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[Sent electronically]

Dear Members of the Wauwatosa Common Council,

Children’s Wisconsin understands that the Wauwatosa Common Council is considering instituting a mask ordinance in the community. We thank you for your attention to this important issue. We strongly believe that wearing a cloth mask or face covering in close proximity to others helps limit the spread of germs and reduces the spread and severity of COVID-19. Consistent with our approach when the City of Milwaukee was considering a mask ordinance, I write today to share our support for an ordinance in Wauwatosa to support our community members in wearing a mask to help keep each other healthy and safe. At Children’s, we fully support existing and additional efforts to advance unified messaging around the need to follow public health precautions, including wearing masks, washing hands and maintaining distance from others.
We appreciate the efforts of local businesses and institutions who have implemented mask guidelines for their employees, customers and community members. We’ve seen many organized efforts come together over the past several months to ensure that frontline workers and our most vulnerable community members have access to masks they need. Children’s personally appreciates all of the volunteers, donors and corporate partners who have helped provide masks for our patients and staff. That being said, a mask ordinance in our community will help ensure a more consistently protective environment for all Wauwatosa residents.

As you consider a Wauwatosa mask ordinance, I also ask that you continue to provide educational resources for residents on proper cloth mask use and raise awareness about the potential for a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of our Wauwatosa community. We recognize, as you do, the importance of helping our residents obtain the masks and supplies they need to help stay safe.

Thank you for your efforts and partnership in advancing the health of all members of the Wauwatosa community. We encourage your support of a mask ordinance and I look forward to continuing to collaborate and work together to care for our community.

Sincerely,

Michelle Mettner
Chief Government & Legal Officer
Children’s Wisconsin

CC: Mayor Dennis McBride