

first_name	last_name	city	state	comment
Lynda	Ficca	Oak Park	IL	Equitable care is especially important in this time of Covid! I am a Cook County resident and I condemn President Preckwinkle's outrageous tax cuts to necessary healthcare. Thanks, Julie Lehrman
Julie	Lehrman	Berwyn	IL	Berwyn, IL
Tenny	Whyte	Hoffman Es	IL	(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)
Karen	Kortsch	Lake Bluff	IL	(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)
Brenda	Watkins	Chicago	IL	(write your message to save health care on the South Side here) Please leave our Medical Facilities alone our Communities need them, we only have a few.
				<p>Please do not cut health care services in the 2021 budget, especially in the midst of a pandemic. Please:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No consolidation of community clinics! Fully fund ACHN in communities where care is needed. • Do not downgrade Provident Hospital's ER. • Studies show that when emergency rooms close, the death rate at nearby hospitals increases by 5 percent overall. For those patients suffering a heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, the rate of death increases to 15 percent. • Preckwinkle's move to close Provident Hospital's emergency room will not only deprive the most vulnerable of a vital emergency resource, it paves a clear path for the closure of the facility which is authorized for 85 medical surgical and six intensive care unit beds. <p>There are many vulnerable people living on the South Side who are already dealing with the economic and health consequences of COVID; do not deprive them of further resources.</p>
Lindsay	Atnip	Chicago	IL	Thank you, Lindsay Atnip
Dawn	Taylor	Lyons	IL	Dear Preckwinkle these Narses are on the front line everyday risking there life's . For us I. Asks you to please end these nurses budget if it wasn't for these

Umair	Naseer	Chicago	IL
Emmy	Bean	Chicago	IL
Jt	Mullen	River forest	IL

Save south side hospitals and health care and invest more in the community!
 Why is stripping the most vulnerable communities of their resources even an option? This is so shameful, we are in the middle of a pandemic and you want to Our health care needs are greater than ever now. As an arts educator who Healthcare should be proximal to everyone in America. Every neighborhood

Timothy	Fullerton Sr	Chicago	IL
Perla	Oblena	Oak Lawn	IL
Philip	Liang	Napa	CA
Karin	Evans	Forest Park	IL

(Hi, I am confused and taken aback by the plan to defund healthcare on the South Side. For over 20 years, Dr. Arnold Turner was my primary care physician. This gentleman was the quintessential primary care physician for our people. He was and is still the most professional and thorough physician I've ever been served by. When he was commissioned to be the medical director at Provident that was a bittersweet moment for me but a wonderful win for our community. Why not give a physician the caliber of Dr. Turner all the appropriate resources to serve our community with the staff he serves a fair and deserved chance to continue making a positive difference? Have not African American people suffered enough in this country? A stolen country that was built by us and not designed for us to flourish has made us suffer enough already. I'm tired. I'm past tired. However, I can never be as tired as my great grandfather an enslaved man of Angolan descent who escaped slavery. I'm very disappointed Ms. Preckwinkle.

I have been a CCH/Stroger Hospital nurses on the med/surg. unit for 15 years. A lot of our patients are being transferred from Provident Hosp. to Stroger Hosp. Health care is valuable to the community and saves lives.

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

I am making a comment to support the essential service's that are badly needed on the South side of Chicago. If this budget is passed it would be very detrimental to the general public here on the South side of Chicago. I am a senior citizen on Disability with very little income,these services are vital to my survival. I need access to Emergency care,and ongoing care by professionals.

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

Christopher	Guenther	Chicago	IL
Amy	Gorman	Chicago	IL

Ismene	Potakis	Chicago	IL	<p>As a medical provider in an underserved community, I see from my patients and experience how important a community hospital is in these areas. We shouldn't be cutting costs to health services during this pandemic, especially in those communities hardest hit. We need to find a way to keep these community hospitals open and staffed with competent, caring medical providers and staff. Please do what you need to do to keep the health of the South and West side underserved communities of Chicago improving instead of declining. Thank you.</p> <p>Why are we downgrading and not upgrading healthcare at a time when it is needed more than ever? This makes no sense.</p> <p>There should be no cuts to health care services in the 2021 budget! There should be no consolidation of community clinics! Do fund ACHN in communities where care is needed. Do not downgrade Provident Hospital's ER. Health care workers are vital to our South Side community. The proposed cuts are absolutely unacceptable.</p> <p>We have a great need for medical care on the south side. By closing more hospitals, we are not only under serving the community but placing vulnerable people at risk</p>
Xueyi	Lu	Chicago	IL	
Evan	Jones	Chicago	IL	
Nancy	Tigue	Hazel crest	IL	

