**Paul L. Mina**

President & CEO

Decorative letter head image

August 19, 2021

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02108

Dear Determination of Need Program:

My name is Paul Mina, and I am the President & CEO of the United Way of Tri-County, Inc., Mass2-1-1 and Call2Talk. We serve children and families across the entire Commonwealth via Mass2-1-1’s referral and information services. Mass2-1-1 is the official hotline for emergency information through its partnership with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the official hotline for childcare through its partnership with the MA Department of Early Education and Care and the official hotline for Children Requiring Assistance and the Runaway Assistance Program through its partnership with the MA Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

I am writing to express my strong support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. As you are aware, the need for children’s access to integrated pediatric care, especially mental and behavioral healthcare, is great.

We applaud the fact that Boston Children’s is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding, underserved communities as well. This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services where and when they need it.

A lack of transportation is a very serious problem facing the families that we serve, so we are especially pleased that families will have greater access to outpatient services in much more convenient locations. We look forward to collaborating on ways to better serve our child, youth and family clients and the broader community.

I am confident Boston Children’s investments in children, families and communities will have a long- lasting impact that will benefit our communities for many years to come. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children’s proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Paul L. Mina President & CEO

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 46 Park Street . Framingham, MA 01702 [United Way of Tri-County Website at www.uwotc.org](http://www.uwotc.org/) |  |  |

Hilary and Geoffrey Grove 85 Gate House Road Chestnut Hill, MA 02467 [hilarykgrove@gmail.com](mailto:hilarykgrove@gmail.com)

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington St.

Boston, MA 02108

August 17, 2021

Dear Determination of Need Program,

I am writing to support Boston Children’s Hospital’s proposal to modernize its existing facilities in Waltham and Weymouth and build an ambulatory surgical center in Needham. I believe this project will greatly benefit children, families, and communities across our state and improve access for patients seeking lifesaving or life-changing care.

My experience with BCH goes back to when I was pregnant with twins in 2013. As a high-risk pregnancy, I went for frequent ultrasounds at a Brookline facility. One early morning appointment at week 20, a technician identified issues with both kidneys in one of the fetuses. It so happened that a BCH urologist, Dr. Richard Lee, was on site at the ultrasound facility to help evaluate these conditions, and work with families to monitor the developments through pregnancy, and make a plan for treatment once the baby is born. For the next 4 months, at every ultrasound, Dr. Lee educated us, prepared us, and most importantly, listened, to our

concerns. The day the twins were born at a different Boston hospital, at 9pm after a full day’s work, Dr. Lee came to our hospital room to take our son for his first round of invasive tests.

About once a week for the first year and a half of my son’s life, my husband and/or I took our son to BCH for long, painful tests including catheter VCUGs, ultrasounds, bloodwork and other imaging. The logistics of balancing these appointments with a twin and a working parent was not easy. We live in Chestnut Hill and found it a life-saver when we could have all of these diagnostics done at the Waltham facility, including the visits with Dr. Lee. The ease of getting there without traffic, knowing we could find convenient parking, directly translated into fewer hours taken off of work, and fewer hours of childcare for our other child. We benefited from all of the incredible resources of the main Boston facility, including the amazing Child Life Specialists who knew just how to distract our son from any pain. At 18 months old, Dr. Lee removed our son’s non-functioning kidney and planned a course of action through medication to protect the remaining kidney with the belief that its hydronephrosis would improve on its

own. The surgery was a huge success. In fact, by age 3, our son’s condition had improved so dramatically, that no further medication or surgery was needed. The only thing we can think that would have made the surgery smoother would have been if it could have been done at a more local, satellite facility!

As a testament to our gratitude of the care we received at BCH, my husband and I began donating to support Dr. Lee’s research, which includes the development of a biomarker test that could help so many parents understand the risks of similar conditions that our son suffered, and better evaluate the need for surgery. In 2020, we established the Grove Family Endowed Chair in Urology at BCH. I serve on BCH’s Trust Board, a group that works tirelessly to support BCH’s mission to enhance the health and well-being of ALL children, in particular those in our local communities.

