

SHEA, PAIGE & ROGAL, INC.  
547 S. LAGRANGE ROAD  
LAGRANGE, ILLINOIS 60525  
(708) 482-4820

FAX (708) 482-1091

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE  
421 WEST EDWARDS  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704  
(217) 523-2550  
FAX (217) 523-2560

June 8, 2009

Mr. Michael Constantino  
Chief Program Review Section  
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RECEIVED**

JUN 09 2009

HEALTH FACILITIES  
PLANNING BOARD

Re: South Loop Wellness and Endoscopy Center  
Project No: 08-078

Dear Mike:

During initial consideration of this project Dr. Chua, applicant's owner, stated that he currently provided significant amounts of charity care and would do so at the proposed surgery center. The Board asked him to document this.

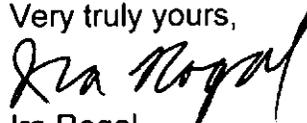
Enclosed is a draft charity care policy as well as letters from 20 referring physicians documenting Dr. Chua's willingness to take their patients at reduced rates or without charge. Each letter supports the application.

The Board also requested that Dr. Chua discuss collaboration with other hospitals. Dr. Chua met with administrators from Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and Mercy Medical Center. He also spoke with Professor Irving Waxman, Director of the Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics at the University of Chicago.

A letter from Dr. Waxman supporting the project and stating an interest in establishing a clinic collaboration is enclosed. It is our understanding that Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center is opposed to the project. Mercy is still considering the project.

If you have any questions please contact Billie Paige or myself.

Very truly yours,

  
Ira Rogal

IR:khl  
Enc.

**OVERNIGHT DELIVERY**



DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

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*Section of Gastroenterology*  
*The Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics*  
*(CERT)*

5758 S. Maryland Avenue, MC 9028  
Chicago, IL 60637-1470  
Phone 773-702-1459; Fax 773-834-8891

**Irving Waxman, M.D.**  
**Professor of Medicine, Surgery and Director of**  
**The Center for Endoscopic Research and**  
**Therapeutics (CERT)**

April 1, 2009

To: The Illinois State Planning Board

RE: Dr. David Chua AEC

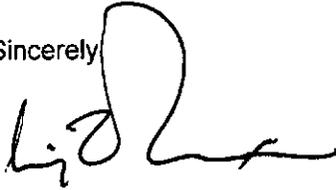
Dear Members of the Board:

I have known Dr. David Chua for many years. He is a staunch advocate for providing the best quality care to all of his patients. His practice provides the most up to date care in digestive diseases including advanced endoscopic procedures. His efforts are rewarded with long term patient loyalty, a successful practice and a great reputation.

His proposed South Loop ambulatory endoscopy center will offer endoscopic ultrasound and video capsule small bowel endoscopy. Both procedures represent major advances and breakthrough techniques in the field of gastroenterology. As planned, this center will serve as an important resource not only to Dr. Chua's but also to patients from ASTCs and hospitals in the city that do not offer these procedures.

We are very interested in the opportunity to establish a clinical collaboration with Dr. Chua toward helping him succeed in his vision for the Center. We urge you to approve this project and are pleased to endorse his proposed Center without reservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Waxman', written in a cursive style.

Irving Waxman, M.D.  
Professor of Medicine, Surgery and  
Director of The Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics

**Fullerton & Artesian Medical Office  
Jader Reis M.D  
2424 W. Fullerton  
Chicago, IL. 60647**

To: Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board members;

Dr. David Chua has provided excellent gastrointestinal care of my patients for many years. His ability to open an endoscopy center will allow him to provide a resource for many patients that have not been able to receive this level of care elsewhere.

In addition to providing quality medical care, Dr. Chua holds clinic and endoscopy hours in the evenings and on weekends also for patients to be able to access care when it is more convenient for them. He also has reduced rates for indigent patients and will do charity care as necessary for patients with no means to pay.