I've been a resident of Southside Chicago for 4 years now. I'm a transplant from the south much like many of my ancestors who were forced from their homes during the Great Migration seeking a safer home. What they didn't anticipate was a far more judicial and legislative approach to racism than the overt violence they had escaped.

Recently, I've noticed changes from my primary care doctor at Sengstacke Clinic in Provident Hospital. Even prior to Covid-19 there were issues with resources and services at the hospital, but I stayed because I feel most comfortable with my doctor Dr. Chantal Tinfang. I take anxiety and depression medication to function in my day-to-day activities. With limited resources, my doctor cannot refill my prescriptions on time and I may go days and even weeks without medication putting me at jeopardy of losing my job, my home, and everything I worked hard to achieve.

My story isn't even the worst. Could you imagine having a chronic illness, a physical ailment, or Covid-19 under these conditions? Could you imagine not being able to contact your doctor to get the medication or treatment you deserve as an individual or a family? To close down hospitals on the Southside is to deny predominantly black neighborhoods proper healthcare which you have already done with the closing of Mercy Hospital.

The black community is paying attention. We are educated, we are organized, we are armed with the knowledge of the candidates on our ballots, and we're headed to the polls. If you continue to ignore us, we will ignore your name at the booth. Be a leader and advocate for your constituents.

Delasha

Long

Chicago IL

I strongly believe there should be NO Cuts to health care services in the 2021 budget! Now more than ever we need to ensure that our health care providers are fully staffed, with adequate PPE, and humane working conditions. It should go without saying that a strong healthcare system is vital during a global health crisis!

In addition, as a South Side resident who recently lost her own father, I'm appalled at the thought of downgrading any hospital in a pandemic, let alone one that is sorely needed to serve mostly Black and Brown folks on the South Side. This move to close Provident Hospital's emergency room will not only deprive the most vulnerable of a vital emergency resource, it paves a clear path for the closure of the facility which is authorized for 85 medical surgical and six intensive care unit beds. Is this truly what needs to happen in the middle of a global health crisis? Is this the legacy you want to leave behind?

Please show our healthcare providers you value them, and thus Chicago residents' own health, by not cutting their budget!

Mary Gen

Davies

Chicago IL

Thank you for your consideration,
Mary Gen Davies

I assume you know that studies show that when emergency rooms close, the death rate at nearby hospitals increases by 5 percent overall. For those patients suffering a heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, the rate of death increases to 15 percent.

The current proposal to close Provident Hospital's emergency room will not only deprive the most vulnerable of a vital emergency resource, it paves a clear path for the closure of the facility which is authorized for 85 medical surgical and six intensive care unit beds.

Please do not close Provident Hospital's emergency room.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Dennis, Ph.D.

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

It is completely unacceptable to cut access to healthcare on the South Side of Chicago during a pandemic, especially when Governor Pritzker is again implementing stronger restrictions because cases are surging. Health care is a human right! Provident Hospital's emergency room provides a vital lifesaving service to people on the South Side of Chicago, who are always the first to see their resources cut. This is unconscionable. You cannot continue to consolidate lifesaving resources and community clinics that people rely on for care. Do not put real estate and profits over peoples' lives.

Sarah	Dennis	Chicago	IL
Elizabeth	Wilson	Chicago	IL
Grrgg	Hunter II	Chicago	IL
John	Kaderbek	Chicago	IL
Wellington	Da Silva	Chicago	IL

Kathryn	Meade	Chicago	IL
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I am asking that you reconsider consolidating and or closing the Ambulatory Clinics and Provident Hospital. The South side of Chicago has limited services for the Community. You speak on inequality and disparities in the Southside but your solution is to close and consolidate the already limited services available. How does that close the Gap of inequality and disparities. I have been a Community Based Nurse for over Twenty years and every year when Iâ€™m driving the streets of Chicago, it saddens me to see â€œa tale of two citiesâ€. Not only with the healthcare available but with the Schools, Parks, Community Based Resources, Food stores and so much more. All anyone has to do is drive to both sides of the City and see the difference. Instead of closing Clinics, you should be opening more Clinics and Hospitals in the Southside. You should start investing more Funds in the Southside Communities to provide the much needed resources until the Southside mirrors the Northside. Until we stop favoring one side of the City we will never see progress. Letâ€™s start today by saying No to closing the much needed Near South/ Woodlawn Clinic and Provident Hospital.

