

PROJECT HEARING REPORT

Project: 11-042

Provena Covenant Medical Center-Urbana

August 17, 2011

On August 17, 2011, The State Agency conducted a public hearing for Project 11-042, Provena Covenant Medical Center-Urbana. The hearing was held at 1:30pm, Urbana City Hall, located at 400 South Vine Street, Urbana.

The following summarizes the attendance figures:

Individuals who registered their attendance at the hearing: 17

Support: 15

Oppose: 1

Total individuals registered: 33

This report contains letters/written copies of testimony from the following individuals/groups:

Michael Smith M.D. President of Medical Staff, Provena Covenant Medical Ctr. Urbana

Angela Hatfield-Marker, Crisis Nursery, Urbana

Sister Mary Kay Himens, Ssem, Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, Champaign

Don Gerard, Mayor, City of Champaign

Rick Francis, Regional Director of Organizational Development, Provena Covenant, Urbana

United Way of Champaign County

Everette Clif Burdette, CEO, Burdette Medical, Inc. and Board Member, Provena Covenant, Urbana

Olivia Brown, Resident, Urbana

Alejandra Coronel, President/CEO, Coronel Bilingual Services, Champaign/Urbana

Michael Frerichs, State Senator, 52nd District, Champaign

R. Alan Cleghorn, CEO, Christie Clinic, Champaign

Thomas Rohrer, Resident Champaign/Urbana

Cope Cumpston, Resident, Urbana

Jon D. Sokolski, One Main Development, LLC, and resident of Champaign/Urbana

Claudia Lenhoff, Executive Director, Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC)

Nick Quealy-Gainer, Staff, Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC)

Dr. John Hilty, Resident, Urbana *

Thomas Nehring, V.P. Mission Services, Provena Health

Michael Brown, President/CEO Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care

Sister Evelyn Varboncoeur, Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, Provena Health

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I. Archbishop of Chicago

*Letters of Opposition

Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
 PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER
 PROJECT #11-042

Site: Urbana City Hall

Date: August 17, 2011

Address: 400 South Vine Street
 Urbana, IL 61801

NAME: Provena Covenant
 Medical Center-Urbana

Time: 1:30 P.M.

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

#	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
✓ 1	THOMAS NEARING	PROVENA HEALTH	FRANKFORD, IL	BOTH
2	Michael Brown	PROVENA HEALHTH	Champaign, IL	BOTH
3	Val McWilliams	Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance	Champaign IL	oral testimony written statement
4	SR. EVELYN VARENONCOEUR	PROVENA HEALTH	MOKONA, IL	BOTH
5	Nick Quenly-Gainer	PROVENA Champaign County Healthcare Consumers "Campaign"	Champaign, IL	BOTH
6	Claudia Lennhoff	CC HCC	Champaign	BOTH
7	Deb Schimrowoski	PROVENA HEALTH	URBANA	BOTH
8	Rick Francis	PROVENA Central Region	URBANA/DENVILLE	BOTH
9	Cape Cumpston	Community	URBANA	BOTH
10	Thomas Rohan	Medicare not dependent	Urbana	BOTH
11	Tarret Gayne	Provena Covenant	Urbana	BOTH
12	Rhonda Grubb	Provena Covenant	Urbana	BOTH
13	Crystal Jenasac	Provena Covenant	Urbana	BOTH
14	Cathy Emanuel	--	--	"
15				

**Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Urbana City Hall Date: August 17, 2011

PROJECT #111-042

Address: 400 South Vine Street NAME: Provena Covenant Time: 1:30 P.M.
Urbana, IL 61801 Medical Center-Urbana

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	Bruce Swardoni	Provena Central Health System	Champaign/Urbana/Lebanon	
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Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER

Site: Urbana City Hall

PROJECT #11-042

Date: August 17, 2011

Address: 400 South Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801

NAME: Provena Covenant
Medical Center-Urbana

Time: 1:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	Connie Galazik-Pierce	PCMC	Urbana	
2	Janet Payne	PCMC	Urbana	
3	Rhonda Grubbs	PCMC	Urbana	
4	Mechyn Kieffer	Provena Health	Urbana	
5	Teri Gaffney	PCMC	Urbana	
6	TEREY SOLEM	PROVENA HEALTH	MOKENA	
7	Kevin Rose	Provena Health	MOKENA	
8	Anita BROEREN	PCMC	URBANA	
9	BEAN CRAWFORD	RESURRECTION HEALTH CARE	Chicago	
10	STEVE DeBruyn	Provena Covenant Board	Champaign/Urbana	
11	ELEANOR Chilton	RET. NURSE, Vol. For Health CARE	Rockford, ILL.	
12	Olivia Brown	Community	Peoria, IL	
13	Jennifer Mejia	Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance	Champaign, IL	
14	Donis Barnes	Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance	Champaign, IL	
15	Sandra Hansen	CHCC	ST. JOSEPH, IL	

**Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Urbana City Hall

PROJECT #11-042

Date: August 17, 2011

Address: 400 South Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801

NAME: Provena Covenant
Medical Center-Urbana

Time: 1:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

#	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
✓ 1	Crissy Turino	-CCHC	URBANA	-
2	Deborah Presson	News - Gazette	Champaign	
3	Deborah Presson		Champaign	
4	Midge O'Brien	Midge O'Brien	Savoy	
5	Joe Peacock	C-U Health Care Providers	Urbana	
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**Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Urbana City Hall

PROJECT #11-042

Date: August 17, 2011

Address: 400 South Vine Street
Urbana, IL 61801

NAME: Provena Covenant
Medical Center-Urbana

Time: 1:30 P.M.

