
Board President  
Olivia Flores-Godinez  
Executive Director

January 11, 2013

Dale Galassie  
Chairman, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie,

I am the Executive Director of Universidad Popular whose mission is to reach community empowerment through participatory learning. Universidad Popular works in partnership with neighborhood residents to transform their lives and ultimately, the community. In addition to literacy classes, we offer Health Literacy Initiative (HEALIN). Our HEALIN program aims to improve residents' quality of life through nutrition, exercise, and stress reduction. We offer healthy cooking, yoga, dance, aerobics, nutrition seminars, and guitar classes, in addition to a competitive men's soccer team. We also periodically host health-related seminars on topics such as: obesity, asthma, respiratory illnesses, gardening, organic food, preventive medicine, drug abuse, alcoholism, and STIs.

At Universidad Popular, we understand that the community members of Little Village are at a higher risk for many chronic medical conditions including obesity, hypertension and diabetes which can lead to chronic kidney disease.

Saint Anthony Hospital has been a pillar of strength for the Little Village community for over 100 hundred years. Our community members take comfort in knowing that Saint Anthony Hospital provides quality health care to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay. We have strong partnership with Saint Anthony Hospital who continues to provide quality care to the residents in a safe and caring environment even during our troubled financial times.

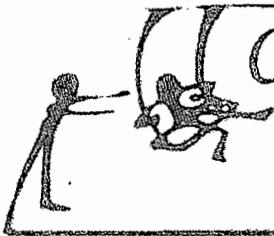
Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center within a clinic setting would be an ideal way to provide medical treatment, education and nutritional counseling in one location. By approving this project, you will provide the residents of Little Village with additional access to medical care.

I support Saint Anthony Hospital's proposed dialysis center on 26<sup>th</sup> Street because Saint Anthony Hospital does the right thing for the community.

Respectfully,

  
Olivia Flores Godinez

Executive Director of Universidad Popular



# Carole Robertson Center for Learning

Named in memory of the children killed in Birmingham - September 1963

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January 11, 2013

Chairman Dale Galassie  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

The mission of the Carole Robertson Center for Learning is dedicated to nurturing, supporting and strengthening family life through quality child, youth and family development programs. Founded in 1976 by parents and other community residents who rallied to save the local school age program when sponsorship ended, the Center has evolved into a comprehensive family development agency.

The Center cares for children from birth through five years of age, offers school and youth based programs for children and teens through age 18, and provide extensive family support. The programs developed at the Center are a direct reflection of the needs expressed by parents, school officials, leaders and the children themselves. From our three Center locations in the Little Village, North Lawndale and Near West Side communities we care for 700 children. The fabric of these three communities we serve is vastly different, but share the same disparities and struggles. The Little Village is home to the largest Mexican-American communities in the Midwest, and one of the largest in the country. Nearly 80% of residents living in the densely populated Little Village community are Latinos whom are recent immigrants and speak Spanish as their native language. The North Lawndale community consistently ranks among the highest concentration of impoverished families and incarceration, leaving 67 males to every 100 males in the community. The Near West Side has been home to the original Center location since 1976 as a reliable presence in a changing community. This community has undergone tremendous change in recent years from deterioration to growth with the expansion of the Illinois Medical District and the addition of several state and federal buildings.

Children are the future of these communities. Supporting the children and their families with an all-in-one clinic setting guarantees that patients are going to be part of a medical home that will be equipped to care for the whole person. I support the Saint Anthony Hospital clinic and proposed dialysis center.

Thank you for your consideration,

Cerathel Burnett  
Executive Director