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SFF Steans Family Foundation

January 8, 2013

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

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Chairman Galassie:

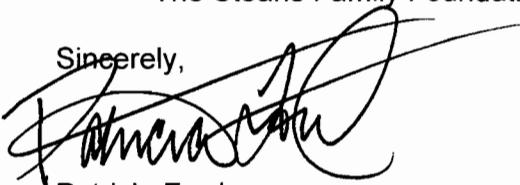
The Steans Family Foundation was started in 1986 as a sponsor to a class of 35 sixth graders through the "I Have A Dream" program. Our foundation learned from experience that a range of issues face individuals and families in struggling communities and decided on a "place-based" strategy to focus our philanthropic efforts rather than spreading our work across the entire city. After much deliberation and consultation, the North Lawndale community was selected. The relationship that the Steans Family Foundation forged with Saint Anthony Hospital was based out of overwhelming needs in the North Lawndale community. The mission of SAH and the foundation makes us a natural fit as partners in a community that deserves attention.

Throughout the years, the partnership has yielded valuable programs and initiatives in the community. In 2010, former City of Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley announced a citywide healthcare School at Work (SAW) initiative that replicates a Saint Anthony Hospital program and was launched collaboratively with Eleanor Foundation and Steans Family Foundation. The 13-hospital initiative, "Building a Career Ladder in Healthcare," is a career-development program that leverages Saint Anthony Hospital's success in advancing its entry-level hospital workers. The program provides education and support that its entry-level employees need for promotion into skilled jobs in which they can earn higher salaries and meet the hospital's workforce needs. In its first year, all 18 enrolled employees completed the 8-month basic healthcare education program and many became eligible for higher-skilled jobs at Saint Anthony. The positive work that this hospital is instilling in its employees only enriches the community it serves.

Numerous programs have been launched through collaborative efforts, such as Parents Raising Safe Kids and Mission Nutrition, run by the SAH staff in the Community Wellness Program. We know that there are many compounded risk factors for poor developmental outcomes among young children in North Lawndale as well as high rates of child and adult obesity along with the chronic diseases related to being overweight. A proactive clinic that offers primary care, dieticians, social services and dialysis will only improve the likelihood that patients are receiving an all in compassing healthcare visit.

The Steans Family Foundations supports the SAH Dialysis Center at 26th Street.

Sincerely,



Patricia Ford
Interim Director
cc: Jim Sifuentes