Dr. Chua is a leader in his field in this area, as he is continually learning and providing new treatments for his patients. These services are often only available at the university setting. The proposed endoscopy center will allow patients to access this level of care at the community level in a more affordable setting.

It is for these reasons that I am supporting Dr. Chua in his application to establish an endoscopy center.

Sincerely,



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Jader Reis M.D

Family Care Associates Ltd.  
Dr. Carlos Gomez Dr. Pedro Reyes  
5308 W Belmont  
Chicago, IL 60641  
773-205-8200

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April 13, 2009

Attention: Illinois State Planning Board

Dear: Madame Chairman and Board Members:

I have known David Chua M.D. for more than ten years. Dr. Chua was my professor in gastroenterologist rotation during my residency years.

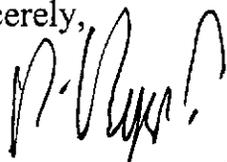
Dr. Chua is very knowledgeable, he is very compassionate, and he has great bedside manners with his patients.

Dr. Chua has become my main referring gastroenterologist, he receives every scope of patients including Public Aid, HMO, Commercial, and PPO etc.

Dr. Chua is also one of the physicians that I rely on when I refer him patients with no insurance and patients under charity. With this being said I recommend Dr. Chua with no hesitation to be part of your association or any other association.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 773-205-8200. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

  
Pedro Reyes MD

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center  
2233 West Division Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60622  
312.770.2000



May 7, 2009  
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of Dr. David Chua and his recent CON application for a much needed endoscopy center.

I met Dr. Chua several years ago while working as a hospitalist at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Health Center. I was immediately impressed by Dr. Chua's combination of clinical and technical skills, compassion, and seemingly endless energy. He is an excellent physician who is respected and well liked by his colleagues, patients, and the medical staff.

The patient base at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center reflects the diversity of the City of Chicago. For Dr. Chua this diversity is not an obstacle, but rather an opportunity to serve his community. He speaks Chinese, Tagalog, and Spanish and exhibits outstanding cultural sensitivity. His ethical character is evidenced by his concern for the wellbeing of all patients. In fact, I got to know Dr. Chua well because my fellow hospitalists and I were largely responsible for the care of uninsured patients. Dr. Chua was the *only* gastroenterologist who cared for our patients regardless of their insurance type or ability to pay. Nevertheless, *all* Dr. Chua's patients receive the same high quality of care and the respect and dignity they deserve. I have often overheard Dr. Chua tell residents during teaching rounds to "treat each patient as if he or she is a member of your own family." This is especially impressive considering that Dr. Chua has been consistently meeting the needs of underserved patients in Chicago for many years, not just since the economic decline of the last 18 months.

At this time, the Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center does not offer comprehensive gastroenterology care which should include endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) procedures and capsule endoscopies of the small bowel. Currently, patients needing these services are referred to a tertiary medical care center. While Dr. Chua personally takes the time to ensure that patients are seen in a timely manner, there is always some delay inherent to the referral process. Also, tertiary care centers accept a limited number of health

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center  
2233 West Division Street

Chicago, Illinois 60622

312.770.2000



insurance policies and many patients do not get the care they need, even if they are insured.

Therefore, I kindly urge your consideration of Dr. Chua's CON application and approval of his endoscopy center. If approved, Dr. Chua will be able to provide outstanding comprehensive gastroenterology care currently not available or accessible to all patients in the community.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria S. Hernandez, M.D.".

Maria S. Hernandez, M.D.  
Internal Medicine and Pediatrics  
Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center  
2233 W. Division  
Chicago, IL 60622  
(312) 770-2000

Niluardo Cay, M.D.  
1431 N. Western Avenue, Suite 209  
Chicago, IL 60622

May 11, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

This letter is to support Dr. David Chua in his application to establish an endoscopy center. Dr. Chua has been a colleague of mine for many years and cares for all my patients that are in need of a gastroenterologist's care.

