

TO: City of Milwaukee Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development Committee
FROM: Monica Fink, Care Partner/Health Unit Coordinator, Children's Wisconsin
DATE: Tuesday, November 8, 2020
RE: Support for Children's Wisconsin proposed medical clinic, 1432 W. Forest Home Ave

Chairman Pérez and Members of the Committee,

My name is Monica Fink and I am a 12th District resident. I live between Lapham and Greenfield – about 6 minutes walking distance from the proposed clinic. I have been a care partner/health unit coordinator for 12 years in the Neurosciences Unit at Children's Wisconsin (Children's). I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you today to share my support for Children's Wisconsin's proposed clinic on Forest Home Avenue.

Today I am here to talk to you as a proud mom of three-year-old Penelope.

When I learned about Children's' plan to offer additional services to families on the south side of Milwaukee, I thought about the many kids and families who would benefit from increased access to care. With the many barriers facing community members, whether it's issues with transportation or getting time off of work, having a clinic on Forest Home will help families more easily access the care they need. Having a Children's location in the neighborhood will bring pediatric expertise to the community and offer families peace of mind knowing that kids living in this area will be well taken care of. I take Penelope to Children's Oak Creek Pediatrics which we absolutely love and are thrilled with the care. We chose this location because I knew we wanted to be part of Children's Wisconsin and this was the closest location to us. Not everyone has the same access to transportation that I do and having a clinic in such a convenient location on the south side will be so beneficial to so many.

I also used to visit the former library for many years and it was a very special place for me when I was growing up. However, this site has been vacant for some time and I believe repurposing this site as a Children's clinic would help improve the community overall and provide a meaningful benefit to many kids and their families who could more easily access the care and services they need.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today and I'm happy to answer any questions.