



LA RABIDA
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Raising Possibilities for a Lifetime

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

February 11, 2016

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

Re: Support for the University of Chicago Medical Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

At La Rabida Children's Hospital, we believe when illness strikes one individual, it touches an entire family. For a community to be healthy, there must be readily accessible healthcare for all who live there, and a network of highly connected providers working together to provide the care our community needs. That is why we are pleased to support UChicago Medicine's Get CARE Plan.

We deeply value the connected network of providers with whom we work. When we transfer our pediatric patients to UChicago Medicine, as we often do when their conditions become more acute, and sometimes life-threatening, we do so knowing our patients are in the very best hands. We appreciate UChicago Medicine's support and collaboration in caring for these most vulnerable children. We want to insure that as capacity constraints limit bed availability at UChicago Medicine, that everyone in our community has access to this high quality, highly specialized care from UChicago Medicine.

La Rabida Children's Hospital, UChicago Medicine and other South Side community hospitals work together to provide healthcare to our community. UChicago Medicine's inability to accept new patients due to capacity constraints has significant impact in the entire South Side hospital system. Patients are made to wait at other hospitals, sometimes for days, until a bed opens up and they are unable to access the care they deserve.

The Get CARE plan will help alleviate these restrictions by adding 188 new hospital beds, a state-of-the-art adult emergency department, a dedicated cancer hospital, and expanded access to specialty care and Level 1 adult trauma services.

La Rabida Children's Hospital asks you to support South Side community hospitals and pass the Get CARE plan in its entirety.

Sincerely,

Brenda J. Wolf
President & CEO

UCMC Board of Review File No: 16-008
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