

September 21, 2015

Southern Nevada Health District Board of Health 330 S. Valley View Blvd.

RE:

Joseph P. Iser, MD, Chief Health Officer,

Southern Nevada Health District

To Members of the Board of Health:

I am pleased to write you today to express my appreciation for the relationship Valley Hospital Medical Center (VHMC) has with the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) and to share my experience with Dr. Iser, the SNHD Chief Health Officer. Dr. Iser has been a supportive, strategic and valued community partner to VHMC, one of the largest and clinically more complex hospitals in the Valley, a key health care resource in the Las Vegas Medical District.

Dr. Iser has supported VHMC with his vast experience and expertise - whenever we have called, no matter what the issue or concern - Dr. Iser has assisted us in working through complex public health problems and emergency preparedness situations. Working with Dr. Iser and his team during Ebola preparedness gave us the science based support as well as technical and functional direction we needed to develop a comprehensive preparedness response and perfect our teams' skill through PHEP exercises which SNHD directly participated in.

Dr. Iser and the SNHD's infection prevention team has become a collaborative and valued partner in our hospitals effort to prevent the spread of infectious disease; going forward, VHMC with our Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist is pleased to be a part of the SNHD strategy to work with CCMS and providers on the antibiotic stewardship program in the attempt to decrease the development of antibiotic resistance.

VHMC is a member of the newly reconstituted Facilities Advisory Board and Dr. Iser and I have actively participated and collaborated on the efforts involved in the continued planning with the medical district. Dr. Iser has taken a leadership role in times of crisis, convening coordination efforts to assist the Valley's hospitals with communication, planning and organization during times of extended emergency room closures.





With the upcoming influenza season, VHMC will rely on SNHD for partnership, support and guidance as we all work toward the prevention of influenza in our community.

Dr. Iser's leadership skills, his extensive knowledge, experience and expertise, his commitment to public health and his willingness to play an active role in our community as it relates to overall public health, PHEP and infection prevention make him an excellent Health Officer. Las Vegas is a complex market for public health with unprecedented numbers of visitors from all over the world – we face many challenges that other cities do not experience – Dr. Iser's talents are well suited for our market and we look forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Iser and the SNHD, only to further enhance our community involvement and partnership – to protect the public's health.

Thank you all for the support of the SNHD.

Sincerely,

Elaine Glaser

**CEO/Managing Director** 

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September 14, 2015

Southern Nevada District Board of Health 330 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89107

Dear Board of Health Members:

I am writing this letter is support of Dr. Joseph Iser.

I have known Dr. Iser for five years and have worked closely with him on a number of projects, including most recently the Nevada County Health Rankings project and the Southern Nevada Health District's public health accreditation efforts. As such, I can attest to his effectiveness as a public health leader.

Dr. Iser's leadership style has been one of active engagement with community and statewide stakeholders. In both of the aforementioned projects, I can attest to Dr. Iser's willingness to engage community public health and health care partners to ensure the successful development and implementation of project activities. Indeed, in both projects, Dr. Iser has demonstrated an interest to also work with "non-traditional" public health partners, in sectors such as transportation and education, to improve efforts to promote and protect the public's health.

In conclusion, I look forward to continued collaboration with Dr. Iser and his staff on strategies to improve the public's health and well-being in southern Nevada.

Sincerely,

John Packham, PhD

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Director of Health Policy Research

Office of Statewide Initiatives



CLARK COUNTY • DEPARTMENT OF AIR QUALITY 4701 W. Russell Road Suite 200 • Las Vegas, NV 89118-2231 (702) 455-5942 • Fax (702) 383-9994 Lewis Wallenmeyer Director

September 15, 2015

District Board of Health Southern Nevada Health District 330 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89107

Re: Dr. Joseph Iser, MD

Dear Board of Health Members:

I am writing on behalf of Dr. Iser in order to provide input for your consideration in his evaluation.

I have found Dr. Iser to be extremely outgoing and cooperative regarding collaboration between my department and the Southern Nevada Health District. We have met numerous times to coordinate on matters of public health for which we jointly share responsibilities. Dr. Iser organized meetings with managers and supervisors from Air Quality and the Health District to foster increased knowledge of each other's responsibilities and concerns. This approach has greatly improved communication between us and has facilitated improved access to the Health District for my staff.

Specifically, we have cooperated closely on several matters, including solid waste and compost management and related complaints, naturally occurring asbestos, odor complaints and odor control, and desert dumping causing soil disturbance and dust on vacant land parcels.

The level of communication and coordination between the Health District and the Department of Air Quality is stronger now than it has been for many years, and I attribute this to the active community participation efforts of Dr. Iser.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lewis Wallenmeyer, Director

H. Wallenmayer

Clark County Department of Air Quality

### Educational and Operational Excellence Unit



#### Office of the Deputy Superintendent

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# SCHOOL DISTRICT

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September 15, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write this letter of support for Dr. Joseph Iser.

The Clark County School District (CCSD) has received support from the Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), under the leadership of Dr. Joseph Iser, during the past year. This support and enhanced communication included Dr. Iser's request in the fall of 2014 to establish quarterly meetings with our administrative staff to help enhance communication and working relations. Those meetings were implemented last school year and proved to serve as a very beneficial mechanism for maintaining current information and problem-solving regarding a multitude of shared projects. During those meetings we have been able to exchange information regarding both challenging areas that require our collaboration to address, as well as long-range planning regarding shared needs.

