

PRINCE GEORGE'SIESUNTY

"Building the People's Movement

Calvin S. Hawkins, II Chair At-Large Council Member

March 3, 2021

Kevin McDonald, Chief Certificate of Need Maryland Health Care Commission 4160 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD 21215-2999

SUBJECT: Letter of Support: Luminis Health Doctor's Community Medical Center's Certificate of Need Application – Behavioral Health

Dear Mr. McDonald:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Board of Health, I appreciate the opportunity to offer our support for the Luminis Health Doctor's Community Medical Center's (LHDCMC) Certificate of Need (CON) application. The CON application establishes a Behavioral Health Services on its campus in Lanham as part of a comprehensive mental health program including 16-adult inpatient beds (CON required) and outpatient services (non-CON).

LHDCMC has a history of providing high-quality and compassionate care to meet the growing needs of area residents. We are excited to learn that LHDCMC has plans to create a comprehensive Behavioral Health Program as Behavioral Health Services needs have increased in the community. The Behavioral Health Services needs has been well documented. The 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment conducted by Prince George's County; residents ranked mental health services as the 2nd most important issue to them.

The hospital's proposed comprehensive Behavioral Health Program will provide local direct access to a continuum of mental health services including emergency, acute and transitional care. It will create a collaborative program with the Prince George's County government and other partners in the community.

We understand and appreciate that the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must approve hospitals' plans to develop a comprehensive hospital inpatient Behavioral Health program. We fully support this project and hope the MHCC understands how much this initiative will contribute to the overall health of Prince George's County residents.

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Thank you in advance for your consideration of Luminis Health Doctor's Community Medical Center's CON application for Behavioral Health.

Sincerely,

Calvin S. Hawkins, II

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Chair

cc: Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center