This center that Dr. Chua is proposing is very important for several reasons. First, this center will be equipped to provide some of the recent advances in gastroenterology that are not available at the community hospitals. The availability of such treatments locally for patients makes it more accessible for patients to receive the treatments they need. In addition, it is difficult for patients to financially afford to go to the hospital. Not only will care in an endoscopy center be more affordable for patients, but Dr. Chua will also take into consideration the patient's financial situation and accept reduced rate or charity patients as he has done for many years

It is for these reasons that I am recommending Dr. Chua's endoscopy center proposal be approved.

Sincerely,

  
Niluardo Cay, M.D.

OLGA L. SAAVEDRA M.D. SC  
1044 N. MOZART SUITE 503  
CHICAGO IL, 60622  
773-772-9607

March 26, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Re: Letter of Support

Dear Madame Chairman and Board Members:

I'm a family practitioner out of the Humboldt Park area serving the under privileged and uninsured community. Dr. David Chua has been taking care of my patients for many years regardless of their insurance state, even charity cases. Expressing the up most care, techniques and treatment plan to all my patients. I highly recommend and support his effort in his new endeavors.

Any further questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



Olga L Saavedra M.D.

Olga L. Saavedra M.D. & C.  
Family Practice  
1044 N. Mozart Ste. #503  
Chicago, IL 60622  
(773) 772-9607

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center  
2233 West Division Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60622  
312.770.2000



May 7, 2009  
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:  
It is an honor for me to write this letter in support of Dr. David Chua's proposed endoscopy center.

I am currently a first year resident at the Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center Family Practice Residency Program. I consider myself lucky to have had the opportunity to do a gastroenterology rotation with Dr. Chua early in my residency. I have been able to apply his teachings on a daily basis in the wards and in the clinic and I feel that because of him, I have become a more competent and more compassionate physician.

Dr. Chua is one of the hardest working physicians I have encountered but even with such a busy schedule, he never compromises patient care. He is an excellent physician who is an integral part of the residency program and because of his hard work and dedication to the residents, he has received several teaching awards over the years.

Dr. Chua currently sees the majority of our patients admitted to the resident's teaching service and we also refer most of our patients from the clinic to him. Even though most of our patients have limited or no insurance he never refuses to see anyone. Dr. Chua always provides the best care possible for all our patients.

I fully support Dr. Chua's proposed endoscopy center and sincerely hope it is approved by the Planning Board. If approved, our patients will have access to additional medical services that they need but are currently not available at this hospital.

Thank you very much,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lenus Damasar".

Lenus Damasar, M.D.  
PGY-1  
Family Practice Residency Program  
Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center

Emmanuel L. Alzona M.D.  
Internal Medicine  
1431 N. Claremont Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60622  
Tel. 773-852-3085  
Fax 847-674-6883

May 16, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

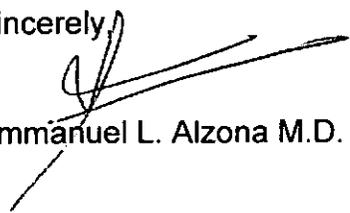
Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members,

I am fully supporting Dr. David Chua's application for an endoscopy center. Throughout the years of his practice at St. Mary Hospital, he has been an important source for gastrointestinal care for all my patients as well as my family. In addition, he is able to provide patients with the latest treatment and procedures, some of which are not even available at our hospital.

Dr. Chua always accepts any patients regardless of their ability to pay or not. This proposed center will allow patients to receive services that they are unable to receive otherwise due to their financial situation. It is Dr. Chua's practice for everyone to receive excellent care with the latest treatments available.

Please contact me if I can provide any additional information to support this application of Dr. Chua.

Sincerely,



Emmanuel L. Alzona M.D.



