



Spencer Hospital

Healthier Together.

1200 First Avenue East
Spencer, Iowa 51301
(712) 264-8300

SpencerHospital.org

April 1, 2025

Shannon Knudsen, SAFE Center

Dear Shannon and SAFE Center Board of Directors,

On behalf of Spencer Hospital, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the SAFE Center proposal. As a healthcare institution dedicated to the well-being and recovery of our patients, we recognize the critical need for safe, supportive environments where survivors of sexual assault can heal both physically and emotionally.

We wholeheartedly believe in the mission of the SAFE Center to provide comprehensive care and support to survivors in and around our community. Additionally, we strongly support the establishment of a SAFE Center satellite clinic in our community, as our hospital's mission and values closely align with those of the SAFE Center.

At Spencer Hospital, our Emergency Department often serves as the initial point of contact for victims of sexual assault. We witness firsthand the significant barriers survivors face in accessing the care and support they need, including limited access to specialized services. The presence of a dedicated sexual assault clinic staffed with SANE nurses would greatly benefit survivors, enhancing our efforts to provide them with quality care. Furthermore, we recognize the immense need for expanding SANE nurse training programs.

We believe that a SAFE Center satellite clinic would be an invaluable resource for the Spencer community. While Spencer Hospital and our Emergency Department will always be available for sexual assault patients requiring emergent medical care, we are eager to collaborate with the SAFE Center in Des Moines, IA, and fully support the establishment of a satellite office in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda Tiefenthaler, RN, MSN/MHA
President/CEO
Spencer Hospital
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