

# GBMC HealthCare System

Greater Baltimore Health Alliance  
Greater Baltimore Medical Center  
Gilchrist Hospice Care

John B. Chessare, M.D., MPH, FACHE  
President & CEO

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September 15, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen:

Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly known as the Joseph Richey House) has been an important resource for Baltimore City residents since 1987. For 30 years, this nonprofit hospice has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

**We are writing this letter in support of Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move their hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home located at Stadium Place at 1050 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.** The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort as well as improve the fiscal performance of this important center. The Center offers access to 22 residential and general in-patient beds. This includes four recently opened pediatric beds.

As the President of GBMC HealthCare and Chair of the Board, Gilchrist Center Baltimore helps us by providing the much needed end of life care for a very unique population. We are committed to continuing to serve them but we need a safe and efficient facility to do this work.

Gilchrist Center Baltimore is a necessary and much-needed service in Baltimore City. Without their services, many city residents would be without the end-of-life care they receive through Gilchrist. The population of city residents who are dying from an AIDS related illness would be severely impacted because this center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs for many, many years. Many of the people served are low-income and have tenuous living arrangements and depend on the services and living arrangements provided by the center. In addition, fifty-six percent of the people served at Gilchrist Center Baltimore are African American, far exceeding the current hospice use rate, (22%) in Baltimore City and the national hospice use rate of 44.5%.

We fully support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



John B. Chessare, MD, President  
GBMC HealthCare Inc.



Patricia J. Mitchell, Chair, Board of Directors  
GBMC HealthCare, Inc.

September 15, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly known as the Joseph Richey House) is a nonprofit hospice that for thirty years has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

**I am writing this letter in support of Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move the hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home located at Stadium Place at 1050 East 33rd Street.** The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort as well as improve the fiscal performance of this important center. The Center offers access to 22 residential and general in-patient beds. This includes 4 recently opened pediatric beds.

Gilchrist Center Baltimore is a critical health and human services provider for the terminally ill in Baltimore City. Without their services, many city residents would be without the end-of-life care they receive through Gilchrist. The population of city residents who are dying from an AIDS related illness would be severely impacted because this center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs for many, many years. Many of the people served are low-income and have tenuous living arrangements and depend on the services and living arrangements provided by the center. In addition, fifty-six percent of the people served at Gilchrist Center Baltimore are African American, far exceeding the current hospice use rate, (22%) in Baltimore City and the national hospice use rate of 44.5%. Without Gilchrist Center Baltimore, these individuals would have nowhere to turn. They depend on the services and living arrangements provided at the center to die with dignity and comfort.

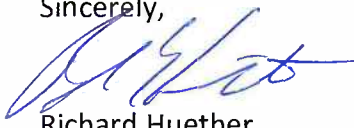
The pediatric beds are for those children and young adults whose care is too complex to be provided at home, or for those families needing respite care. This is a much needed resource that is not available anywhere else in Maryland, and even much of the country, with dedicated pediatric staff for pediatric inpatient hospice.

As Chairman of the Gilchrist Board of Directors, we recognize that Gilchrist Center Baltimore must remain in the City serving its most vulnerable residents. Stadium Place, with its low income and at market housing for seniors is a seamless fit with Gilchrist services. For example, currently, residents who require in-patient hospice care have to be relocated away from family and friends. The mission and work of our organization at this location would bring even more services and value to the citizens of Baltimore City.

We fully support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Huether', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Richard Huether  
Chairman of the Board



1001 E. Fayette Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
*Catherine E. Pugh*, Mayor  
*Leana S. Wen, M.D., M.Sc.*, Commissioner of Health

September 15, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen:

The Baltimore City Health Department is pleased to support Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move their hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new home located at Stadium Place, at 1050 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort, and to improve their fiscal performance.

Formerly known as the Joseph Richey House, Gilchrist Center Baltimore has been an important resource for Baltimore City residents since 1987. For 30 years, this nonprofit hospice has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved persons.

We are Baltimore City's legally designated public health authority and the Ryan White Part A Grantee for the Baltimore region. Gilchrist helps us as a sub-grantee by serving one of our very vulnerable and unique populations: those dying from AIDS-related illnesses. The center has been the exclusive hospice for the Ryan White Part A and HIOPWA programs for many years.

Furthermore, absent Gilchrist, other city residents would be without end-of-life care. Many clients are low-income and suffered through unstable housing for years, and depend on the center's services and living arrangements. In addition, 56% of the people served are African American, far exceeding the current hospice use rate in Baltimore City (22%) and the national hospice use rate of 44.5%.

We support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City, and we hope the Commission approves their application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Wen" with a circled "Cos" or similar mark to the right.

Leana S. Wen, M.D., M.Sc.  
Commissioner of Health

Pediatric Administration

Bloomberg Children's Center  
Room 8475  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
1800 Orleans Street  
Baltimore, MD 21287  
410-955-5089 T  
410-955-0761 F



September 15, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly known as the Joseph Richey House) has been an important resource for Baltimore City residents since 1987. For 30 years, this nonprofit hospice has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

**I am writing this letter in support of Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move their hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home located at Stadium Place at 1050 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.** The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort as well as improve the fiscal performance of this important center. The Center offers access to 22 residential and general in-patient beds. This includes 4 recently opened pediatric beds.

As the Administrator of the Johns Hopkins Children's Center at Johns Hopkins Hospital, I have had experience working with Gilchrist Center Baltimore. This important nonprofit helps the community, including patients served by Johns Hopkins Hospital, by providing the much needed end of life care for a very unique population. Additionally, Gilchrist Center Baltimore has recently begun to provide inpatient, pediatric care and this is another needed resource for Baltimore.