**VICENTE E. CARDENAS, MD**

FAMILY PRACTICE  
2032 West Cermak Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60608  
Tel. 773.247.8855

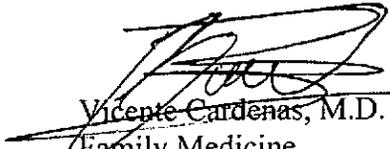
May 15, 2009  
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of Dr. David Chua. I have known Dr. Chua professionally for many years and I refer many of my patients to him, as well as members of my family. I respect his clinical skills, his professional commitment, and his pleasant demeanor. Often I see patients with no insurance or ability to pay. I know Dr. Chua will treat these patients with the care and dignity they deserve upon referral.

I wholeheartedly support Dr. Chua's plans to open a new endoscopy center. The services he provides are in demand in the community, but not widely available in most community hospitals. This includes Saints Mary and Elizabeth. Dr. Chua's plan to open a new center would increase both quality of care and access for many patients. I am entirely confident that Dr. Chua will continue to emphasize the importance of a practice that is community oriented, ethical, and technically advanced. A new center would simply allow Dr. Chua to provide these services on a larger scale and meet the needs of even more of the people of Chicago. I am excited about the possibility of continuing to refer patients to Dr. Chua, including members of my own family.

Sincerely,

  
Vicente Cardenas, M.D.  
Family Medicine

Christopher M. Guerrero, M.D., FAAFP  
1431 N. Western Avenue Suite 302  
Chicago, Illinois 60622  
Tel. No. 773-772-7922  
Fax No. 773-772-7982

May 15, 2009

Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

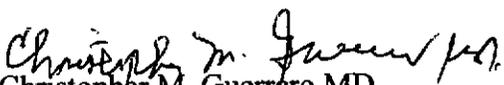
Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members,

I am a staff physician at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and have known Dr. David Chua for many years . He is well respected by the medical staff and his patients. In fact, many staff physicians including myself are Dr. Chua's patients. Dr. Chua always provides the best possible care to all his patients . I therefore fully support his proposal for a new endoscopy center.

If this center is approved, Dr. Chua will also be able to provide the most advanced care in the field of gastroenterology. Some procedures including endoscopic ultrasound are currently only offered in large university medical centers. Unfortunately , not all patients have equal access to medical care. The endoscopy center would help alleviate some of the difficulties associated with providing high quality care to uninsured or underinsured patients.

It is therefore, with much enthusiasm that I support Dr. Chua's vision for a new endoscopy center and hope that the Planning Board seriously consider his application for approval.

Sincerely,

  
Christopher M. Guerrero, MD  
Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center

**LOGAN SQUARE FAMILY HEALTH CENTER**  
**Salvador R. Gutierrez III, M.D.**

2655 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL. 60647

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Phone (773) 489-0133  
Fax (773)862-6380

May 28, 2009

Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

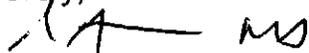
Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

I am writing this letter in full support of Dr. Chua's proposal for a new ambulatory endoscopic center in the South Loop area. I have known Dr. Chua for many years. I met him while I was still a resident physician and he has always strived to provide the best care possible to all his patients. Because of his dedication to patients and his great reputation, I have continued to refer my patients to Dr. Chua.

While Dr. Chua provides the highest quality of care, Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center does not currently offer some of the latest procedures in Gastroenterology. Not only will Dr. Chua's endoscopic center provide the best and most advanced care, but Dr. Chua will continue to make these services financially accessible to all patients in the community even those who are uninsured.

I strongly support Dr. Chua in his endeavor and urge your approval of his proposal.