The proposed projects and investments will help Boston Children’s grow this impact and reach even more families and more patients, clearly demonstrating the hospital’s commitment to the health and well-being of children throughout Massachusetts. These projects will ensure that patients and families have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services in convenient, lower-cost settings. In addition, they will meet the needs of

surrounding underserved communities.

I am confident Boston Children’s growing investments in children, families and communities will have a long-lasting impact and benefit future generations of children for many years.

Thank you for accepting this letter of support. Sincerely,

Hilary and Geoffrey Grove 85 Gate House Road Chestnut Hill, MA 02467 [hilarykgrove@gmail.com](mailto:hilarykgrove@gmail.com)

City of Quincy, Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COUNCIL

BRIAN PALMUCCI

COUNCILLOR – WARD FOUR

August 13, 2021

Determination of Need Program Massachusetts Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02108

Dear Determination of Need Program,

Please accept this letter in strong support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s (BCH) expansion and improvement plans across the state, specifically their proposal to expand services in Weymouth.

In my role as an elected official in Quincy, I know the importance that proximity plays in delivery services to underserved and underprivileged residents of Quincy. By expanding its operational footprint, BCH is better able to reach those who may not otherwise have access to its life-saving services. We are all fortunate to have the premier pediatric hospital in the country in our region, but not everyone has the ability to access it. BCH's ambulatory centers are an essential part of ensuring as many children in need as possible gain access to the range of specialties, services, and opportunities that BCH provides – many of which are not available elsewhere.

I represent thousands of residents who live below the poverty line. The Weymouth facility allows families to see their doctors while lessening the burden of long public transportation commutes, significant uncompensated time off work, expensive parking, and the various other roadblocks they face in accessing the Boston campus. For children with complex medical needs – who require frequent visits and coordination across a large care team – this accessibility is absolutely essential to helping them and their families navigate treatment.

My most important role, is as a father of two children ages 4 and 8. The Boston campus of BCH is 9.7 miles from my home. Like any parent, I want the best care for my children which means we always go to BCH for our kid's medical services. My family is fortunate that we have two parents in the home, two reliable cars, and good health insurance. Getting that top-tier medical attention for my kids is not an issue, and an expanded footprint of BCH will mean it can be for others who are less fortunate. There is undoubtedly a need.

To date, Boston Children’s has been a tremendous community partner across the entire South Shore, and we have no doubt that an expanded footprint would only broaden and deepen the positive impact they can make for the families that we represent.

As a community leader and father, I am proud to support this project and respectfully urge your expeditious approval.

Sincerely,

Brian Palmucci

City Hall, 1305 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA, 02169-5102

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington St.

Boston, MA 02108 8/10/2021

Dear Determination of Need Program,

I am writing on behalf of Boston Children’s Hospital in support of their proposal to expand their facilities and access to specialized care at their Waltham, Weymouth and Needham locations. Having personal experience with the care at Boston Children’s Hospital for my own child, I can attest to the importance of prioritizing this effort that will not only help families get targeted care, but positively impact the surrounding communities and others who travel in order to seek this quality of care, like myself.

To share some context, I am a Special Education teacher for a public school district on Cape Cod, who regularly works with families who enlist the care of the clinics at BCH and satellite offices for various medical and developmental needs, however it is my own personal experience that has profoundly affected my family’s relationship with BCH. In January of 2018, my daughter, Remmy, was mauled by our family dog at the age of 13 months. This spiraled into a series of events that lead to an airlift to either Hasbro Children’s Hospital in Providence, or BCH. In hindsight, I am forever thankful that the choice was made to send her to Boston. While I can deduce that our experience at Hasbro may have been positive, I can’t imagine a setting as attentive and dynamic as Boston Children’s.

