

STATE SENATOR • DISTRICT 13

COMMITTEES: AGRICULTURAL, WATER, & RURAL AFFAIRS • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • NATURAL RESOURCES & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • NOMINATIONS

August 3, 2017

Rhonda Mundhenk, JD, MPH Chief Executive Officer Lone Star Circle of Care 205 East University Avenue, Suite 200 Georgetown, Texas 78626

Dear Ms. Mundhenk,

It is with great pleasure that I support Lone Star Circle of Care's (LSCC) Change in Scope application to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Bureau of Primary Health Care. The University of Houston (UH) has selected LSCC as its partner to establish a new Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC) on its campus in Health and Biomedical Sciences Building 2 located at 4733 Wheeler Avenue, Houston, Texas 77204. Despite the best efforts of other local safety net providers, over 54,000 low-income residents of the proposed service area were unserved by a Health Center Program grantee in 2015 (UDS Mapper), indicating that there remains a significant need for affordable, accessible health care in the Third Ward and South Central Houston.

In addition to providing additional access to care, the proposed site will offer the opportunity for UH health professions students to receive clinical training, and, in the future, could become a training site for Family Medicine resident physicians. This partnership will help further the mission of the University of Houston to provide academic excellence for its students while also serving the needs of its community.

LSCC is uniquely poised to meet the health care needs of the community surrounding UH through its experience in employing innovative models of care to meet the needs of the community. Innovations such as offering a patient-centered health home where primary and behavioral health care are all provided within the same clinic setting is ideal for this location

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DISTRICT OFFICE: 5302 Almeda Road, Suite A Houston, Texas 77004 (713) 665-8322 • FAX: (713) 665-0009 since many residents need assistance in overcoming barriers related to transportation and convenient access to care. I wholeheartedly support LSCC's proposed expansion of access to health care to serve the vulnerable residents of the Third Ward and South Central Houston.

Keep the Faith, Keep the Fight,

Borris L. Miles

State Senator, District 13