Sincerely,



Salvador R. Gutierrez, III, MD  
Family Medicine



**MANUEL FRANCO, M.D.**  
*Family Medicine*

1431 N. Western Ave., Suite 508  
Chicago, IL 60622  
Telephone: (773) 489-7648  
Fax: (773) 489-2078

MARCH 18, 2009

RE: DAVID CHUA MD  
GASTROENTEROLOGIST

TO: ILLINOIS STATE PLANNING BOARD

DEAR MADAM CHAIRPERSON AND BOARD MEMBERS

MY NAME IS MANUEL FRANCO AND I AM A BOARD CERTIFIED FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN LICENSED IN ILLINOIS.  
I KNOW DR. CHUA FOR 13 YEARS SINCE I WAS A RESIDENT AT ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL; FROM THE BEGGINING OF MY PRACTICE DR. CHUA AND I HAVE BEEN INTERACTING PRACTICALLY ON A DAILY BASIS. I REFERRED MOST OF MY PATIENTS TO HIM WHEN THEY NEED A GASTROENTEROLY CONSULTANT. MOST OF MY PATIENTS ARE LOW INCOME-MEDICAID PATIENTS AND DR. CHUA TAKES CARE OF THEM PROVIDING THE STANDARD OF CARE.  
DURING THE MANY YEARS SEEING PATIENTS IN THE HOSPITAL, SOMETIMES PATIENTS ARE UNINSURED OR VERY POOR AND WE NEED TO PROVIDE CHARITABLE CARE.  
DR. CHUA HAS TAKEN CARE OF CHARITABLE CASES OF SOME OF MY PATIENTS WHEN THE NEED ARISES; AND HE DOES IT WITH THE SAME DEDICATION AND PROFESSIONALISM AS WITH ANY OTHER INSURED PATIENT; FOR HIM IT DOES NOT MAKE A DIFFERENCE BECAUSE HE IS A VERY COMPASSIONATE AND KIND PHYSICIAN; DR. CHUA IS VERY RESPONSIBLE, RELIABLE PHYSICIAN AND I HAVE WITNESSED FOR MANY YEARS THE CONSTANCY IN THE FULLFILLMENT OF HIS DUTIES AS A PHYSICIAN. I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT HIS MAIN GOAL IS TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY CARE TO HIS PATIENTS. I HAVE COMPLETE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN HIS CLINICAL CRITERIA. HE WISHES TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOSCOPY CENTER (SOUTH LOOP ENDOSCOPY CENTER) WHERE HE WILL PROVIDE SPECIAL PROCEDURES LIKE ENDOSCOPY ULTRASOUND AND STANDARD GASTROENTEROLOGY PROCEDURES.  
KNOWING DR. CHUA FOR 13 YEARS I CAN STATE WITH CONFIDENCE THAT HE WILL PLACE HIS CENTER AT THE SERVICE OF EVERYBODY, MAKING IT VERY ACCESSIBLE TO THE DIVERSE POPULATION OF CHICAGO.  
PLEASE CONSIDER STRONGLY THE PETITION OF DR. CHUA REGARDING THE OPENING OF THIS CLINIC; IT WILL BE VERY USEFULL FOR OUR PATIENTS.

SINCERELY YOURS

  
-----  
MANUEL A. FRANCO MD

**LAKEVIEW MEDICAL CENTER & CONSULTANTS, LTD.**  
3046 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60657  
(773) 528-5851

March 14, 2009

TO: ILLINOIS STATE PLANNING BOARD  
RE: David C. Chua, M.D.  
Gastroenterology/Hepatology

Dear Madam Chairman and Board Members,

My name is Dr. Edgar A. Borda (Internal Medicine). I have been in solo-private practice for 25 years in Chicago. I want to tell you about Dr. David Chua's ability, expertise and experience as a practitioner. I have known him for over two decades now. He is a hard working, compassionate, quintessential doctor that I have ever known. In spite of his very busy practice, he sees all patients regardless of whether they have insurance coverage or not. I personally know that because, I send all my G.I. problem patients to him whether they could afford to pay in cash or not. Without any complain or hesitation, as far as I know, he takes all of them with good quality, caring attention and management of all cases. I know that because, the patients themselves would tell me about it.

Even those patients that would come to me, who had been seen by another gastroenterologist, but had not been able to help solve the patients problems, I would send those difficult, complicated cases to Dr. Chua. Without hesitation, he would take them, diagnose them all properly using his expertise and available modern advance procedures for which he perform so well, without a flaw.

