

SIU School of Medicine

March 7, 2013

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Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

MAR 11 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

As the director of Simmons Cancer Institute at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, I fully endorse Southern Illinois Healthcare's effort to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve patients throughout a seven county region of rural southern Illinois. For the past several years, I have held clinics for head and neck cancer patients in Herrin, Illinois and have worked with patients from some of the most impoverished counties of Illinois. Compounding this plight is that many of these areas have some of the highest incidence rates for cancer. The SIH Cancer Center answers a valid need in this region.

SIH will provide streamlined, team-based care at the SIH Cancer Center – all under one roof for patients. For the first time in southern Illinois, SIH would offer the full continuum of cancer care in a single locale. This advantage allows patients to receive the best cancer care close to home – near family and friends who provide emotional support during diagnosis and treatment.

Services at SIH will include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, a home for multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and head and neck cancers, clinical trials, support, survivorship and rehabilitation care. I am proud to call the SIH Cancer Center our colleague in cancer care. Simmons Cancer Institute has had an academic affiliation with SIH since 2010 and enjoys a close working relationship. The breadth of this partnership brings additional, much-needed resources to southern Illinois.

Many patients who will receive care at the SIH Cancer Center are elderly, low-income and uninsured. In fact, all seven of the counties in SIH's service area are federally designated as "Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Medical Care." This cancer center answers a large need in Illinois' southern-most region. I whole-heartedly endorse this effort.

Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Sincerely,



K. Thomas Robbins, MD, FRCSC, FACS
Executive Director, Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU
Professor, Division of Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery
Simmons Cancer Institute Endowed Chair of Excellence in Oncology

Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU

Southern Illinois University School of Medicine | PO Box 19677 | Springfield, Illinois 62794-9677
(217) 545-6000 | Fax: (217) 545-7021 | www.siumed.edu

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this letter as my wholehearted endorsement—without reservation—for Southern Illinois Healthcare's commitment to build and operate a freestanding cancer center in the heart of southern Illinois.

For cancer patients in this region, the road to recovery is often the road itself. Patients often need to make frequent trips to a major metropolitan area outside Illinois. Doctors estimate that a cancer patient could log up to 100 trips to and from their appointments, infusions and hospitalizations in the first year of care alone. Not only is this road to recovery expensive, it is exhaustive mentally, physically and emotionally for the patient, their friends and families.

Not so the case anymore. With SIH's vision, cancer patients from throughout a seven county area of rural southern Illinois can receive streamlined care under one roof, centrally located along the Route 13 corridor. Medical oncology, radiation oncology, imaging, testing, infusion services, support, rehabilitation and recovery—just to name a few—will not be separated by miles, but by a few steps.

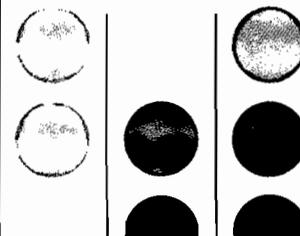
Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. In fact, the federal government designates each of the seven counties in SIH's service area as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Furthermore, many of these same counties have the highest cancer incident rates in the state.

SIH's mission to bring doctors, surgeons, nurses, radiologists and support staff together under one roof ensures these patients will get the right care at the right time in the right setting.

Respectfully,

J. Shah
Jignesh Shah, MD

3309 LOGAN DRIVE
HERRIN, IL 62948
618.993.0702 T
618.993.0752 F
SIMSDOCS.ORG/SHAH



BRIAN GEORGE McELHENY, M. D.

Oldenhage-Hughes Medical Building
207 West Jackson Street
Carbondale, Illinois 62901
(618) 457-6787

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
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Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SSIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am taking this opportunity to voice my enthusiastic endorsement of Southern Illinois Healthcare's effort to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve patients throughout a seven county region of rural southern Illinois. Thousands of these patients live in the most impoverished counties of Illinois. Many of these counties have the additional misfortune of being among those with the highest cancer incidence rates in the state.

Instead of enduring long, tedious and expensive travel outside of Illinois, weary patients along with their family and friends will benefit from the streamlined, team-based care the SIH Cancer Center will now be able to provide under one roof. For the first time in our region, SIH would offer the full continuum of cancer care in a single locale. These vital services include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, a home for multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and head and neck cancers, clinical trials, support, survivorship and rehabilitation care. The SIH Cancer Center also enjoys an academic affiliation with the Simmons Cancer Institute at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. The breadth of this partnership brings additional, much-needed resources to southern Illinois.

