

April 22, 2009

**Kevin O'Neill**  
**SAY San Diego / Mid-City Community Advocacy Network**  
5150 University Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92105

**RE: The California Endowment Foundation's Proposal Application**  
**"Building Healthy Communities" Initiative in City Heights**

Dear Mr. O'Neill

On behalf of Scripps Mercy Hospital and the City Heights Wellness Center, the leadership team supports the Mid-City Community Advocacy Network (Mid-City CAN)'s application to serve as the applicant for the 9-month planning grant under the California Endowment Foundation's "Building Healthy Communities" Initiative in City Heights.

Scripps Mercy Hospital (SMH) has been involved in the City Heights community for many years through its' involvement with the City Heights Wellness Center, the Rosa Parks School/Community Garden, the Hoover High School Health Center, Scripps Mercy WIC Program and in partnership on various community health activities with numerous agencies based in the City Heights community. Many City Heights residents utilize health care services at the Hospital, including outpatient primary care services at Mercy Clinic and or services through the Emergency Department or Maternal Child Health/Labor and Delivery to name a few. The SMH leadership team is well aware of the value Mid-City CAN brings to the community in terms of resident engagement, leadership development and support, environmental advocacy and information sharing.

This Mid-City Network is well-positioned to bring together various population groups and service organizations to develop a plan to achieve the goals outlined by the Healthy Communities Initiative. On behalf of Scripps Mercy Hospital, I lend my support as needed throughout the planning process to improve the structures and systems needed to support healthy living and health behaviors in the Mid-City region of San Diego.

Sincerely,

Karen McCabe  
Director, Community Benefit Services  
Scripps Mercy Hospital

Cc: Lisa Vandervort, Manager City Heights Wellness Center