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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF CARBONDALE**

May 31, 2016

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Boys & Girls Club
of Carbondale
250 N. Springer Street
PO Box 3092
Carbondale, IL 62902
Tel: (618) 457-8877

Re: Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center
Project No. 15-061

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center, LLC and their efforts to establish a licensed endoscopy center in Carbondale, Illinois. Through my personal and professional contact with Dr. Makhdoom and his work, I am appreciative of his commitment to provide medical services to the most vulnerable individuals and families possible. Working for an agency that has extensive contact with at-risk individuals and families, I am aware of the critical needs for supportive medical services of this type. Colonoscopy procedures can be performed at a much lower cost in his proposed outpatient center than in the hospital. In our region of the state, where so many people are suffering financially, this is an important option to have available.

Over time and in many ways, Dr. Makhdoom has demonstrated a firm commitment to enhanced care and service in this community. I encourage you to support his efforts in the process. If you have any questions about Dr. Makhdoom that I can answer, please do not hesitate to call or contact me. Thank you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Osborn".

Randy Osborn
Executive Director
Boys & Girls Club of Carbonale

30 May 2016

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re:

Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center
Project No. 15-061

Dear Ms. Olson:

If I had the opportunity to express in ten different languages the pleasure and honor that I am experiencing as I write this letter of support for Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center, LLC, there would still not be enough time or enough translators for me to express Dr. Makhdoom's concern and commitment to the southern Illinois region's health care.

It comes as no surprise to me that Dr. Makhdoom sees the need to establish a licensed endoscopy center in the city of Carbondale for people who are dire in need of medical services that too often, they cannot afford. Simply stated, the demographics of this region dictates that there are many people who are in need of this kind of professional health care and because of their limited income many do not receive services. The mere thought of going to a hospital and all of the additional expenses connected to the service, becomes overwhelming and therefore, help is not always sought. Are services available? Yes. Can they afford it? No.

This is why I can state in plain English that Dr. Makhdoom recognizes that there are those in need of appropriate health services that he is willing to provide to them without astronomical costs to them. If he were to establish a licensed endoscopy center, I am positive that so many people in the area would benefit from his magnanimous gesture.

I feel so strongly about his undertaking of this center, because his heart is in the right place and he and his family are tremendously concerned about the people in the community. This is not just another money-making project that he wants to do. It is so much a part of his daily concern and commitment that he has for others and I must say this is not always evident in

many other health professionals. I have had the opportunity to observe so many things that he and his family have done for this city and for children who have very little income and support. Common sense says that if children do not have the resources to perform at their best, then certainly their parents have less for themselves and/or their children.

I knew that I could not write a one page letter to support Dr. Makhdoom and I so appreciate you taking the time to read this letter but it comes in support of a man who is not trying to fill his coffers, but a man who wants to provide quality screening colonoscopy services via an outpatient center. Ignorance of early and quality screening is not always caused by neglect, for most poor people, it is caused by fear and lack of money. A center that is not threatening to its clients and fees that are not astronomical just might prevent long-term illnesses and death. I think that this is what Dr. Makhdoom envisions as he applies for the opportunity to serve the community in just another way of helping others.

When you make a decision about whether he receives this opportunity, think about a man who constantly thinks about his community and how he can make it a better place for those who have as well as for those who do not have.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anna Jackson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Anna Jackson, Senior Lecturer

English Department

Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Anne Cooper

From: cubrats@frontier.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 12:19 PM
To: Anne Cooper
Subject: Letter of Recommendation

Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center
Project No. 15-061
Dear Ms. Olson:

I am happy to write this letter in support for Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and the Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center, LLC, in their efforts to establish a licensed endoscopy center to be located in Carbondale, Illinois.

I have known Dr. Makhdoom both in a doctor-patient relationship, and as chairperson of the Carbondale Interfaith dialogues for the past fifteen years. He and his wife have consistently been supporters and participants in interfaith work and dialogues in the Carbondale area. I have worked closely with the Mosque community in our interfaith work during these years, and both have been there to help with ideas and financial contributions.

I know firsthand of the need for lower cost quality screening colonoscopy and other endoscopy services in our area. We have a middle-aged couple who clean our house every week, and they have very limited financial resources. They were grateful to be able to receive colonoscopies from Dr. Makhdoom at a cost consistent with their resources. As the director of the Adult Out-Patient Psychiatric Program in Franklin and Williamson Counties for many years, I was aware that many people who are suffering financially tend to put off such important procedures often to the detriment of their lives.

Southern Illinois is one of the most economically challenged sections of our country, as is Jackson County and Carbondale where Dr. Makhdoom has his primary office. Many medical resources are needed to minister to the needs of those people and families less fortunate, and so I am very much in support of this project.

Sincerely, Kenneth C. Starbuck

May 30, 2016

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re:
Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center
Project No. 15-061
Dear Ms. Olson:

It is my pleasure to write this letter for support for Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center, LLC, in their efforts to establish a licensed endoscopy center to be located in Carbondale, Illinois.

I am sure you have information regarding the technical aspects of Dr. Makhdoom's application. I have no expertise in that area, but I can fill in a bit more information about Dr. Makhdoom and what motivates him.

I have worked with Dr. Makhdoom on several different projects, and his consistent motivation is ensuring the greatest number of people have access to appropriate medical services. He does this through substantial donations of both his time and resources to members of the community in need. His desire to improve access to lower cost quality screening colonoscopy and other endoscopy services is consistent with all his other efforts to improve health care in Carbondale. Colonoscopy procedures can be performed at a much lower cost in his proposed outpatient center than in the hospital. In our region of the state, where so many people are suffering financially, this is an important option to have available.

Finally, I should note that I speak highly of Dr. Makhdoom not just because of the services he offers to other people. Dr. Makhdoom is my doctor as well. And while I am fortunate to have insurance that fully covers my medical expenses, I know many others in southern Illinois who are not in that position. I value Dr. Makhdoom's commitment to make sure both fortunate people like me and my family and others who are not so lucky have access to endoscopy services.

If you have any questions about Dr. Makhdoom that I can answer, please do not hesitate to call or contact me. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Maurine Pyle, Carbondale Interfaith Council

400 N. Westridge Drive, Apt. B3
Carbondale, IL 62901
847-899-9677

May 31, 2016

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

**Re: Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center
Project No. 15-061**

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am pleased to support Dr. Zahoor Makhdoom and Southern Illinois Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Center, LLC, in their efforts to establish a licensed endoscopy center to be located in Carbondale, Illinois. Dr. Makhdoom's plan to provide access to care for the citizens of Southern Illinois is admirable. Those families who are underinsured or uninsured will benefit greatly from this new Endoscopy Center

I have worked with The Jackson County Healthy Communities Coalition for many years and I am very familiar with the needs of our citizens. Access to care is one of our most urgent medical needs of the communities we serve. Dr. Makhdoom is involved in many community projects, and his consistent motivation is ensuring the greatest number of people have access to appropriate medical services. He does this through substantial donations of both his time and resources. His desire to improve access to lower cost quality screening colonoscopy and other endoscopy services is consistent with all his other efforts to improve health care in southern Illinois. Colonoscopy procedures can be performed at a much lower cost in his proposed outpatient center than in the hospital. In our region of the state, where so many people are suffering financially, this is an important option to have available.

If I can offer further support for the Endoscopy Center, or answer any questions you may have please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Kathy Renfro, Executive Director Carbondale Park District,