M' CHAEL C. TOOKE, M.D.

16970

September 15, 2002

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Mr. Geoffrey Griffis, Chairman
Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Griffis:

This letter will convey my strong and enthusiastic support of the National Child Research Center (NCRC) in its expansion plan that will come to your panel for approval later this year. NCRC has been a significant amenity of life in Cleveland Park for the past 70 years. The enhancements to the facility and the site are critical to allow the school to continue to fulfill its mission as the premier preschool in the District of Columbia.

NCRC is a resource for the neighborhood, as well as for the entire District. It offers a nationally recognized preschool curriculum to many families who enjoy walking with their children to begin each school day. The school serves the neighborhood even after the final bell rings, as it has traditionally opened its playground to all neighbors to enjoy. An additional benefit of NCRC's plan is the restoration of the original entrance of this magnificent Victorian structure.

NCRC is also known throughout the District. It has become a welcoming place for a diverse faculty and family community, which has resulted in a cultural richness unsurpassed by any similar school. Additionally, the school is an educational resource for teachers from other areas of DC.

It is appropriate for you to know that the Director of NCRC is my wife. I have experienced firsthand her commitment to the school and its neighborhood environment. I have watched her leave early and come home late in order to ensure that carpool goes smoothly. I have heard her work with the school's neighbors to resolve concerns, and to anticipate and prevent inconvenience. She takes very seriously the stewardship of NCRC's position as the oldest continuous "neighbor" on Highland Place.

In closing, I am confident that you will appreciate the thoughtful approach and appropriate scale of this relatively minor expansion. NCRC enriches Cleveland Park and the District of Columbia. It has earned and deserves your support.

Sincerely,

Michael Tooke

4218 47TH STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20016

BZA
Case No. 16970
Exhibit No. 64

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16970
EXHIBIT NO.64