

Anael Dominguez (Administration)

From: Jennifer Rivera (Administration)
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 12:23 PM
To: Alyssa Andrews
Cc: Kaitlyn Elliott (Planning); Katie G. Ahmed (Planning); Anael Dominguez (Administration)
Subject: RE: Letter of Support: Thumbs Up Mission

Your public comment was received and will be forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for their review.

Thank you.

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From: Alyssa Andrews <aandrews@georgiaderm.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2026 12:21 PM
To: David Gibbs (County Commission) <dgibbs@hallcounty.org>; Kathy Cooper (County Commissioner) <kcooper@hallcounty.org>; Billy Powell (County Commission) <bpowell@hallcounty.org>; Gregg Poole (County Commissioner) <gpoole@hallcounty.org>; Jeff Stowe (County Commission) <jstowe@hallcounty.org>; Katie G. Ahmed (Planning) <kahmed@hallcounty.org>; Jennifer Rivera (Administration) <jrivera@hallcounty.org>
Subject: Letter of Support: Thumbs Up Mission

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Dear Board of Commissioners and Planning Staff,

I hope you are all doing well. I am writing today in support of Thumbs Up Mission's building proposal in Murrayville/Hall County. As a Gainesville native and the Northern Regional Manager at Georgia Skin Cancer & Aesthetic Dermatology (GSC), I have seen firsthand how this organization transforms lives and strengthens the fabric of our community.

Growing up in Gainesville, I first learned of Thumbs Up through the Coker family while attending North Hall. I witnessed our community rally behind Keaton during his cancer journey, and that swell of support eventually overflowed into the lives of countless other families facing similar battles. It is a legacy of care that has only grown stronger over the years.

I joined GSC in August of 2024 and a unique pillar of our practice is that *100% of our cosmetic profits* are funneled directly into our *For The Greater Good Foundation*, allowing us to support non-profits both locally and internationally. In my role, I have the honor of helping deepen those roots in the North Georgia area and find myself always looking for new opportunities to connect and support. Around the time I joined the team, a family in our practice tragically experienced a cancer diagnosis very similar to Keaton's, and the support from our GSC family was immediate and overflowing. Pain is an ultimate unifier in life—no matter who you are, you are usually only a layer or two removed from the point of impact. And while pain may be felt differently, it is this shared experience that gives us the hope of never walking through hard things alone.

Because of this, our practice began looking for partners who understood this specific type of grief and support, which led us to Thumbs Up Mission. Their core values of community generosity and intentionality mirrored our own and when I first met with their team, I asked, "What do you need next?" and "How can we help?" Their response was telling — instead of a list of "wildest dreams," they asked, "What do you have to give, and how can we steward that in a way that maximizes our ability to meet a need that we have?" In the non-profit world, that level of humility is rare, and I can say with confidence that they prioritize good stewardship in every aspect of their operation.

I first saw this in action when our foundation was able to fund their first-ever "Tube-a-palooza"—a family reunion where past retreat families and volunteers reunited for a day in Helen, GA. The Thumbs Up team was focused on a single need asking the question: "Now that these families have experienced a retreat, how do we stay connected and ensure they never feel forgotten?" They took what GSC was able to give and maximized it to answer that question and meet the need in a new way.

Personally, in volunteering at weekend retreats, I have seen the thread of stewardship woven through everything they do: how they work tirelessly to fit families into retreats even on short notice, how volunteers are strategically placed to use their individual strengths, and how they intricately plan every detail to maximize resources and efficiency.

Looking at the countless accounts of impact, Thumbs Up Mission has consistently over time built their own case for how their plans to have a permanent establishment would be stewarded well. They will continue to maximize whatever they have and use it as a launching pad in pursuing engagement with this community in lifechanging ways. They don't need my support, but they definitely have it, and I'm looking forward to continuing in partnership with them in the days ahead.

Thank you so much for the time and energy you are dedicating to this effort. Please feel free to reach out to me if you would like any further feedback — I'm happy to help however I can!

All the best,

Alyssa Andrews

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