Our experience began at the main hospital in Boston Children’s Emergency department where my husband and I encountered about two dozen doctors and support staff attending to our daughter as she had to receive an emergency tracheostomy at our local hospital before transport due to massive swelling of her airway caused by the dog bite to her face and neck, which had essentially crushed the right mid-lower areas of her face, and caused severe damage to her mouth, nose and tissue surrounding her right eye. A 9-hour reconstructive surgery by multiple departments including plastics, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, and gastroenterology assured her survival of the initial incident, but we would be by her bedside in the MS-ICU for 27 days, followed by another 10 days on the regular inpatient floor before being transferred to Spaulding Rehabilitation in Charlestown for another week or so. I highlight the gravity of her situation because we were dependent upon various specialists all at once. It was an immediate life changing event that landed us as BCH not just for that grueling 5 weeks, but for the rest of her adolescent life.

After Remmy had been stabilized and her condition extensively evaluated, it was clear that the main players in her care would be the plastic surgery and craniofacial clinic, the ophthalmology clinic, ORL clinic and gastroenterology for a briefer period. Her emergency tracheostomy placement would require regular monitoring through the ORL clinic for signs of decreased

swelling for eventual decannulation, as I naively thought we would be leaving the hospital without it. Her new g-tube and feeding progress would also need to be monitored as well as her vision in the affected eye. This required very regular visits to the individual clinics in the first 6 months following discharge from Spaulding Rehabilitation. I would estimate we were traveling every couple of weeks to a follow up appointment. This has thinned to about every 6 months, but keep in mind this applies to each clinic. We have utilized Weymouth, Waltham, Boston, and Lexington. The ability to go to Weymouth has been a great help to not only cutting down travel, but maintaining the ability to keep Remmy on a regular schedule because she is only 4. “Doctor days” are already tense, and traveling to the city from the Cape sometimes feels like the equivalent of planning a touchdown pass in the Super Bowl between unpredictable travel variables and the other routines I need to keep for her during the process (feeding, keeping calm, preparing her for the appointment and what that will look like). It is usually a full day event, but accessing other offices has helped to ease those burdens.

Currently, Remmy continues to utilize every clinic mentioned with the exception of gastroenterology since she had her g-tube removed in the Spring of 2019. She continues to undergo surgeries 2-3 times a year as of now, with a burst of follow-ups proceeding those surgeries. These clinics have been a pivotal part of her recovery and will continue to do so, therefore it only seems logical to enhance the facilities and services offered by these satellites. We are certainly not the only higher needs family depending on BCH and surrounding clinics, but her care has been greatly affected by being able to see her wonderful team outside of Boston.

There have been times that I have had to cancel appointments to Boston due to the lack of appointment times that fit our schedule, or the inability to take that much time to get there, and while I always reschedule these appointments it feels as though I’m not prioritizing her needs, so being able to have a more flexible option through the satellite offices is imperative to us.

It is my hope that this testimony will help to emphasize the importance of not just Boston Children’s Hospital, but the access to care from these offices and their clinics. I can only imagine how many more families will be profoundly affected by some event that will require specialized care, and this expansion could be their answer. It certainly was to our family, now and for years to come.

Sincerely,

Stephenie Schauberger 45 Braeburn Court

East Falmouth, MA 02536 [Schau08@gmail.com](mailto:Schau08@gmail.com)



Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington St.

Boston, MA 02108

August 12, 2021

Dear Determination of Need Program:

My name is Monica Lombardo and I am the Vice President & Chief Advancement Officer of Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South. Through a combination of before and after-school, weekend, and summer camp enrichment programs offered at our Clubhouses in Brockton and Taunton, and at serval community-based extension sites, we serve nearly 2,500 youth from 41 southeastern Massachusetts cities and towns each year! I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. As you are aware, the need for children’s access to integrated pediatric care, especially mental and behavioral healthcare, is great.

We applaud the fact that Boston Children’s is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding, underserved communities as well.

This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services where and when they need it.

