

## Constantino, Mike

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**From:** Avery, Courtney  
**Sent:** Monday, March 18, 2013 11:50 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Support for Southern Illinois Healthcare  
**Attachments:** SIH letter of support.docx

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**From:** rchamilton91@frontier.com [mailto:rchamilton91@frontier.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 17, 2013 6:52 PM  
**To:** Avery, Courtney  
**Cc:** Woody.Thorne@sih.net; rchamilton91@frontier.com  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Southern Illinois Healthcare

March 17, 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:

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. Your decision will allow this region's cancer patients to fight the disease where they find strength and hope—at home with familiar surroundings and abundant love of family and friends. Thank you for your consideration of this vital project.

Respectfully,

Christy Hamilton, LCPC  
Herrin, Illinois