



Premier Oncology Care

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MEDICAL SERVICES

Peter E. Graham, MD

March 27, 2013

RECEIVED

APR 01 2013

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd 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 mile, but by a few steps.

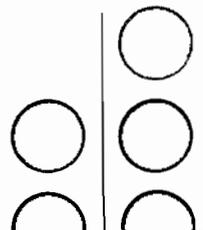
Many of the patients in the counties SIH serves are among the poorest and medically underserved regions in Illinois. In fact, the federal government designates each of the seven counties in SIH's services as Health Professional Shortage Area(s) for Primary Care. Furthermore, many of these same counties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

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

Respectfully,

Peter E. Graham MD
Senior Medical Oncologist
Premier Oncology Care

305 W JACKSON STREET
SUITE 303
CARBONDALE, IL 62901
618.351.4976 T
618.351.4977 F



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March 28, 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

13-005

Dear Ms Avery,

I'm writing this to express my support for the SIH cancer center building proposal in Southern Ill.

I was diagnosed with breast cancer May 2005 had surgery to remove the lump and 21 lymph glands. Had 8 chemotherapy injections followed with 6 weeks of radiation treatments. All which were done in Carbondale. I thank the Lord daily that I am now cancer free.

My husband was diagnosed with bladder cancer March 2008. April 1 he had surgery at St Joseph hospital to remove the cancer. The next 3 months he was in St. Joseph hospital, Carbondale hospital and Barnes for a total of 41 day and died July 4 in Carbondale hospital.

We do need a good cancer center in this area where all the Dis. there will work together on each patient.

Respectfully,
Nerlyn Reiman

March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, 2nd 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 mention of the word "cancer" strikes fear. To begin with, a fear of the rigorous road someone is about to face. And for many, fear of the road itself.

If you are from southern Illinois, facing cancer has often meant frequent trips to a major metropolitan area, usually outside of our state's borders. Not only do these patients battle the disease itself, they also cope with the costs and struggles associated with simply getting the care, which can include high fuel rates, time away from work, hotel stays and meals. The love and support they so desperately need could be two hours away. For some, the means to get the care are too great.

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, where the goal is detection to diagnosis in 24 hours. Comprehensive medical treatment for cancer close to home makes huge differences in the lives of those suffering from this relentless disease.

Their American dream is living in southern Illinois. Your decision will allow this region's cancer patients to fight the disease where they find strength and hope—at home.

Respectfully,

Susan Bellard

March 1, 2013

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Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

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Springfield, IL 62761

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Respectfully,

I am a 6 year breast cancer survivor so I personally know how crucial this is.

*Marchetta DeWhite
4010 State Rt 146 E
Anna, IL 62906*

March 27, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 N. Jefferson, 2nd 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.

The word "cancer" usually brings emotions to the recipient such as shock and fear. Coping with these and other emotions is very difficult.

Being able to battle the disease in your home area is a great comfort to the patient. There is nothing as healing as being able to receive treatment without traveling long distances and being able to sleep in your

2

bed at night.

Being a cancer survivor myself, I am hoping that you will decide to allow this area to have the first-ever free-standing cancer center.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectively,

Juanita Mitchell
618 Mitchell St.
Benton, Il 62812

March 1, 2013

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Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cashma E. Garner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Cashma E. Garner".

March 1, 2013

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

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Respectfully,



Much impressed with the
care I received at SIH.

March 1, 2013

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Springfield, IL 62761

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharon Wendt".

March 1, 2013

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

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Springfield, IL 62761

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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet James".



March 5, 2013

Janet James

2004 Pine St

Eldorado, IL 62930

Dear Janet,

As a friend and partner in our journey to build the region's first-ever freestanding cancer center, I respectfully ask if you would be willing to write a letter of support on SIH's behalf.

Each communication to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board should reference the project name, SIH Cancer Center, and the project number, which is #13-005. Please mail or email your letter to the individual(s) listed below by **Monday, April 1, 2013**:

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Re: SIH Cancer Center, Project #13-005

OR

Email:
Courtney.Avery@illinois.gov
Mike.Constantino@illinois.gov

I've also attached a sample letter(s) of support if you would prefer to reference it or adopt one as your own.

On behalf of SIH, thank you for your support.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jennifer Badiu'.

Jennifer L. Badiu, MHSA

Administrative Director

1239 East Main Street | PO Box 3988
Carbondale, IL 62902-3988

TEL 618-457-5200
FAX 618-529-0568

www.sih.net

