

**Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Sam Loiacono [sloiacono5@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 7:56 PM  
**To:** Avery, Courtney; Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

**RECEIVED**

APR 01 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 31, 2013

Ms. Courtney R Avey  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery

This letter is to express my support for the SIH Cancer Center building proposal in southern Illinois.

My wife is alive today because of the treatment she received at SIH from October 2011 to present. The diagnosis, and treatment provided by SIH was excellent.

The dedicated staff at SIH helped to answer questions and provide caring support during my wife's battle with breast cancer. Without the SIH facility in our region we would have had to drive many miles to a facility to receive care. Driving a greater distance would have meant more vehicle mileage, overnight stays, and more time away from work.

In the early 90's my father battled cancer. We were forced to drive everyday for many weeks to St. Louis for care.

The Breast Center made a big difference in our lives and we are thankful for the treatment we received.

Your decision will allow the region continue to help cancer patients fight this disease.

Respectfully,

Sam Loiacono  
DuQuoin, Illinois

**Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Avery, Courtney  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:59 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: SIH CANCER CENTER, PROJECT #13-005  
**Attachments:** SIH CANCER INSTITUTE.docx

FYI

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**From:** stots@mchsi.com [mailto:stots@mchsi.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 28, 2013 11:45 PM  
**To:** Avery, Courtney  
**Subject:** SIH CANCER CENTER, PROJECT #13-005

March 28, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 word "cancer" strikes fear and for many the fear of being far from home for treatment is terrifying. Besides battling the disease itself patients and care givers often have to cope with traveling long distances, high fuel rates, hotel stays, and time away from work.

I have battled a rare form of Hodgkin's Disease for the last 24 years. I have had the ability and support to make the trips for treatments and tests. Not everyone has that support. I have been blessed with an amazing oncologist, his staff, along with surgeons and radiologists from Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. When I think of the quality of care I received there in that central location, I get very excited about a comprehensive treatment center here in southern Illinois. It will make a huge difference in the lives of those who are or will be suffering from cancer.

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. Your decision to support the SIH Cancer Center building will allow this region's cancer patients to fight the disease where they find strength and hope—at home.

Respectfully,

Anita Stotlar

CC: [Mike.Constantino@illinois.gov](mailto:Mike.Constantino@illinois.gov),

Jennifer Bediu Administrative Director SIH CANCER INSTITUTE

[panton@siu.edu](mailto:panton@siu.edu)

**Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Avery, Courtney  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:56 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** Fw: SIH Cancer Institute  
**Attachments:** SIH Cancer Institute.jpeg

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**From:** Russell Brown/SIH [mailto:Russell.Brown@sih.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 09:57 PM Central Standard Time  
**To:** Avery, Courtney  
**Cc:** Jennifer Badiu/SIH <Jennifer.Badiu@sih.net>  
**Subject:** Fw: SIH Cancer Institute

Ms. Avery

Please see attached letter of support.

Dr. Brown

*(See attached file: SIH Cancer Institute.jpeg)*

March 1, 2013

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

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

Please accept this letter as my wholehearted endorsement—without reservation—for Southern Illinois Healthcare's commitment to build and operate a freestanding cancer center in the heart of southern Illinois.

For cancer patients in this region, the road to recovery is often the road itself. Patients often need to make frequent trips to a major metropolitan area outside Illinois. Doctors estimate that a cancer patient could log up to 100 trips to and from their appointments, infusions and hospitalizations in the first year of care alone. Not only is this road to recovery expensive, it is exhaustive mentally, physically and emotionally for the patient, their friends and families.

Not so the case anymore. With SIH's vision, cancer patients from throughout a seven county area of rural southern Illinois can receive streamlined care under one roof, centrally located along the Route 13 corridor. Medical oncology, radiation oncology, imaging, testing, infusion services, support, rehabilitation and recovery—just to name a few—will not be separated by miles, but by a few steps.

Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. In fact, the federal government designates each of the seven counties in SIH's service area as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Furthermore, many of these same counties have the highest cancer incident rates in the state.

SIH's mission to bring doctors, surgeons, nurses, radiologists and support staff together under one roof ensures these patients will get the right care at the right time in the right setting.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Russell W. Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Russell W. Brown".

## **Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Larry q [quig2005@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 2:59 PM  
**To:** Avery, Courtney; Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** SIH Cancer Center, project #13-005

To: Courtney R. Avery and Mike Constantino

For a number of years, people in Southern Illinois have traveled many miles for cancer care and treatment. Cancer is very difficult on a person mentally, socially and physically even when care is done close to home. It is a burden for people to have to leave their supportive friends and family to travel for treatment.

I was a cancer patient, diagnosed in 2010 of breast cancer. I was fortunate enough to be able to receive care at the SIH Breast Center in Carbondale, IL. While cancer was a challenge for me, it was not as challenging as it would have been had I been required to travel several hours for treatment.

I am writing this letter to ask you to support and do what you can to make SIH Cancer Center project number 13-005 a reality for people of Southern Illinois.

Earlene Quigley

**Constantino, Mike**

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**From:** Jagan Ailinani [jmailinani@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:52 PM  
**To:** Avery, Courtney; Constantino, Mike  
**Subject:** SIH cancer center,Project#13-005  
**Attachments:** Ailinani ltr.docx

Dear Ms.Avery,

Attached please find my letter in support of SIH Cancer Center.

Thanks

Jagan Ailinani,MD FACR  
Senior Attending Radiologist,  
Memorial Hospital of Carbondale  
Clinical Professor of Radiology &Community Medicine  
SIU School of Medicine,Carbondale,Illinois

April 1, 2013

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

Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am taking this opportunity, as a physician practicing in the southern Illinois area for over 30 years, to voice my enthusiastic endorsement of Southern Illinois Healthcare's effort to build a comprehensive, freestanding cancer center to serve patients throughout a seven county region of rural southern Illinois. Thousands of these patients live in the most impoverished counties of Illinois. Many of these counties have the additional misfortune of being among those with the highest cancer incidence rates in the state.

Instead of enduring long, tedious and expensive travel outside of Illinois, weary patients along with their family and friends will benefit from the streamlined, team-based care the SIH Cancer Center will now be able to provide under one roof. For the first time in our region, SIH would offer the full continuum of cancer care in a single locale. These vital services include radiation therapy, chemotherapy, a home for multidisciplinary teams for breast, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and head and neck cancers, clinical trials, support, survivorship and rehabilitation care. The SIH Cancer Center also enjoys an academic affiliation with the Simmons Cancer Institute at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. The breadth of this partnership brings additional, much-needed resources to southern Illinois.

Furthermore, many of the patients who will ultimately receive care at the SIH Cancer Center are among our state's most vulnerable—elderly, low-income and uninsured. In fact, all seven of the counties in SIH's service area are federally designated as "Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Medical Care."

I wholeheartedly support SIH's mission, values and commitment to bring this caliber of cancer care to southern Illinois. Thank you for your time and attention to this project.

Respectfully,

Jagan Ailinani, MD  
Senior Attending Radiologist  
Memorial Hospital of Carbondale  
Clinical Professor of Radiology & Community Medicine  
SIU School Of Medicine, Carbonale, Illinois .