

JOHN KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION
FINANCE
FOREIGN RELATIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

April 5, 2012

Mary K. Wakefield, PhD, RN
Administrator
Health Resources and Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Administrator Wakefield:

I am writing in support of the Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center, Inc. (JMSCHC) of Allston, Massachusetts and its application for an Affordable Care Act Capital Development – Building Capacity Grant. (HRSA-12-115)

The JMSCHC is committed to reducing health disparities, providing continuity of care, and enhancing the health literacy of our patients and our communities. Its primary service area is urban with a population of over 169,000; its extended catchment area has a population of 1.3 million. It is the only Federally Qualified Health Center in Allston, Brighton and Waltham, and there are no FQHC Look-Alikes or critical access hospitals in the service area.

I want to stress the great importance of the role of Community Health Centers such as the JMSCHC play in the successful implementation of health reform in Massachusetts. It has been our front lines on access and care for under-served populations, and the incredible support HRSA has shown our CHCs has been very much appreciated.

I ask that you give the Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center, Inc. your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator