

10-090

April 14, 2011

RECEIVED

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

JUN 02 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I've lived in Crystal Lake almost 30 years, and I do not believe there is a need for another hospital in our region. Today the people in southern McHenry County are no more than a 15-minute drive to one of four hospitals. These include Good Sheppard in Barrington, Centegra in Woodstock, Sherman Hospital in Elgin and Centegra in Woodstock. These are each fine hospitals, so there is no lack of easy access or excellent medical care.

I go to doctors affiliated with Sherman Hospital, and I plan to stick with those doctors even if there were to be a new hospital built. My family doctor is aligned with Sherman and if I need a specialist, I just call Sherman and get a recommendation from them or my family doctor.

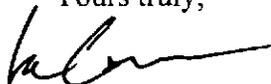
Sherman has a long history of listening to the community. I know this because I'm on the Sherman Family Health Center Advisory Council, which originally was formed over 30 years ago. The Sherman staff still relies on us and our opinions. We give the administrators our consumer feedback on things like services offered, hours of operation and wait times.

When Sherman opened its outstanding new hospital facility just two years ago, it was understood that Sherman would be easily able to accommodate the the area if increasing population required more hospital care. Needless to say there has been little, if any, building in the last 3 years. So, there isn't a need now or in the foreseeable future for a Mercy facility in Crystal Lake.

From a personnel standpoint, I understand from media reports that a new hospital wouldn't be likely to attract new doctors to McHenry County. Instead, it would be result in personnel moving from an existing hospital to a new one. And that kind of shifting would only hurt the existing hospitals because there would be more competition for talented staff and more expense to hire people. This would actually increase medical costs, something we do not need to encourage. I am enclosing an article from the March 22, 2010 Chicago Tribune that makes this point.

I hope you take the community's observations into account when you make this important decision in April.

Yours truly,



Kenneth Grubb
Crystal Lake

CC: Sen. Pamela J. Althoff
Rep. Michael W. Tryon



Village of Cary's administrator, Cameron Davis, speaks during a public hearing at the Crystal Lake Municipal Complex on Friday March 18th, 2011. The public hearing was held for Mercy Health System who wants to open a new hospital in Crystal Lake. (Shaun Sartir/For the Chicago Tribune)

As Mercy Health System defended its plan to build a new 128-bed hospital in Crystal Lake, competitors appear to be banding together to urge a state board to reject that and a plan by Centegra to build in Huntley.

"A new hospital in the near proximity to hospitals not fully utilized causes considerable harm," said Karen Lambert, president of Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington, at a public hearing last week in Crystal Lake. "(It) does not create new demand, it only redistributes and dilutes the volume among existing providers. "Without patients, hospitals do not have the resources available to invest for the future, cover the cost of the patients who cannot afford care, or increase the quality of its care," she said.

The hearing of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board focused on Mercy's plan for a facility at Route 31 and Three Oaks Road, while a February hearing looked at Centegra's \$233 million proposal to build at Haligus and Reed Roads. The board must approve any new medical facility and a decision on these plans could come in May. Officials of Sherman Health System, with a new hospital in Elgin, agreed the area was over-saturated.

"The proposed Mercy hospital will duplicate services, create much inefficiency, and increase staffing costs with more competition for a limited number of health care workers," said Rick Jakle, chairman of the Sherman board of directors. "The hospital will not be free to consumers and taxpayers. We will all pay for it."

Mercy's \$200 million hospital in Crystal Lake would include an emergency department and a multi-specialty clinic of 45 physicians. Building it would generate 650 to 800 construction jobs, officials said, and another 600 jobs to run the facility in the first year. "Mercy will be an economic boom as the county tries to pull out of the recession," Mercy Vice President Dan Colby said.

Others said the promise of new jobs could be misleading. "Beyond the construction jobs created during the life of such a project, which are new, the health care jobs would not be new jobs," said Rick Floyd, Sherman president and CEO. "The durable, health care jobs would primarily be shifted from existing hospitals, weakening them, and bringing no new services into our community."

Centegra, with hospitals in Woodstock and McHenry, argues that they would be hit the hardest if the new hospital were built in Crystal Lake. The Mercy application contains commitments from 40 physicians with privileges at Centegra to transfer all of their patients to a new Mercy facility. That would cost Centegra \$11.7 million annually between its two hospitals, said Jason Sciarro, president and chief operating officer.

"The lost patient volume would have a significant negative impact on the utilization of Centegra's hospital and cause a substantial financial loss to our health system," he said. Centegra also attacked Mercy's past, raising the federal corruption investigation seven years ago that torpedoed Mercy's plan for a 70-bed hospital in Crystal Lake.

Members of the state board became the target of the corruption probe in 2003-4. Mercy's plan was shot down in 2003, but the health system tried again in April 2004 and was awarded a certificate of need. In May 2005, the permit for the hospital was revoked by a judge who called the decision arbitrary and capricious. Mercy did not appeal.

Meanwhile, former Gov. Rod Blagojevich and state lawmakers revamped the board. In June 2005 it was reported that then-board Vice Chairman Stuart Levine planned to split a \$1.5 million kickback with former Blagojevich fundraiser Antoin "Tony" Rezko from contractor Jacob Kiferbaum, who was to build the hospital.

Resurrecting all that brought a heated response from Rich Gruber, Mercy's vice president. "We were just as shocked and surprised as the other 13 million people in Illinois when this surfaced," Gruber said. "Fortunately, a couple of very bad apples were caught and indicted in this horrible, terrible political web.

"In the spirit of the innuendo, federal investigators publicly stated that Mercy had no culpability in this issue — end of story," he said.

March 28, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
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RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

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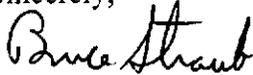
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- Centegra has a job to do as the steward of its community's health care dollars and building this hospital would be a big mistake. Centegra should focus on protecting the health care safety net by expanding the subsidized community services it provides, such as cancer screening programs, health education classes, support to FQHCs and mental health outreach services.

I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Bruce Straub
1405 Deep Run Road
630-305-0076
bstraub@wowway.com

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Sincerely,

PRINT NAME Keith Romstein

SIGN NAME Keith Romstein

STREET ADDRESS 1010 S. OAK CREEK DR

TELEPHONE NUMBER 815-347-1851

E-MAIL ADDRESS midnight address 11 e yahoo.com

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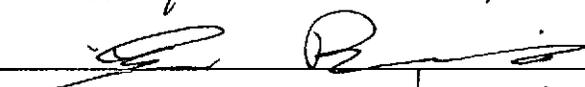
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Sincerely,

PRINT NAME CHAYAN BUNYINDEE

SIGN NAME 

STREET ADDRESS 1450 Meghan Ave. Algonquin, IL. 60102

TELEPHONE NUMBER 847-450-9753

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lodyy.9030@hotmail.com

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PRINT NAME Consuelo Aguinaga

SIGN NAME Consuelo Aguinaga

STREET ADDRESS 1056 Polly CT

TELEPHONE NUMBER 847-697-3274

E-MAIL ADDRESS Consuelo. Agunaga@ShermantHospital.org

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PRINT NAME Raul Barrera
SIGN NAME Raul B
STREET ADDRESS 2611 Mary St
TELEPHONE NUMBER 815 608 3020

E-MAIL ADDRESS Raul - Barrera @ Sherman Hospital . Org

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PRINT NAME Sandra Miranda

SIGN NAME SM

STREET ADDRESS 20 Fir st Duille IL

TELEPHONE NUMBER 224-305-7090

E-MAIL ADDRESS Sandra-Miranda @ Sherman Hospital.org

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PRINT NAME Joel V. Rodriguez
SIGN NAME *Joel V. Rodriguez*
STREET ADDRESS 943B Carriageway Elgin, IL 60120
TELEPHONE NUMBER 630-947-4053

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Joel.Rodriguez@shermanhospital.org

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PRINT NAME Jesus Crespo
SIGN NAME Jesus Crespo
STREET ADDRESS 3 - Lynett St
TELEPHONE NUMBER (224) 238-9785

E-MAIL ADDRESS Jesus.Crespo@ShermanHospital.org

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PRINT NAME MARIA ZAMORA

SIGN NAME Monia Zamora

STREET ADDRESS 428 Dupage st. Elgin IL 60120

TELEPHONE NUMBER (847) 220-2535

E-MAIL ADDRESS Moria Zamora @ Sherman Hospital
@ org.

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PRINT NAME Mania Trejo

SIGN NAME Mania Trejo

STREET ADDRESS 91 Hickory CT

~~TELEPHONE NUMBER~~ Carpentersville IL 60110

Telephone # 847-426-1509

E-MAIL ADDRESS Marid • Trejo @ Sherman Hospital • org

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PRINT NAME JAUIZE BOUTISTA
SIGN NAME JAUIZE BOUTISTA
STREET ADDRESS 78 S. Altred Elgin 60123
TELEPHONE NUMBER 224) 622-4626

E-MAIL ADDRESS

Juarez.Bautista@sherman.oreg

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Cheryl VanderLaan
360 Lindsay Lane
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
815-444-0604
Cheryl.VanderLaan@shermanhospital.org

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Marie Markel
537 Shagbark Drive
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847-931-9354
Marie.Markel@shermanhospital.org

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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Kathy Walters
344 Patricia Lane
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-830-6427
Kathy.Walters@shermanhospital.org

March 30, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As an employee of Sherman Hospital I am committed to providing high-quality care to our nearby communities. Sherman Health made a \$325 million investment to improve health care in the region with its replacement hospital. And it's paying off for residents of northern Kane and southern McHenry counties.

I believe that Centegra's proposed Huntley hospital is unnecessary and would burden our already overwhelmed state and federal budgets. And, Centegra would need to charge high rates to cover its expenses. That means people like me – either through higher taxes or higher private insurance rates – would have to pick up the costs.

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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Jane Bradford
PO Box 81
Saunemin, IL 61769
815-832-4923
Jane.Bradford@shermanhospital.org

March 30, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As a concerned Bartlett, IL resident. I believe that Sherman Hospital is committed to providing high-quality care to our nearby communities. Sherman Health made a \$325 million investment to improve health care in the region with its replacement hospital. And it's paying off for residents of northern Kane and southern McHenry counties.

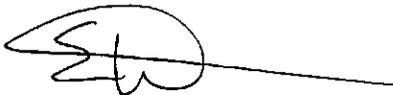
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Sincerely,



Eric Walters
344 Patricia Lane
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-830-6427

March 30, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As a concerned Elgin, IL resident. I believe that Sherman Hospital is committed to providing high-quality care to our nearby communities. Sherman Health made a \$325 million investment to improve health care in the region with its replacement hospital. And it's paying off for residents of northern Kane and southern McHenry counties.

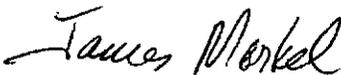
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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,


James Markel
537 Shagbark Drive
Elgin, IL 60123
847-931-9354

March 30, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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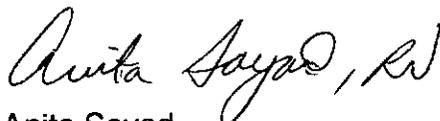
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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Anita Sayad
432 Western Ave
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-830-3006
Anita.Sayad@shermanhospital.org

March 25, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Victoria Klinnert

11613 Woodcreek Dr Apt E Huntley IL

8478774223

Tori.klinnert@sbcglobal.com

March 25, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

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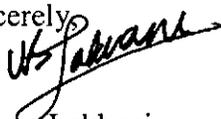
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I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Ushma Lakhani
701 Meadowview Crossing
West Chicago, IL 60185
224-783-8686
Ushma.lakhani@shermanhospital.org

April 14, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am writing to let you know that I think Sherman Health is more than able to care for the people in McHenry and Kane counties, as it has for more than 100 years. I urge you to reject Centegra Health System's proposed hospital in Huntley, which is project 10-090.

I'm a volunteer in several capacities with Sherman, so I get to see up close how the hospital works. Because I am a member of the Family Health Center Advisory Council, the Sherman staff values my opinions and ideas about how the immediate care centers can improve. We advise the hospital about how patients are using the care centers, how patients feel about their wait times and what patients need to know once they are treated.

In addition, as a volunteer member of the patient care center team, I see that the hospital is always asking how it could improve things for the patient. I hear Sherman patient stories every day – from the comfort they've felt from a gift of a handmade prayer shawl, to the relief they've felt when a translator could help them convey their needs. Sherman also does an excellent job of taking care of patients who are less fortunate financially.

I've just never seen a more caring place for patients. I had to undergo emergency surgery at Sherman during the last year. It's a scary experience, and I felt the staff went out of its way to make me as comfortable as possible. Other places seem very cold in comparison.

Aside from the superior people skills that Sherman offers, I know its immediate care centers continue to add services. Emergency room care is some of the most expensive treatment you can get, so having the immediate care facilities available seven days a week saves everyone a lot of time and money.