A lack of transportation is one of the most serious problems facing the families that we serve, so we are especially pleased that families will have greater access to outpatient services in much more convenient locations. Boston Children’s presence in our community also provides an important opportunity to complement and expand upon the services that Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South currently offers. We look forward to collaborating on ways to better serve our child, youth and family clients and the broader community.

I am confident Boston Children’s investments in children, families and communities will have a long- lasting impact that will benefit our community for many years to come. Having benefitted greatly from the expertise of the medical team at Boston Children's myself over the years, having been diagnosed with Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis at the age of 2, I know all too well just

how critical access to high-quality care is for children and their families. I am honored to have the occasion to lend my support for Boston Children's now as a small token of repayment for all that the hospital has done for me and my family through the years.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children’s proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Monica Adele Lombardo, MPA

Vice President & Chief Advancement Officer Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South

**75 Middle Street**

**Weymouth, MA 02189**

**Fax. (781) 682-6112**

[**www.weymouth.ma.us/health**](http://www.weymouth.ma.us/health)

**Weymouth Health Department Daniel McCormack, R.S., C.H.O Director of Public Health Robert L. Hedlund, Mayor**

August 18, 2021

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington St. Boston, MA 02108

RE: Children's Medical Center Corporation BCH-21071411-HE DoN Application" Dear Determination of Need Program:

My name is Daniel McCormack and I am the Director of the Weymouth Health Department. As part of the many diverse jobs our department performs every day, we serve children and families in Weymouth for their: housing, food insecurity, vaccination and other needs.

I am writing today to express my strong support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. For us, new the Weymouth facility will greatly expand pediatric care for our residents especially mental and behavioral healthcare.

The new facility on Libbey Industrial Parkway in Weymouth would allow convenient access for our residents and others coming there for care. Transportation for some is often a barrier. This location is convenient to the highway and other public forms of transportation.

We have already met (virtually due to COVID) with the Children’s Team to discuss the proposed project and the current needs of our residents.

We applaud the fact that Boston Children’s is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding, underserved communities as well. This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services where and when they need it.

I am confident Boston Children’s investments in children, families and communities will have a long-lasting impact that will benefit our community for many years to come.

The Weymouth Health Department appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children’s proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Daniel McCormack signature

Daniel McCormack, RS, CHO, Director Weymouth Health Department



August 20, 2021

Determination of Need Program Massachusetts Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street Boston, MA 02108

Dear Determination of Need Program:

My name is Elizabeth Browne, and I am the CEO of Charles River Community Health. We serve over 15,500 patients annually, of whom about 25% are children, at our sites in Allston- Brighton and Waltham. We have been affiliated with Boston Children’s Hospital for over 20 years to ensure access to pediatric specialty and inpatient care for the largely low income, Limited English Proficient, and patients of color we serve. I am writing to express my support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. As you are aware, the need for access to integrated pediatric care, especially mental and behavioral healthcare, is significant.

We are pleased that Boston Children’s is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding, underserved communities as well. This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services.

Lack of transportation is a barrier facing the families that we serve, so we are pleased that families will have greater access to outpatient services in much more convenient locations. For example, our children and families living in Waltham have very limited options to get to Children’s Boston campus unless they have a car. They need care closer to where they live and work. Boston Children’s presence in our community also presents an important opportunity to complement and expand the primary and preventive services that Charles River Community Health currently offers, and we look forward to collaborating on ways to better serve our pediatric patients and the broader community.

Boston Children’s investments in children, families and communities will have a long- lasting impact and will benefit our community for many years to come.

Charles River Community Health appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children’s proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on the proposed project.

Sincerely



Chief Executive Officer

495 Western Avenue, Brighton, MA 02135

4359

ADMIN FAX: 617-783-5514 CLINICAL FAX : 617-787-

43 Foundry Avenue, Waltham, MA 02453 FAX: 781-693-3817

Determination of Need MA Department of Public

Health 250 Washington Street Boston, MA 02108

August 17, 2021

To: Determination of Need Program

I am writing in support of Boston Children’s Hospital’s (BCH) proposal to modernize their Weymouth and Waltham Campuses and create an ambulatory surgical center in Needham. The project proposed would greatly benefit children and families in need by providing locally- based, life-saving care. Healthier communities for our children enable a brighter future for our Commonwealth. The proposal before you would allow more families greater and more timely access to comprehensive, life-changing pediatric care.

