

WRITTEN COMMENTS
Health and Hospitals Meeting
January 26, 2021

	Witness Name:	Organization (if any):
1	Jay Bhatt	Family Christian Health Center
2	Mia Webster Cross	Family Christian Health Center
3	Dr. Kimako Patterson	Prairie-Hills D144
4	Bob Miller	La Grange Park South Cooperative For Public Education
5	Peg Agnos	(SCOPE)
6	Robert Emmons Jr.	Calumet park

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 9:15:56 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 9:18:26 AM
Time Spent: 00:02:29
IP Address: 50.77.180.17

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Jay Bhatt
Organization (if any): Family Christian Health Center
City/Town: Harvey
State: IL
ZIP: 60422

Q2

Health and Hospitals Committee Meeting 1/26/2021 1p

Tell us which meeting you wish to be recorded as a witness. If you don't know the meeting or date, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar. Please fill out a separate form for each meeting at which you wish to speak.

Q3

Respondent skipped this question

Tell us the File ID number (example 17-0000) of the item on which you are registering your position. If you don't know the number, we can help at 312.603.6398 or cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov. You can also look it up using the County Calendar or the Forest Preserve Calendar

Q4

REGISTER IN FAVOR of a specific item (You may add written comments below)

What do you want to do?

Q5

Written Statement? You can type or copy/paste any written statement you want included in the meeting record here. If this is not enough space, or you have other attachments for distribution, please email them to cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov

Vaccinations are critical to beating this pandemic. We recognize that they move at the speed of trust empathy and inclusion

Q6

Please Indicate if you are only submitting written testimony or if you wish to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting.

Requesting to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting

Q7

If requesting to address the Committee live (virtually), please provide an email address and phone number (This is required to receive and an invitation to the virtual meeting).

Email Address

jbhattd@gmail.com

Phone Number

3128022555

#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 9:01:55 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 10:25:52 AM
Time Spent: 01:23:56
IP Address: 50.77.180.17

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Mia Webster Cross
Organization (if any):	Family Christian Health Center
City/Town:	Harvey
State:	IL
ZIP:	60426

Q2

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Family Christian Health Center is working with CCDPH to administer the COVID-19 vaccine and we are asking that we make sure we continue to receive vaccine consistently.

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Requesting to address the Committee live (virtually) at the meeting

Q7

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Email Address

mcross@familychc.org

Phone Number

17086921919

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:52:47 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:57:14 PM
Time Spent: 00:04:26
IP Address: 166.137.83.61

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Dr. Kimako Patterson
Organization (if any):	Prairie-Hills D144
City/Town:	Markham
State:	IL
ZIP:	60428

Q2

Health and Hospitals Committee Meeting 1/26/2021 1p

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21-0541

Q4

PROVIDE WRITTEN COMMENT FOR INFORMATION ONLY (You may add written comments below)

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Greetings, South Cook is the largest region in the state of IL. We educate over 400,000 students and 25,000 plus educators. Yet, most counties surrounding us have either begun the 1b vaccinations or are in the midst of them. We have received some information with local facilities that began vaccinations for the 1b group on Saturday, January 23, 2021. We are concerned about equity. How is it possible that the largest region that serves black and brown people cannot schedule vaccinations in a timely manner?? We have 5 High School Superintendents that have gathered nurses, and volunteer personnel to assist with the vaccination endeavor today, and yet we are being told to wait. Each day gets pushed back to the next day. WHEN are the 1b educators in South Cook going to have the opportunity to be vaccinated? Over 50% of my staff members would like to take the vaccination. Quite a few districts are in the midst of opening their doors to in-person learning and the staff would like to take the vaccinations as a safety precautions. Our region is lagging behind almost every other county in this state and it is disheartening.

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Email Address

kpatterson@phsd144.net

Phone Number

7088375598

#1

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:09:31 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:14:20 AM
Time Spent: 00:04:49
IP Address: 99.13.70.232

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name:	Bob Miller
City/Town:	La Grange Park
State:	IL
ZIP:	60526

Q2

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Resolution 21-0541 was cutoff could there be a summary about the Pfizer order and distribution

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#2

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 11:05:34 AM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 11:19:10 AM
Time Spent: 00:13:35
IP Address: 98.227.203.185

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Peg Agnos
Organization (if any): South Cooperative For Public Education (SCOPE)
City/Town: Palatine
State: IL
ZIP: 60067

Q2

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January 26, 2021

Good afternoon Chairman Deer and Members of the Health and Hospital Committee,

My name is Peg Agnos Executive Director of the South Cooperative Organization For Public Education (SCOPE). We represent the majority of school districts in South Suburban Cook County. We thank you for your extraordinary efforts to fight COVID-19 and commit to continuing to work toward a shared goal of getting our students back to in-person learning in a safe and healthy environment.

I am writing in strong support of Resolution 21-0541. We are concerned about and anxious to understand what processes you are planning to put into place to provide vaccines to teachers and others who are now eligible in Phase 1b.

We request that all school district leaders remain partners in your planning and reach out to them for input. They are the experts , who understand the complexities of running their districts and stand ready to work with you and your other partners to put into place and accommodate the necessary requirements to guarantee vaccines are delivered, administered and our school communities are vaccinated in an orderly and timely manner. They will provide the necessary guidance to you so that our south suburban school districts and areas that have been most impacted by this disease will be prioritized.

We stand ready to partner with you to assist in any way possible.

Thank you,

Peg Agnos
Executive Director
SCOPE
630.632.2954
pegagnos@comcast.net
www.scopeforilschools.org

Q6

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Email Address	pegagnos@comcast.net
Phone Number	630.632.2954

#3

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:07:13 PM
Last Modified: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 12:15:29 PM
Time Spent: 00:08:16
IP Address: 38.88.172.18

Page 1

Q1

Please provide some basic information

Witness Name: Robert Emmons Jr.
City/Town: Calumet park
State: IL
ZIP: 60827

Q2

Health and Hospitals Committee Meeting 1/26/2021 1p

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Today while looking at a map of the disproportionality between those most heavily impacted by COVID-19, and those first given access to treatment and preventative measures, I was reminded of the systemic neglect that Black and Brown communities have been subjected to for decades. This same map that shows those dying vs. those being vaccinated could be used for an articulation of most public health crises. That map is also a map of:

- Gun violence vs. resources
- Clean drinking water vs. environmental racism
- Schools with actual books vs. college completion rates
- Food security vs. unhealthy communities
- Banks vs. predatory lenders

That map is semiotic of systematic racism and neglect. The analysis of "who is dying" vs. "who is vaccinated", is applicable to topics way beyond COVID-19.

The impact of disinvestment in Black and Brown communities have existed prior to the arrival of this pandemic. Black and Brown folks are not genetically predisposed to contracting more severe cases of COVID-19. Black and Brown folks within this nation are predisposed to racism, and intentional harm to communities of color. We must end the assault of Black and Brown communities. We must end the violence of allowing diseases to run rampant in Black communities. We must stop the violence of introducing harmful agents to our communities, and work towards building trust of government within our communities.

It is incumbent upon Cook County to continue to fight against systematic neglect of entire communities. The COVID-19 vaccine must be distributed equitably to ensure that those most impacted are also at the front of the line of treatment and prevention. This is a matter of public health and social justice. We must work to right every last one of our wrongs. Let's start here. Let's root ourselves in equity to achieve a more free, more just world.

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Email Address	robemm15@gmail.com
Phone Number	7737502514