

16-008



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL
MAYOR

February 25, 2016

RECEIVED

MAR 10 2016

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Dear Ms. Avery:

We have a shared responsibility as a community to come together to stop gun violence in our city. Everyone has an important role to play – from the police and our justice system to parents, educators, and community leaders – we must work together to combat our most urgent problem as a city. While we hope we will not need trauma services, when tragedy strikes, we need a strong dedicated healthcare network that is ready and able to help victims of trauma.

I have heard directly from the community and I join them in applauding UChicago Medicine's Get CARE plan to establish Level I adult trauma services on their Hyde Park campus. With the pediatric trauma program and the Burn and Complex Wound Center already in place, UChicago Medicine will offer comprehensive trauma services in one location, on the South Side.

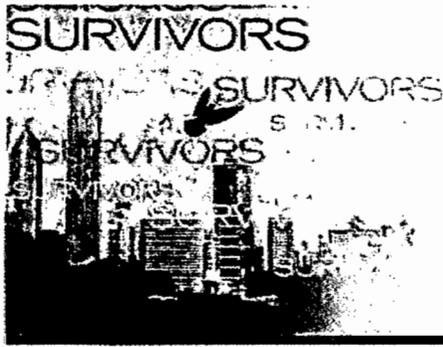
While Level I adult trauma services are essential for our community, the lives of South Side residents are much more complex and demand additional services. UChicago Medicine's Get CARE plan will meet the South Side's unique health care needs with increased bed capacity, a new state-of-the-art emergency department and expanded access to specialty care such as cancer and cardiovascular care.

Access to complex healthcare is a human right that cannot be denied. It will strengthen and revitalize our community. I urge you to stand with the South Side and approve the fully integrated Get CARE plan.

Sincerely,

Mayor

#16-008



Chicago's Citizens for Change
312.468.9222
info@chicago-survivors.org
chicagosurvivors.org
chicagocitizensforchange.org

Helping families live beyond violent loss

4 March 2016

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

Re: Support for University of Chicago Medical Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

As Executive Director of Chicago Survivors, I am writing in strong support of the University of Chicago Medicine's plan to increase access to emergency, specialty and trauma care for patients on the South Side of Chicago.

Chicago Survivors provides crisis intervention, supportive counseling and case management services to surviving family members throughout Chicago. We are dispatched through the Chicago Police Department, and currently 52% of the time we are being directed to hospitals or trauma centers across the city to begin providing our outreach and care. During the past six years we have had ample time to see how many times families from the South Side are redirected after police have sent them to one trauma center because area trauma centers are on by-pass and the ambulance has been sent to another. It is confusing for traumatized families and it certainly provides evidence to the public that additional trauma care would be beneficial for the South Side.

Prior to my position with Chicago Survivors I pastored a church in Hyde Park for thirty years. The University of Chicago Medicine is an incredible resource that ought to be available to the local community when they need trauma care. People come to it from around the state, across the country and around the world. The communities that surround the University should have access to such quality urgent care.

I urge you to approve this bold plan to increase access to the care South Side patients deserve, and allow UChicago Medicine to provide the same access to care that other local academic medical centers provide their communities.

Sincerely,

Susan B.W. Johnson
Executive Director
Chicago Survivors

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University Church

www.universitychurchchicago.org

March 3, 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 University Church, we believe that the transformative power of God's love has called us individually and collectively to act for justice and to respect all creation. People of all faiths and backgrounds must share collectively in the work and responsibility to advocate for the needs of our community. We see this action reflected in UChicago's Medicine's Get CARE plan, which will play a vital role in the future of our community.

We are blessed to have UChicago Medicine right here in our own backyard, but their current limits have been tested. For 310 days last year, UChicago Medicine reached an occupancy rate of 90 percent, meaning the hospital beds were almost entirely full. What good is it to have a world-class hospital in our neighborhood if patients cannot get access to the care they need? We must make Get CARE a reality to increase the patient capacity and give South Siders the access to the care when they need it, where they need it.

Quality healthcare is not an option. It's not frivolous or a luxury. Quality healthcare is a fundamental human right that cannot be denied.

We are calling on you to approve the Get CARE plan to allow UChicago Medicine to address the complex healthcare needs for our South Side community.

Sincerely,

Rev. Julian DeShazier
Senior Pastor