Last school year proved to be one of the busiest for CCSD in regard to the need for support from the staff of the SNHD. Not only did we receive support and assistance in the area of immunization compliance and identification of additional resources for students without access to immunization resources, but we also received additional support in regard to accessing WeblZ information to assist in ensuring CCSD immunization compliance information was complete. It was also a year during which several communicable diseases were active in our community, which meant that we worked regularly with nursing and epidemiology staff to address identified cases of measles and pertussis, provide information regarding classroom immunization compliance and contacts, and work together to communicate current information to students, parents, and CCSD school staff. Those efforts continued through the spring of 2015 and are on-going this fall. In each instance we worked together toward shared goals. Dr. Iser ensured that staff was available to assist and maintained communication with District administration. As a collaborative effort we developed a new form that is required for parents requesting religious exemption to ensure that parents are fully informed regarding the fact that their students may need to remain at home during outbreaks of communicable diseases for which they are not immunized.

Several meetings have been held to enhance our education and awareness regarding Tuberculosis cases in our county, as well as to develop procedures that are followed in the instances of identified active, untreated cases of students who are attending school. The SNHD has worked with us through several instances to develop a plan for identifying students and staff who are at risk and making resources available for TB testing, including on-site when indicated. We continue to communicate regarding the need for on-going joint planning in this area.

Letter of Support for Dr. Joseph Iser Page 2 September 15, 2015

Lastly, at Dr. Iser's invitation, CCSD administrative staff were involved in both the SNHD Community Health Assessment Steering Committee and now as a partner in the Community Health Improvement Planning process for our community, which allows us to ensure that the needs we have identified for our students are included in the thought process and planning as we identify needs with other community partners.

It has been a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with Dr. Iser, and the areas identified above are only a few examples of the on-going, shared responsibility we have for the children of our community. The opportunity for enhanced communication and problem-solving Dr. Iser established has served both the SNHD and CCSD very positively as we move forward to address the daily challenges faced by both organizations.

Sincerely,

Kim Wooden

**Deputy Superintendent** 

## Fire Department



575 East Flamingo Road • Las Vegas NV 89119 (702) 455-7311 • Fax (702) 734-6111

#### Greg Cassell, Fire Chief

Erik Newman, Sr. Deputy Fire Chief
Kelly Blackmon, Deputy Fire Chief • Jon Klassen, Deputy Fire Chief
John Steinbeck, Deputy Fire Chief • Roy Session, Deputy Fire Chief • Jeff Buchanan, Deputy Fire Chief
"Responding with Integrity – Serving with Compassion"



September 11, 2015

Joseph P. Iser, MD, Dr.PH, MSc Chief Health Officer Southern Nevada Health District PO Box 3902 Las Vegas, NV 89127

It is my privilege to write a letter in support of Dr. Joe Iser for his leadership to the Southern Nevada Health District.

Dr. Iser and I met two years ago through the course of our occupations. As a professional, it was clear he was thoughtful, intelligent, and had many years of experience. What was more impressive was his sincere desire to build meaningful and strong community partnerships. Through the time we have known each other, he has continued this commitment.

His background and accomplishments make him ideal for his designation as Chief Health Officer (CHO); however, it is in combination with who he is as a person that makes him special. There are many who check the boxes that qualify them for such credentials, but few who exemplify the best in their chosen jobs. He has demonstrated the strong acumen necessary to handle high-pressure situations like the Ebola outbreak, while patiently offering guidance to community partners as they strived to keep the citizens reassured that we were prepared. His equanimity is a strength few possess.

While certainly Southern Nevada is fortunate to have concrete governance, there are few that define leadership as Dr. Iser. He is an ambassador to health care providers everywhere and his dedication to the community provides comfort we are in solid hands.

Very Respectfully,

Jeff Buchanan Deputy Fire Chief

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# ROBERT S. FREYMULLER CEO/Managing Director

September 15, 2015

Southern Nevada District Board of Health PO Box 3902 Las Vegas, NV 89127

Re: Dr. Joseph Iser, MD, Chief Health Officer, SNHD

To Whom It May Concern:

As Chief Executive Officer of Summerlin Hospital Medical Center, I have had the pleasure of being acquainted and working with Dr. Joe Iser, Chief Health Officer for the Southern Nevada Health District, since 2013.

I have found Dr. Iser to be extremely knowledgeable about both the community disease specific issues impacting all of us and the proper operations of a community health district such as SNHD. Dr. Iser has a keen understanding of the resources and support needed to address these issues and support the local health providers.

Most recently, Dr. Iser has headed up the local Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) initiative engaging providers and organization across the city to address major health related issues and improve the quality of life in our city. As well, Dr. Iser reached out to the provider community to seek our opinion on re-establishing the Medical Advisory Board (MAB) to bring together the acute care and emergency providers to ensure the city is prepared to handle unexpected events. I think these are just two examples of Dr. Iser's leadership and proactive involvement in ensuring the SNHD is taking a lead role in the healthcare delivery system in Las Vegas.

In summary, I have enjoyed working with Dr. Iser and have found him to be honest, responsive and always exhibiting a sincere attitude/commitment to do the right thing and put the quality and safety of patient care first. I think he has been a valuable addition to SNHD and is the right person to be leading the organization. I am happy to answer any questions or provide more information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Freymuller CEO/Managing Director

SUMMERLIN HOSPITAL

MEDICAL CENTER.

A Member of The Valley K 'Health System'