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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

February 19, 2016

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



Re: Support for the University of Chicago Medical Center

Dear Courtney:

At the Illinois African American Coalition for Prevention (ILAACP), we work tirelessly toward realizing our vision of safe, healthy and resilient African American children, families, and communities. We are writing to support UChicago Medicine's Get CARE plan because it will make an invaluable contribution to the health and wellbeing of Chicago's South Side.

South Side children and families deserve equal access to healthcare. Yet we see every day that they face barriers to the health services that are available in other communities.

Nearly half of Chicago trauma cases take place on the South Side, but there is no adult Level 1 trauma center to serve us. Additionally, patients on the south side lack access to the inpatient specialty care they need, in part due to hospitals on the South Side closing or reducing services over many years.

South Siders deserve access to the complex care provided by UChicago Medicine. They need every element of the Get CARE plan: not just the Level 1 trauma center, but an expanded cancer hospital and new emergency room as well.

Communities are stronger when each of their citizens have access to the services and care that they need. A vote to approve UChicago Medicine's Get CARE is a vote for a stronger, healthier South Side.

Sincerely,

Malik S. Nevels, J.D.  
Executive Director

Illinois African American Coalition for Prevention

850 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 340, Chicago, IL 60607  
P: 312.850.4444 • F: 312.850.4446  
ilaacpinfo@ilaacp.org  
www.ilaacp.org

UCMC Board of Review  
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