children's home

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

November 27, 2019

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
c/o Courtney Avery, Administrator
525 W Jefferson St, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Letter of Support for Comprehensive Cancer Center and Proton Therapy

As a member of the Peoria CEO Council and major employer, the Children's Home Association of Illinois fully supports the plans by OSF Saint Francis Medical Center to establish a comprehensive cancer center and offer proton beam therapy to meet the needs of residents of central Illinois.

Bringing proton therapy to Peoria supports the vision of the Peoria CEO Council to develop our community toward a better tomorrow. The proton beam project is part of a greater undertaking by OSF HealthCare to establish a comprehensive cancer center, which will also include cancer clinics, support services, screening and risk-assessment, telehealth capabilities, a library and resource center for community access and education, and patient education including a teaching kitchen for education on the links between healthy eating and cancer prevention.

The establishment of proton beam therapy within this new oncology program will improve care coordination in our community and alleviate the burden of traveling for patients with cancer and their families. This next-generation treatment is the most advanced technology available, and the reduced treatment time means the Children's Home Association of Illinois employees and their families will experience less disruption to their lives and a quicker return to their normal lives after the devastation of a cancer diagnosis.

The Children's Home Association of Illinois supports OSF HealthCare's endeavors in supporting patients with cancer, survivors, and their families. We value the involvement, insight, and good work that OSF HealthCare is doing in cancer care, and urge you to support this opportunity for the communities of Central Illinois to receive access to the support and care that they deserve.

Please approve OSF HealthCare's proposed Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Sincerely,

Matt George
CEO Children's Home Association of Illinois