Maribel	Quinones	Chicago	IL
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Downgrading or closing the ER at Provident Hospital on the vulnerable Near South Side during a pandemic is immoral and irresponsible. Doing this will put unnecessary pressure on nearby hospitals that are already at capacity. This is unacceptable. Cuts to health care service while our police budget is larger than that of the military budget for the entire country of Ireland is exactly the kind of empty austerity measures that have kept Chicagoans in poverty for far too long. Invest in the material needs of people and divest from our city's brutish and historically cruel and racist police force. Now.

Anthony	Siraguse	CHICAGO	IL
Matt	Mitchell	Chicago	IL
Sarah	Richmond	Chicago	IL

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)
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Becky	Lyons	Chicago	IL	<p>It is vital that you save health care on the Near South Side! It is outrageous to be considering eliminating health care options in already disinvested communities like this, and it is particularly devastating to be considering it during a pandemic. Health care is a human right, and municipalities should be focusing resources in communities that have been marginalized by gov actions rather than further starving them.</p> <p>Health care services are vital in the age of Covid. Cuts at this time that impede access to emergency room care in favor of outpatient service are ill-advised. Residents of the Southside, especially those with underlying and life-threatening conditions, deserve better than this. Please find a way to make budget cuts but not at the expense of the most vulnerable. Respectfully, Stephanie Latkovski, Hyde Park</p> <p>(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)</p>
Stephanie Hilary	Latkovski Bolda	Chicago Chicago	IL IL	
Dan	Rowell	Chicago	IL	<p>I am a nursing student at Rush University and have been a member of the South Side Chicago community for over ten years. I've worked to fight health disparities on the south side of Chicago and know the resiliency and strength of this community. As a researcher and community member we provided grocery store tours and food rx programs to south side residents, diabetes empowerment classes, and so much more. Please do not take health care access away from them during a pandemic. This is too important. Defund the police, not Cook County Hospitals. Lives depend on it. Do what is right.</p>
Sharene	Shaw	Rolling Meadows	IL	<p>Please take into consideration how incredibly disadvantaged people in these communities already are. Cutting the health care budget and consolidating services tells these folks that they are considered less than human. Healthcare is a human right, especially now during the pandemic. The only way we are going to become better as a community is to look out for each other and bring the poorest right along with us. Let's walk the walk of human decency and respect. We have all seen far too much hate and disregard in 2020.</p> <p>It is a mistake to close hospitals on the Southside when we should be caring more for those most at risk!</p>
SaraLouise	Dawson	Chicago	IL	

Liz	Kantor	Chicago	IL	Cuts to health care on the South Side are unacceptable anytime, not least while the pandemic is seeing another wave of cases. Closing Provident Hospital's emergency room will increase flow to hospitals that can't handle more, like UChicago. Reject austerity, support our nurses and the health of Chicago communities.
Jordan	Weber	Chicago	IL	(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)
Stefanie	Wright	Chicago	IL	The ramifications of closing Provident Hospital's Emergency Room deprives south side residents of access to critical, life saving care. There should be more money given to healthcare in this year's budget, not less. It is inhumane to deprive vulnerable people access to the ER.
Joshua	Falk	Chicago	IL	I am writing to ask you to reconsider your budget, which eliminates critical medical services on the South Side of Chicago. I have seen the effects of these type of closures in other cities. Mercy Hospital is already closing (although I would ask that you do what you can to prevent that outcome, I have visited Mercy myself and it would be a huge loss to our community). Access to ER care is critical, and closing the Provident Hospital will lead to more death, as well as pave the way for closing the facility in the future. These are not questions of optimal allocation of resources, because the money you save by slashing this care is not being reinvested into new medical care resources on the South Side. I beg you to reconsider and ensure that all residents of Cook County have access to equitable medical care. Thank you for your time.
Timothy	Anderson	Chicago	IL	Sincerely, Joshua Falk (write your message to save health care on the South Side here)
Kaidrea	Stockman	Oak Park	IL	No Cuts to health care services in the 2021 budget! Studies show that when emergency rooms close, the death rate at nearby hospitals increases by 5 percent overall. For those patients suffering a heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, the rate of death increases to 15 percent.