Furthermore, many of the patients who will ultimately receive care at the SIH Cancer Center are among our states most vulnerable—elderly, low-income and uninsured. In fact, all seven of the counties in SIH's service area are federally designated as "Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Medical Care."

I wholeheartedly support SIH's mission, values and commitment to bring this caliber of cancer care to southern Illinois. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Respectfully,



Brian G. McElheny, MD/trn



CARTERVILLE, ILLINOIS 62918
TELEPHONE: (618) 985-8311
FAX: (618) 985-8315
www.egyptianaaa.org
egyptianaaa@mediacombb.net

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Ms. Courtney R. Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this letter as our support for Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) proposal to build and operate a freestanding cancer center in Southern Illinois. For cancer patients in this region, patients often need to make frequent trips to a major metropolitan area outside Illinois. Not only is this expensive, it is exhaustive mentally, physically and emotionally for the patient, their friends and families.

With the proposal by SIH, cancer patients from throughout a seven county area of rural Southern Illinois can receive streamlined care under one roof, centrally located along the busy Illinois Route 13 corridor.

Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. The federal government designates each of the seven counties in the service area of SIH as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Many of these same counties have the highest cancer incident rates in the state.

We support the mission of SIH to bring doctors, surgeons, nurses, radiologists and support staff together under one roof ensures these patients will get the right care at the right time in the right setting.

Respectfully,

John M. Smith
Executive Director

Copies: file via mail folder
File: (F):\ Letters of Support \ SIH Cancer Center - 0313





Women for Health and Wellness, Inc.

March 6, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Women for Health and Wellness, Inc., please accept this letter as our wholehearted endorsement of Southern Illinois Healthcare's commitment to build and operate a freestanding cancer center in southern Illinois.

Southern Illinois cancer patients face two roads to recovery. One is the actual road to a metropolitan area to get treatment - at least two hours minimum way - and then there is the medical road to recovery. A cancer patient could log up to 100 trips to and from their appointments, infusions and hospitalizations in the first year of care alone. This road to recovery expensive and exhaustiing mentally, physically and emotionally for the patient, their friends and families.

This needn't be the case. With SIH's vision, cancer patients from throughout a seven county area of rural southern Illinois can receive streamlined care under one roof, centrally located along the Route 13 corridor. Medical oncology, radiation oncology, imaging, testing, infusion services, support, rehabilitation and recovery, just to name a few, will not be separated by miles, but by a few steps.

Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. The federal government has named each of the seven counties in SIH's service area as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Many of these same counties have the highest cancer incident rates in the state.

SIH's mission to bring doctors, surgeons, nurses, radiologists and support staff together under one roof ensures these patients will get the right care at the right time in the right setting.

Sincerely,

Fran Becque, Ph.D., Executive Director

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Janice Payne

Jo Poshard

Janet Schuyler

Dixie Travelstead

Cathy A. Wood

Fran Becque, Ph.D.

Executive Director

c/o John A. Logan College
700 Logan College Road
Cartersville, IL 62918
1-800-416-1745
or 618-985-9210
Fax: 618-985-9019
www.w4hw.org
womenforhealthandwellness@
gmail.com

March 5, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Institute for Health Research and Policy (MC 275)
5th Floor , West Research Office Building
1747 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Southern Illinois Healthcare's plan to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve a seven county region of rural southern Illinois. Thousands of patients live in these underserved counties. Many of these counties also have some of the highest cancer incidence and mortality rates in the state. Yet, lacking sufficient access to care, many patients in the region must travel hours from home—often out of state—for treatment. Travel time and expenses are significant barriers to adequate healthcare in many rural areas of Illinois, particularly in the southern-most parts of the state.

With the proposed cancer center, the region's cancer patients, their families, and their friends will also benefit from the streamlined, team-based care the SIH Cancer Center will be able to provide under one roof. For the first time in the region, SIH would offer the full continuum of cancer care in a single locale. These vital services include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, a home for multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, and head and neck cancers, clinical trials, support, survivorship and rehabilitation care. The SIH Cancer Center also enjoys an academic affiliation with the Simmons Cancer Institute at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. The breadth of this partnership brings additional, much-needed resources to southern Illinois.

As a private citizen, a cancer-control researcher, and also as Chair of the Illinois Cancer Partnership, I wholeheartedly support SIH's mission, values and commitment to bring this caliber of cancer care to southern Illinois. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Respectfully,



Charles W. LeHew, PhD

March 1, 2013

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I'm writing this letter to express my support for the SIH Cancer Center building proposal in southern Illinois.

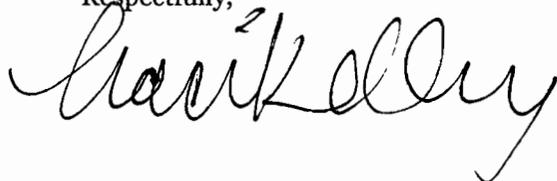
No matter where you live, the mention of the word "cancer" strikes fear. To begin with, a fear of the rigorous road someone is about to face. And for many, fear of the road itself.

If you are from southern Illinois, facing cancer has often meant frequent trips to a major metropolitan area, usually outside of our state's borders. Not only do these patients battle the disease itself, they also cope with the costs and struggles associated with simply getting the care, which can include high fuel rates, time away from work, hotel stays and meals. The love and support they so desperately need could be two hours away. For some, the means to get the care are too great.

Southern Illinois Healthcare has committed to lead the cancer fight for the people of this region. They've already shown their resolve by bringing more cancer specialists here and by building accredited programs, such as The Breast Center, where the goal is detection to diagnosis in 24 hours. Comprehensive medical treatment for cancer close to home makes huge differences in the lives of those suffering from this relentless disease.

Their American dream is living in southern Illinois. Your decision will allow this region's cancer patients to fight the disease where they find strength and hope—at home.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Travis Avery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

March 8, 2013

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
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Dear Ms Avery,

I am writing to express my support for the SIH Cancer Center proposal.

As a cancer survivor who received all her treatment at SIH facilities, I can attest to the need for a local center.

Transportation and lodging costs of out of town treatment would have been devastating.

The ability to go straight home to my own bed when I was sick after a treatment was invaluable. And I am sure that ability contributed to my ability to get well sooner.

The Breast Center has continued to be a great support during the years post diagnosis. To be able to have the mammogram and have almost immediate results from the specialists they have assembled there invaluable.

Please make the right decision and support this region's cancer patients.

Respectfully,

Patricia M. Bischoff

March 1, 2013

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If you are from southern Illinois, facing cancer has often meant frequent trips to a major metropolitan area, usually outside of our state's borders. Not only do these patients battle the disease itself, they also cope with the costs and struggles associated with simply getting the care, which can include high fuel rates, time away from work, hotel stays and meals. The love and support they so desperately need could be two hours away. For some, the means to get the care are too great.

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Respectfully,

Mrs Dorothy Lowry

March 1, 2013

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

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Respectfully,

Norma Kluge

Almost weekly we hear of another friend or acquaintance, young and old, with cancer diagnosis. We could use this in the area.

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Respectfully,

M. Jane Kruse

I'm a 4 year breast cancer survivor and a patient from C'dale Breast Center and S I Healthcare. Dr. Ryan was phenomenal & Dr. Rao (oncologist) and Dr. Kao (radiologist) are superb. We need your support for S I H |

Cancer Center!!

March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

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Respectfully,

L. Kathleen DuVall Woodcock
1004 So. 10th St.
Herrin, IL 62948

March 1, 2013

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

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Respectfully,

Joann Ferris - St. Pierre

March 1, 2013

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Respectfully,

I had breast cancer 3 years ago and they were good to catch it at early stage.

Mrs. Christine Duden

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Ms. Courtney R. Avery

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Respectfully

Lucille Burrow



March 8, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
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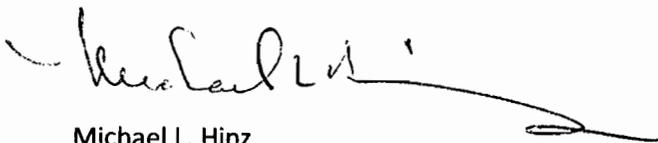
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Respectfully,



Michael L. Hinz
7 Kings Court Road
Goreville, IL 62939
618-995-1426

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March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

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