My family’s own experience with Boston Children’s spans generations. Nearly forty years ago, my sister had groundbreaking surgery at this hospital that allowed her to not only survive but thrive. Several years later, I would find myself moving back to the Boston area specifically for the world-class care at Boston Children’s, as my second child was struggling to survive. He was born with multiple complex medical issues including cardiac, respiratory, skeletal, renal, and metabolic conditions that were not only life-threatening, but unique to him. Boston Children’s never gave up. I was told numerous times that my son Jamie would not live to see a year old.

But Boston Children’s, despite the insurmountable odds, never gave up hope. Over the years we have had numerous admissions and seen firsthand the benefits of numerous research studies and multiple medical advances, treatment options we found only at Children’s.

My son celebrated his 37th birthday this past April. Though the road has not always been easy for my family, the medical expertise and support from BCH has given my family and our community a gift that is not able to be fully described in words. Throughout the course of my son’s journey, I know that countless other children have experienced this life-saving care, allowing them to be able to be a part of their own communities. My older son was also able to receive his primary care at Boston Children’s, which was an enormous help. Caring for the entire family when one child is seriously ill makes a real-life difference in outcomes for not only the children, but the parents alike.

In 1995, I gave birth to my third child. At age three, he was diagnosed with autism and, soon after, generalized anxiety disorder. Once again, Boston Children’s helped my family navigate this uncertain diagnosis that encompassed my son Dakota’s entire life. When a child with

autism needs medical care, I can personally tell you that getting them there is no easy feat. The anxiety surrounding a primary care appointment, especially “shot appointments,” or going to the dentist or eye doctor can be overwhelming not only for these children, but their families, too. The patience and caring at Boston Children’s, combined with the willingness of clinicians to think outside the box, was beyond amazing to me. Psychiatrists and Child Life therapists worked with me to help create strategies and ways to help my son relax and complete appointments. When my son had an emergent visit after accidently crushing his finger in a door during a meltdown, the clinicians not only cared for my son’s medical needs, but also our emotional needs, as it was a very traumatic day. My son had an emergent surgical procedure, and today you can barely see the scar from the surgery where his finger was crushed many years ago as a young boy.

When Dakota needed to have his wisdom teeth removed, we were worried about losing all the progress we had made around doctor appointments and hospitals. The surgeon and I decided to have his wisdom teeth removed at the Waltham campus, a safe place where he could be sedated for the procedure. Providing another environment to do a procedure can be vital for children on the Autism Spectrum. The doctor was patient with his anxiety, had us come visit first, and the procedure and after care was a success, because of the outstanding care we received not only for my son, but our family. Having options for treatments at various locations was extremely important to our family. I am happy to report that today Dakota has transitioned to an adult dental provider uneventfully in our local community, due to the care and compassion over the years that he received at Boston Children’s Hospital during formative years.

The stories and impacts on countless children’s lives that I have personally witnessed over my years with Boston Children’s are far too numerous to document in this letter. What I can unequivocally say is that the need for this proposal to go forward is unquestionably in the best interests of public health for Massachusetts. Ensuring that patients can access high quality pediatric care in their communities not only saves lives but creates less stress for families with travel. The cost of high-quality care is reduced for patients, families, and providers.

Underserved children have their needs better addressed and met when care is in their local community, thus making it more accessible. As a parent, I receive calls every week from families asking questions and seeking care at Boston Children’s Hospital, often asking questions about satellite locations that are easier to access. Expanding the services in the current proposal means less waiting for children in urgent need of appointments, consults, and surgical procedures.

