



February 1, 2021

Luke Mohr
Regional Vice President, Central Region
Acadia Healthcare
2626 East 46th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46205

Dear Mr. Mohr:

The City of Indianapolis's Office of Public Health and Safety (OPHS) works to address root causes of crime and reduce violence in Indianapolis neighborhoods. OPHS convenes public safety and public health agencies along with community partners to execute focused policy efforts in the areas of food access and security, offender re-entry, and homelessness. OPHS additionally acts as the coordinating agency for Mayor Joe Hogsett's comprehensive criminal justice reform efforts, including the City's Assessment and Intervention Center, which offers short-term housing as an alternative to arrest or hospitalization for individuals who are experiencing substance use or mental health issues.

Because of these policy focuses, OPHS is invested in improving access to substance use disorder resources, including treatment facilities, for Indianapolis residents. Thank you for the opportunity to meet and discuss opioid treatment program (OTP) needs in Indianapolis. This letter reflects OPHS's support for Acadia Healthcare Indiana's application to expand its system of treatment and support for Marion County residents and others who have a diagnosis of opioid addiction.

Indiana's opioid epidemic is destroying lives, damaging families, and taking a toll statewide. In 2018, there were 1104 opioid-related overdose deaths in Indiana. Marion County has been especially hard hit by the opioid epidemic, specifically in terms of opioid related overdoses and ER visits for both prescription drug misuse and heroin use.

We welcome the expansion of treatment services to serve our area and reduce the toll the opioid epidemic is taking on our community, and gladly lend our support to all efforts to provide additional facilities and resources to meet this need.

Sincerely,

Matthew K. Giffin
Interim Director
City of Indianapolis, Office of Public Health and Safety