For over 20 years now, I have only one Gastroenterologist that I consult. That is Dr. David Chua. He is a charitable man with a big heart. Humanity needs more of this kind of person in the medical field which is now bereft of morally competent quality physicians as most of them leave the State to another, where TORT REFORM is in place. Or some would prematurely retire due to the sky-rocketing, unaffordable Malpractice Insurance premiums in Illinois. Or some would seek employment elsewhere. That is why Illinois has a critical shortage of Doctors at the present and will get worst by the year 2020. The American Medical Association has predicted that the United States will have 200,000 doctor shortages by 2020!

I will not hesitate to recommend Dr. David Chua's plan to open up a clinic in the South Loop of Chicago. His practice and morals are beyond reproach.

Respectfully yours,



Edgar A. Borda, M.D.

Medical Director, LakeView Medical Center & Conslts,Ltd  
Board of Trustee, Chicago Medical Society  
Board of Trustee, Illinois State Medical Society  
American Medical Association, AOMSS Delegate  
Past President, Philippine Medical Association in Chicago  
Past President, Far Eastern University DNR Medical School Association in Northern  
Illinois  
Board of Director, Far Eastern University DNR National Foundation, USA



**JANNETH M. JARAMILLO, M.D.**

*Diplomate of the American Academy  
of Family Practice*

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2610 W. Division  
Chicago, IL 60622  
Telephone: (773) 227-3232  
Fax: (773) 227-2898

March 19, 2009

## ILLINOIS STATE PLANNING BOARD

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

I am more than glad to be able to write this letter on behalf of Dr. Chua. I have known him for years. He has been a resource for all my patients in digestive diseases.

I heard of Dr. Chua's proposed GI center recently. I sincerely hope he will be successful in his application process. This center will be so important to our indigent patients who have no money to pay and those who can not afford the hospital. They too deserve good quality care.

Somehow, Dr. Chua has unlimited energy, resources and most of all the good heart to help these charity patients with consultations and endoscopic procedures. Dr. Chua is a trusted and excellent physician.

In further information needed, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Janneth Jaramillo, MD

LINA L. AQUINO, M.D.

INTERNAL MEDICINE - FAMILY PRACTICE

2222 W. DIVISION STREET  
SUITE 205  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60622

5524 N. BROADWAY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60640

March 18, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members,

I have known Dr. Chua for approximately 20 years. From the beginning he has treated insured and charity patients alike, kindly and with great expertise.

His opening of a GI center South Loop Endoscopy Center gives the potential patients an accessible place to get quality GI care whether they are insured or charity patients.

Hoping you will give the matter kind consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Lina L. Aquino, M.D.

Syeda H. Zahedi, M.D., S.C.  
1431 N. Western Ave. Suite 112  
Chicago, IL 60622  
Phone: (773) 289-3945  
Fax: (773) 289-3947

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March 14, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madam Chairperson and Board Members:

I have been a colleague of Dr. David Chua for many years. Throughout this time, he has attended to my patients in need gastroenterology consultation and endoscopic procedures. I learned of his application to open an endoscopy center and it is my pleasure to be able to write this letter of support.

This center is especially important to be able to provide care to patients that may otherwise be unable to afford quality care. Dr. Chua sees all patients regardless of their insurance type or ability to pay. Dr. Chua's center would be a good resource for all patients. I hope his application is approved.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

*Syeda H Zahedi*

Syeda H. Zahedi, M.D., S.C.



Saint Mary of Nazareth Hospital Center  
Family Practice Center  
1127 North Oakley Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60622  
312.770.2040

March 14, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairman and Board members,

I am pleased to offer this letter of recommendation for Dr Chua David whom I know for the last 7 years. I am a family physician and part of Family Medicine Residency Program. Our main goal here in the hospital is to take care of unassigned, uninsured patients. Dr Chua is our main consultant for these patients. He accepts without reservation any referral and he performs any endoscopic procedure (including EGD, colonoscopy, ERCP).

We are really appreciative for his significant input in teaching our residents.

In summary, I highly recommend Dr Chua for working privileges in your facility. If you have additional questions please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

*G. Temneanu, MD*

Gabriela Temneanu, MD  
St Mary and Elizabeth Residency Program  
Faculty Member  
Tel 312-770-2040

**ELMER A. CARASIG, M.D.**

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**St. Mary Of Nazareth Hospital Medical Center**  
2222 W. Division St., Suite 260  
Chicago, IL 60622  
Telephone: (773) 486-3537

March 19, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

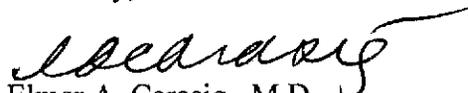
I am writing this letter in support of the application of Dr. David Chua to establish an Endoscopy Center. Dr. Chua and I have been colleagues for many years. He has been an excellent resource in digestive diseases for my practice.

Dr. Chua's proposed Center will be especially important for the uninsured and indigent patients. It is often difficult for uninsured patients to access services in the Hospital without payment upfront. Dr. Chua will provide services to these patients who otherwise would not receive the care they need, both for consultation and endoscopies.

I am supporting Dr. Chua without hesitation in his application for his proposed Center.

If there is anything else I can do, please contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Elmer A. Carasig, M.D.  
Internal Medicine

March 20, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
Springfield, Illinois

Dear Madame Chairman and Board Members,

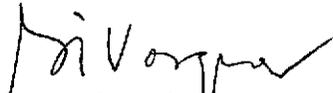
Greetings!

I am a Family Physician currently practicing in Chicago, affiliated with Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and would like to acknowledge the good deeds of my colleague, Dr. David Chua.

I have known Dr. Chua for almost six years now including my three years of residency training in Family Practice. He is known to be a very kindhearted and compassionate physician. He is a highly respected Gastroenterologist being very knowledgeable in his field of expertise, which also includes Hepatology. He has worked with me innumerable times for both inpatients and outpatients. We have shared a variety of cases ranging from a life threatening gastrointestinal bleed to a routine colonoscopy for colon cancer screening. Through the years I have learned so much from him and I have entrusted so many of my patients to him. He is surely my personal choice for my patients needing his medical care. He is very approachable and is always available to offer his services. He has definitely worked with me as we care for uninsured/charity patients whom are very abundant in our area of practice. I have never thought twice on calling Dr. Chua to help me care for our underprivileged neighbors knowing he will never turn me down.

Thank you for your time and may you have a blessed day!

Respectfully yours,



Donna Ignacio-Vasquez, M.D.  
Armitage Family Practice Center  
Chicago, Illinois  
(773) 645-0096

March 24, 2009

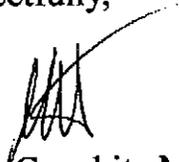
IL State Planning Board

Dear Madam Chairman and Board Member,

Dr. David Chua has been an esteemed colleague of mine for the past 14 years starting from my Family Practice residency until the present time in my private practice. He has exhibited a high level of professionalism and deep compassion towards all his patients. A most notable characteristic of Dr. Chua is his generous contribution of his expertise and time to indigent patients which I have observed and experienced while I was working with him at Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and also through my referrals of under or uninsured patients from my clinic.

I am very grateful to have known and worked with Dr. David Chua.

Respectfully,



Maria Conchita M. Tuason, MD  
Family Practice  
Riis Park Health Center  
5322 W Fullerton  
Chicago, IL 60639



**ANGEL MEDICAL CENTER, LTD**

Juan C. Villamizar, M.D.

Family Medicine

2619 S. Lawndale Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60623  
Telephone: (773) 521-4305  
Fax: (773) 521-4329

March 25, 2009

Illinois State Planning Board

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that I have had the pleasure to know Dr. David Chua since 1996.

I have known Dr. Chua as a person who keeps very high standards with respect to the quality of medicine that he practices on a daily basis. I have been able to witness and experienced the gentle and proper care given to every patient that requires his professional expertise. This care has been always given without regards to race, sex, natural origin, color or religion.