We have all witnessed the unwavering commitment and lifelong impacts that Boston Children’s Hospital has daily on the lives of the Commonwealth’s most vulnerable children, from the best medical care to addressing the needs of their individual communities. This proposal is so much more than a brick-and-mortar building project. This proposal is an investment in our children’s lives and their children’s lives for generations. This proposal is a

commitment to the future of kids.

Thank you for accepting this letter of support. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Our children’s future is counting on your support.

Respectfully,

*LM Burgess*

Lisa Burgess - Boston Children’s Hospital Family Advisory Council / Advisor Emeritus 97 South Washington Street, Norton, MA 02766

[burgess.lisamarie@gmail.com](mailto:burgess.lisamarie@gmail.com) or [lisa\_burgess@comcast.net](mailto:lisa_burgess@comcast.net)

August 15, 2021

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02108

Dear Determination of Need Program,

We are writing today to support Boston Children’s Hospital’s proposal to modernize its existing facilities in Waltham and Weymouth and to build an ambulatory surgical center in Needham.

Our family has accessed care at Children’s Hospital for the past 13 years and will continue to need to access this quality care for many more years to come. We believe this project will greatly benefit children, families and communities across the state and improve access for patients seeking lifesaving or life changing care.

As residents of Scituate, having access to the remarkable care of Children’s physicians in Weymouth relieved a major obstacle to receiving care on a timely basis, namely, saving us a long commute and costly parking for appointments. We are adoptive parents of two boys who have needed medical care throughout their lives. When we made the decision to adopt children with known medical needs, we did so because we are fortunate enough to have Boston Children’s Hospital in our community. What is important to parents with children who have on- going medical needs is the continuum of care, that all medical records are easily accessed by multiple care teams. Boston Children’s Hospital does that but going into Boston for multiple appointments is time consuming and costly. Having your physician’s coming closer to your community means pulling your children out of school less, if not at all. As our children have entered middle school that has been a huge concern and the Weymouth office has given us much more flexibility with less school and learning time missed by our boys.

Our children have needed a continuum of care and we have been able to see their cardiologist and ophthalmologist at Children’s in Weymouth. In addition, we have been able to access phlebotomy there, which is far superior to heading to a Quest Diagnostics, which does not specialize in drawing blood from children. We wish Weymouth had the expanded capabilities that they are now seeking so that we could have accessed speech therapy, physical therapy and occupational therapy, all things we had to find on our own as going into Boston was too great of a challenge.

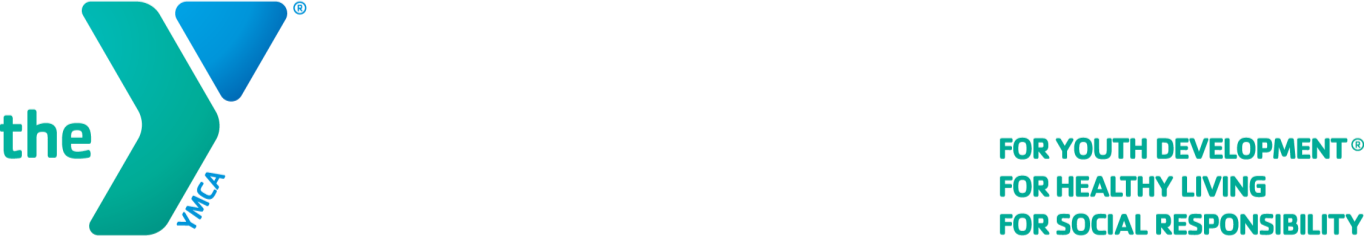
The South Shore needs access to the full range of high-quality care that is given by the physicians at Boston Children’s Hospital. The proposed projects and investments will help the hospital to impact and reach far more families and patients. In addition, it will provide an outlet for families in underserved communities here on the South Shore.

We are confident that Boston Children’s growing investments in children, families and communities will have a long-lasting impact and benefit future generations of children for many years.