I hope you will take my observations into account and reject Centegra's proposal.

Sincerely,



Toni Sebastiano
17N550 Widmayer Road
Hampshire, IL 60140
Tonis727@hotmail.com

CC: Sen. Chris Lauzen
Rep. Timothy L. Schmitz

April 11, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

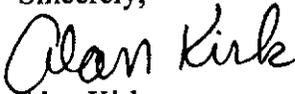
I believe that creating a new hospital in Huntley would be a mistake. A new facility would mean our scarce healthcare dollars would need to be spread among more hospitals, hurting both new and existing facilities as each hospital would be apportioned a smaller piece of the funding pie. That's why I encourage you to reject the Certificate of Need for the Centegra Hospital-Huntley, which is known as project 10-090.

In addition to being a financial burden our healthcare system can't afford, a new facility would compete for the same health care workers as existing healthcare providers. Since there is a persistent shortage of highly trained medical workers, this would create a shortage of professionals at some health care facilities, making it even harder than it is today to provide quality care to patients.

I've been a resident of Algonquin for more than 20 years, and am raising my family here. I'm pleased with the choices we have for health care in our area, especially in light of the \$325 million, state-of-the-art Sherman Hospital we now can use. If the current hospitals want to invest more in the area, I would support that instead of adding a hospital that is not needed.

This is not simply about McHenry County. It is about the whole area. Please consider the healthcare picture as a whole in the Fox Valley and reject this Centegra proposal.

Sincerely,



Alan Kirk
619 N. Harrison St.
Algonquin, IL 60102

CC: Sen. Pamela J. Althoff
Rep. Michael W. Tryon



COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 300

Harry D. Jacobs High School

Shelley Nacke

Principal

2601 BUNKER HILL DRIVE ALGONQUIN, IL 60102

MAIN LINE: 847/532-6100 FAX: 847/532-6115

www.d300.org

Rick Johnson
Associate Principal
Operations

April 11, 2011

Ami Engel
Associate Principal
Curriculum & Instruction

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Jaime Cadengo
Assistant Principal
Dean of Students

Dear Mr. Galassie:

Francesca DiMaggio
Assistant Principal
Dean of Students

I'm a lifelong resident of the Fox Valley and a teacher at Jacobs High School in Carpentersville. I am writing today to oppose the Centegra Hospital-Huntley, which is known as project 10-090.

Andy Quitno
Assistant Principal
Dean of Students

As a teacher of biology and business education, I get to see firsthand the types of jobs that our young people will be pursuing. I work with placing students who are interested in healthcare careers in the internship program at Sherman Hospital. Our students can now get a glimpse of careers such as ultrasound and radiology technicians, nurse practitioners and certified nurse assistants, to name just a few. Some of these are specialties that were unheard of a generation ago. But only a large hospital can support a wide array of specialty services, and that is why I don't want to see our area oversaturated with community hospitals. A Centegra facility in Huntley would not be able to offer the level of care that a regional medical center can.

Jaime VanHorn
Assistant Principal
Freshman Academy

We are fortunate in this area to have a newly opened Sherman Hospital that is built to serve our needs. The new facility already has set up cutting-edge affiliations that would not be viable for a smaller hospital. In addition, Sherman has been a part of the Fox Valley area for more than 100 years, and serves the entire region with four immediate care centers that are open seven days a week.

James Hinkle
Attendance Supervisor

We have to move away from the "more is better" mentality of decades past. There is no shortage of health care facilities in the Fox Valley. If another hospital is built in this area, the market is destined to be oversaturated. That is why I am asking you to reject Centegra's application.

Tom Ross
Athletic Director

Thank you.

Linda Breen
Special Education
Division Head

Sincerely,

Terri Dawson
2601 Bunker Hill
Algonquin, IL 60102
Terri.dawson@d300.org

Jenny Christian
English
Division Head

John Gorby
Science
Division Head

Marce Kersten
Social Studies
Division Head

Kelly Sindelar
Mathematics
Division Head

Debbie Stout
World Language/Fine Arts
Division Head

CC: Sen. Pamela J. Althoff
Rep. Michael W. Tryon

Gail VanSickle
Career and Tech Ed
Division Head

March 28, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

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- I presently live in Huntley and know that Sherman Hospital is very accessible from Huntley.

I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,



Nancy Jo Cain
11214 Algonquin Road
Huntley, IL 60142
847-669-8756
njcain@ymail.com