I am an unqualified supporter of Gilchrist, its mission and superb operation. I strongly support the move of their Certificates of Needs so that their critical work will continue.

Gilchrist Center Baltimore is a necessary and much-needed service in Baltimore City. Without their services, many city residents would be without the end-of-life care they receive through Gilchrist. The population of city residents who are dying from an AIDS related illness would be severely impacted because this center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs for many, many years. Many of the people served are low-income and have tenuous living arrangements and depend on the services and living arrangements provided by the center. In addition, fifty-six percent of the people served at Gilchrist Center Baltimore are African

American, far exceeding the current hospice use rate, (22%) in Baltimore City and the national hospice use rate of 44.5%.

I fully support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward B. Chambers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward B. Chambers  
Administrator  
Department of Pediatrics  
Johns Hopkins Children's Center



**Bernard C. "Jack" Young**

*President*

Baltimore City Council

100 N. Holliday Street, Room 400 • Baltimore, Maryland 21202

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E-Mail [councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:councilpresident@baltimorecity.gov)

September 15, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen, Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly known as the Joseph Richey House) has been an important resource for Baltimore City residents since 1987. For 30 years, this nonprofit hospice has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

I am writing this letter in support of Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move their hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home located at Stadium Place at 1050 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort as well as improve the fiscal performance of this important center. The Center offers access to 22 residential and general in-patient beds. This includes 4 recently opened pediatric beds.

As the President of the City Council of Baltimore, the Gilchrist Center Baltimore helps us by providing the much needed end of life care for a very unique population. I have visited the center and I know what a critical asset it is for residents of the city. Without their services, many city residents would be without the end-of-life care they receive through Gilchrist. The population of city residents who are dying from an AIDS related illness would be severely impacted because this center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs for many, many years.

I fully support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Bernard C. "Jack" Young, President  
Baltimore City Council



Redonda G. Miller, M.D., M.B.A.  
President, The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
October 3, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

I am writing this letter in support of the application by Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly Joseph Richey House) to move its inpatient hospice center from its current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home at Stadium Place, 1050 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. The move is designed to increase patient safety and comfort as well as to improve the fiscal performance of this important resource for patients and families at the end of life.

For the past 30 years, the non-profit hospice center, which includes 18 residential and general adult inpatient beds and 4 pediatric beds, has provided compassionate end-of-life care for some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

As President of The Johns Hopkins Hospital, I cannot stress how important this resource is for our patients and families. Gilchrist Center Baltimore plays a unique role in the healthcare continuum, providing round-the-clock care for terminally-ill patients, many who might otherwise visit our emergency rooms for care and for management of their pain and other symptoms during their last months, weeks, and days. The clinicians at Gilchrist Center Baltimore are able to meet these patients' needs in a warm, home-like setting, and prevent potentially avoidable utilization of our hospitals. For patients, the opportunity to reside at Gilchrist Center Baltimore at the end of life also provides quality of life – the chance to live their remaining days in a safe, comfortable place, cared for by staff who treat them like family.

Gilchrist Center Baltimore's original mission, to serve the underprivileged and underserved, remains unchanged three decades after it first opened its doors in 1987. Within a few years of its opening, it also distinguished itself as a haven for individuals with end-stage AIDS, during a time when that diagnosis carried a great stigma; for many years, the center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs. To this day, many patients of Gilchrist Center Baltimore live in underserved areas and may have no home or able caregiver.



I know how crucial this move is to the future success of the center. I fully support Gilchrist's request to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Redonda G. Miller".

Redonda G. Miller, M.D., M.B.A.

President, The Johns Hopkins Hospital

September 29, 2017

Mr. Ben Steffen  
Executive Director  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

Dear Mr. Steffen,

Gilchrist Center Baltimore (formerly known as the Joseph Richey House) has been an important resource for Baltimore City residents since 1987. For 30 years, this nonprofit hospice has provided compassionate, end-of-life care to some of Baltimore's most at-risk and medically underserved individuals.

**I am writing this letter in support of Gilchrist Center Baltimore's application to move their hospice inpatient center from their current location at 828-832 North Eutaw Street to a new, proposed home located at Stadium Place at 1050 East 33<sup>rd</sup> Street.** The goal in moving is to increase patient safety and comfort as well as improve the fiscal performance of this important center. The Center offers access to 22 residential and general in-patient beds. This includes 4 recently opened pediatric beds.

As the Chief Medical Officer of UMMC Midtown Campus, the Gilchrist Center Baltimore helps us by providing the much needed end of life care for our unique patient population in the West Baltimore area. We are fortunate to partner with Gilchrist Center Baltimore to provide the next phase of care to our patients.

Gilchrist Center Baltimore is a necessary and much-needed service in Baltimore City. Without their services, many city residents would be without the end-of-life care they receive through Gilchrist. The population of city residents who are dying from an AIDS related illness would be severely impacted because this center has been the exclusive hospice provider for the Ryan White and HOPWA programs for many, many years. Many of the people served are low-income and have tenuous living arrangements and depend on the services and living arrangements provided by the center. In addition, fifty-six percent of the people served at Gilchrist Center Baltimore are African American, far exceeding the current hospice use rate, (22%) in Baltimore City and the national hospice use rate of 44.5%.

I fully support the move of the beds for Gilchrist to be able to construct and operate a residential and inpatient hospice facility at Stadium Place in Baltimore City. Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Hema Patel, MD, FACP  
Chief Medical Officer, UMMC – Midtown Campus