Thank you for accepting this letter of support. Sincerely,

Jennifer & Jeff Robinson 27 Glades Road

Scituate, MA 02066 [jlrboston@gmail.com](mailto:jlrboston@gmail.com)



Determination of Need Program

MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington Street

Boston, MA 02108

~~August 3, 2021~~

August 30, 2021

Dear Determination of Need Program,

My name is Vincent Marturano and I am the President & CEO of Old Colony YMCA, a social service and mission-driven nonprofit organization headquartered in Brockton. We serve children and families in nearly 40 cities and towns across the Commonwealth. I am writing to express my strong support for Boston Children’s Hospital’s plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. As you are aware, the need for children’s access to integrated pediatric care, especially mental and behavioral healthcare, is great.

We applaud the fact that Boston Children’s is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding, underserved communities – like Brockton – as well. This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services where and when they need it.

A lack of transportation is one of the most serious problems facing the families that we serve, so we are especially pleased that families will have greater access to outpatient services in much more convenient locations. Boston Children’s presence in our community also provides an important opportunity to complement and expand the services Old Colony YMCA currently offers. We look forward to collaborating on ways to serve children, families, seniors, and the broader community. This expansion will help community organizations like the Y address

ever-present needs like access to healthy food, nutritional education, and behavioral health resources, all of which have been exacerbated during the pandemic.

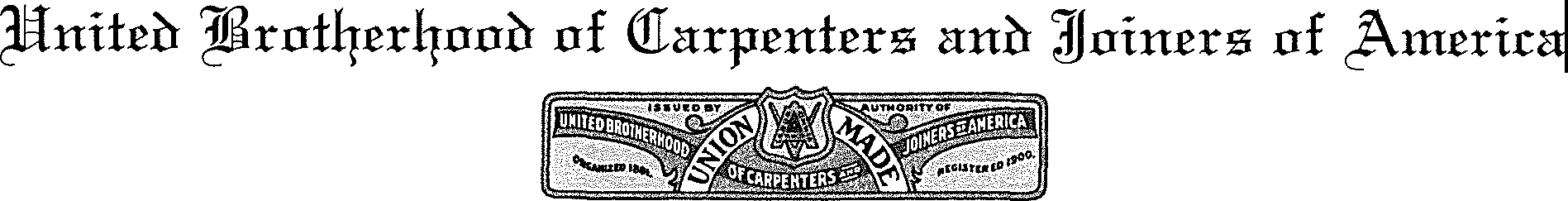
I am confident Boston Children’s investments in children, families and communities will have a long-lasting impact that will benefit our community for many years to come.

Old Colony YMCA appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children’s proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on the proposed project.

Sincerely,



Vincent J. Marturano, MSW, ACSW President & CEO Old Colony YMCA



**NORTH ATLANTIC STATES REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS**

FAX (617) 268-044

**CARPENTERS, MILL-CABINET & INDUSTRIAL WORKERS**

Determination of Need Program MA Department of Public Health 250 Washington St.

Boston, MA 02108

August 16,2021

Dear Determination of Need Program:

My name Michael Davey and I am the Council Representative of Local Union 51. I am writing to express my strong support for Boston Children's Hospital's plans to modernize its Waltham and Weymouth facilities and to build a new ambulatory surgical center in Needham. Many of our members have children who have been treated at Boston Children's and see these proposed projects as both an opportunity to create good, union jobs as well as an opportunity to bring Boston Children's services closer to where patient families live.

We applaud the fact that Boston Children's is undertaking these plans in a way that demonstrates its commitment not only to the health and well-being of children in those three communities but to addressing the needs of children and families in surrounding underserved communities as well. This will ensure that families throughout Massachusetts have access to a full range of high quality, integrated pediatric care services where and when they need it.

I am confident Boston Children's investments in children, families and communities will have a long-lasting impact that will benefit the community for many years to come.

Local Union 51 appreciates the opportunity to provide this letter of support for Boston Children's proposed project. We strongly urge the Department of Public Health to act favorably on it.

Sincerely, Michael Davey

Local 51 Council Representative