Sveta	Stoytcheva	Chicago	IL	<p>Weâ€™re living through a global pandemic that is already disproportionately impacting Black and Brown communities. These same communities already have unequal access to health care. It is absolutely not ok for the County budget to defund essential public health resources in the moment we need them most. Save Cook County Health Care!</p>
Susan	van der Meulen	Chicago	IL	<p>It is very important that you take action to save health care for the needy on the South Side here please! Sincerely, Susan van der Meulen architect (write your message to save health care on the South Side here)</p> <p>We are in the middle of a pandemic. A Chicago survey recently showed that most residents want to defund police, not defund human needs. If you cut health care services from the 2021 budget, you are confirming to every voter out there that our politicians would rather save money than save lives. Show us that you stand with working people and remove all the cuts to. health care services.</p>
Mauda	Roberts	Chicago	IL	
Kenneth	Barrios	Chicago	IL	

patients in inner-city Chicago since that time and I have seen many patients who received their care from Mercy Hospital.

As a clinical nurse specialist who has worked to advance the art and science of nursing for people of African descent through education advocacy health policy. I have also worked to promote health and wellness and to eliminate health disparities.

The removal of inpatient facilities is causing great consternation and alarm. Where will these patients go who will see them? I am of the mind that this closure will make people sicker and further increase disparities increase morbidity as well as co-morbidities.

Years ago Provident Hospital of closed (mid 80s to the early 90s) and we saw a worsening of healthcare disparities and a worsening of chronic diseases in areas around Provident Hospital.

The closing of Mercy Hospital will leave huge gaps in healthcare on the southside of Chicago. Of particular concern to me is that Mercy has one of the very few inpatient psychiatric units on the southside of Chicago and is one of the only facilities that provides services to the homeless population and under insured.

The closure of this hospital is an example of inequity and disregard for poor people this closure leaves our community lessens access to inpatient care, labor and delivery , and psychiatric care.

Azella C	Collins	Chicago	IL
Betty	Anthony	Calumet Pa	IL
Franklin	Stevenson	Oak Park	IL

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

Scott	Mechanic	Chicago	IL
Laurissa	Portillo	Chicago	IL

I am an ICU nurse at UChicago Hospital. I'm very concerned about the proposed cuts to health care services, particularly at Provident Hospital. The Southside has had a scarcity of hospital beds since the closure of Michael Reese. Already the ICU I work in is nearly always filled to capacity, with critically ill patients boarding in the ED waiting on beds. Every hour an ICU patient stays in the ED instead of the ICU their mortality increases. I fear that these cuts will exacerbate the already gross healthcare inequities in our county.

(write your message to save health care on the South Side here)

Please do not make cuts to healthcare services in 2021. Provident Hospital's ER is a valuable service to the community, and residents in that area deserve access to an ER facility. Studies show that when emergency rooms close, the death rate at nearby hospitals increases by 5 percent overall. For those patients suffering a heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, the rate of death increases to 15 percent.

Katie	Scott	Forest Park	IL
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â€¢ No Cuts to health care services in the 2021 budget!

â€¢ No consolidation of community clinics! Fully fund ACHN in communities where care is needed.

â€¢ Do not downgrade Provident Hospital's ER.

â€¢ Studies show that when emergency rooms close, the death rate at nearby hospitals increases by 5 percent overall. For those patients suffering a heart attack, stroke, or sepsis, the rate of death increases to 15 percent.

â€¢ Preckwinkle's move to close Provident Hospital's emergency room will not only deprive the most vulnerable of a vital emergency resource, it paves a clear path for the closure of the facility which is authorized for 85 medical surgical and six intensive care unit beds.

Ray	Barlow	Chicago	IL
Irene	Henry	Chicago	IL