He has provided his expertise to all patients and has been especially active when charitable patients required his services.

It is my understanding that he will provide latest technological developments as endoscopic ultrasound and small bowel endoscopy at his new office. These services are of enormous significance for patients that are in need of them, by been able to provide them at his office, we will avoid the difficulty encountered when trying to schedule these services at University Centers.

I can tell you from my own experience that your community will be well served and fortunate to have the quality of services provided by Dr. Chua at their reach.

Truly yours,

Juan C Villamizar, MD  
Family Medicine  
IL Lic # 036-099103

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center  
2233 West Division Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60622  
312.770.2000



May 7, 2009  
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
535 West Jefferson Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Madame Chairperson and Board Members:

I am currently the Chief of Gastroenterology at the Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center and I have known Dr. David Chua since he began working at the medical center about 20 years ago. Dr. Chua received excellent training at Rush Medical Center and the University of Chicago in both Gastroenterology and Hepatology. While he could have chosen to practice anywhere in the country, he decided to continue serving this community. His loyalty is reciprocated by his patients, many of which have become aware of his practice due to his great reputation in the community. It is without reservation and with much enthusiasm that I endorse his proposal for a new ambulatory endoscopy center.

Dr. Chua is well known in the medical community for providing exceptionally good care to a diverse patient population. Many of Dr. Chua's patients have few alternatives for healthcare. Any action that increases the availability of the care that Dr. Chua provides would be of significant benefit to the community.

It is important to note that Dr. Chua exhibits exceptional technical competence. Dr. Chua already provides excellent treatment of digestive and liver diseases. However, the proposed gastroenterology clinic would allow Dr. Chua to provide truly exceptional care by offering video capsule endoscopy of the small bowel and endoscopic ultrasound procedures. Again, from the perspective of patient care this is extremely important. Gastroenterological disease is a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in the US but not all gastroenterologists are trained in the above mentioned procedures and most hospitals in the Chicago area do not provide these technically advanced services.

I am extremely enthusiastic about helping Dr. Chua realize his objectives. I am certain that many of his colleagues in the medical community feel the same way. I urge you to consider his proposal and approve his endoscopy center.

Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center

2233 West Division Street

Chicago, Illinois 60622

312.770.2000



Resurrection  
Health Care®

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edgar Vargas'.

Edgar Vargas, M.D.  
Chief of Gastroenterology  
Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center

CO-SPONSORS

Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth & Sisters of the Resurrection

## **SOUTH LOOP ENDOSCOPY AND WELLNESS CENTER**

### **CHARITY CARE POLICY**

#### **I. DEFINITION OF CHARITY CARE**

“Charity care” means the provision of free services to patients who demonstrate that their financial resources are so limited that the payment of the charges would be impossible or would cause serious financial hardship.

#### **II. AVAILABILITY OF CHARITY CARE AND DISCOUNTED CARE**

Keeping in mind its commitment to the community South Loop Endoscopy and Wellness Center recognizes and addresses the financial needs of patients who are unable to afford the charges associated with their medical care. The Center will provide free or discounted health care services to patients who meet the financial and documentation criteria set forth in this policy. The medical director may waive the documentation requirements.

#### **III. CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

In carrying out its commitment to provide charity care to eligible patients, the Center will:

- A. Communicate the availability of charity care to all patients through a variety of means such as placing signage and brochures in appropriate areas of the Center and posting a notice on the Center’s website.
- B. Evaluate and determine a patient’s eligibility for financial assistance based on a review of information such as take home pay and other income, amount of liquid assets, other assets and net worth, outstanding financial obligations and charges accrued and number of family members and dependents.
- C. Review each request for charity care individually and take into consideration extenuating circumstances and recommendations from referring physicians.
- D. Provide free care to uninsured patients who can demonstrate need.
- E. Review charity care applications and notify patients of the Center’s determination within a reasonable time after receiving the application and supporting documentation.