TESTIMONY TO OPPOSE PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	FRONTIER	PROVENA		
2	John Hilly	self	Urbana	Both
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1400 West Park Street
Urbana, IL 61801-9901
217 337-2000 Tel



August 16, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am a Champaign-Urbana-based OB/GYN physician who is currently serving as president of the medical staff at Provena Covenant Medical Center. I am writing in support of the merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care both from a practice perspective and from an administrative viewpoint.

In 2010, Provena Covenant welcomed nearly 900 new citizens into our community. We did so in the midst of an impressive \$5 million renovation of our birthing unit, the first phase of which was unveiled just a few weeks ago. These babies came into this world in the expert hands of my colleagues and me, with the skilled and compassionate assistance of a superb team of dedicated nurses. Provena Covenant Medical Center is an excellent place to practice medicine, thanks to investments the ministry, supported by its parent organization, makes in its facilities and its quality staff.

Under our new hospital CEO, Mike Brown, Covenant is continuing a steady stream of improvements that directly benefits our patients including the implementation of electronic health records, the addition of new physicians and our latest offering, a state-of-the-art DaVinci robot which allows physicians, myself included, to perform minimally invasive surgery using breakthrough technology. It's fantastic stuff, on top of an extraordinary mission to care for all.

From an administrative perspective, I understand all too well the challenges health providers currently face and will continue to face well into the future. The merger of Provena and Resurrection will help our hospital weather the storm and even grow our capabilities and services.

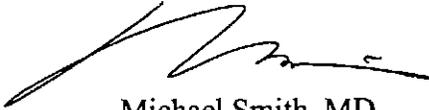
Provena Health ministries are sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart,
the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

Project #11042

Page 2

Please approve our application so that the wonderful in-roads being made by Provena Covenant Medical Center can continue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Smith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Smith, MD



1309 West Hill Street
Urbana, IL 61801
217-337-2731

August 15, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042 - Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am pleased to share with you the importance of the relationship between Provena Covenant Medical Center (PCMC) and Crisis Nursery. Crisis Nursery creates an "Island of Safety" dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing 24-hour emergency care for children and support to strengthen families in crisis. The Nursery is available to the entire community to access with no fees, income eligibility or waiting list. Besides safe shelter for children, ages birth through five, we also provide family support and parenting education to strengthen parent skills and confidence.

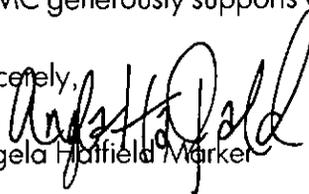
The Nursery began in 1981 in one room of Burnham City Hospital. When the hospital closed in 1992, our relationship with PCMC began as the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, the original founding sponsors of the hospital, saw a like-minded mission with that of Crisis Nursery. At that time, the Sisters moved the Nursery into a small house owned by Provena Covenant. We paid just \$1 annually to rent the facility, which was remodeled thanks to a grant secured by PCMC.

Over time, Crisis Nursery outgrew the Park Street location, and we launched a capital campaign in 1999 to raise money for a new facility. Bolstered by a \$20,000 gift from the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, Provena Covenant provided three lots of property for the new Nursery at the rate of \$1 per year for 30 years beginning October 1999. Crisis Nursery moved into the new building, its current location at 1309 W. Hill Street in Urbana, in February 2000.

For the past 11 years, Provena Covenant Medical Center has generously supported the Nursery with in-kind donations, such as all utility expenses, general maintenance, security, laundry and linen services, meal preparation and delivery and when necessary, emergency health care. Since 1999, the value of these services equaled nearly \$400,000.

PCMC generously supports Crisis Nursery. Please approve of their application for certificate of need.

Sincerely,


Angela Hatfield Marker



Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary

301 North Wright
Champaign, Illinois 61820

August 15, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a member of the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary, the women religious who founded Provena Covenant Medical Center, I request your approval of the merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care – two outstanding Catholic health systems.

Catholic health care carries out the healing ministry of Jesus in a complex environment — a fragmented health care system, millions of Americans uninsured or underinsured, enormous competition, challenges in reimbursement, proliferating technologies, and more. Ours is a special calling...an enduring commitment to care for all in need, even when they cannot afford the help they need.

Difficult days lie ahead for health care providers, and especially those like Provena Covenant Medical Center which provide a safety net for the poor and vulnerable in need of care. The merger of these fine organizations will help us weather the storm and grow our ministry so that generations of Illinois citizens will continue to benefit from strong Catholic health providers.

Please approve our Certificate of Need application. God bless you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sr. Mary Kay Himens, sscm



City of
CHAMPAIGN

Donald R. Gerard
Mayor & Liquor Commissioner

102 North Neil Street
Champaign, Illinois 61820-4042
Telephone (217) 403-8720
Fax (217) 403-8725
www.ci.champaign.il.us

August 1, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

As the Mayor of the City of Champaign, I am pleased to support the merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

My understanding of the proposal before you is the partnership would create the largest Catholic healthcare network in the State, in an effort to provide generations of residents access to quality health care. I believe the continued access through Provena Covenant Medical Center is crucial to the health and well-being of the Champaign community.

It is also key to our local economy, where Provena Covenant is a leading employer who offers substantial pay and benefits, and invests in the community through volunteer service, fundraising support and proactive programming to the benefit and well-being of our community.

I respectfully ask your approval of certificate of need application #11042.

Sincerely,

Mayor Don Gerard
City of Champaign

August X, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

As an employee of Provena Covenant Medical Center, I support the merger of Provena and Resurrection Health Care.

I have worked at Provena Covenant for 23 years and have lived in the Champaign community each of those 23 years. I was here when it was Mercy hospital, and continued to work here during the Mercy-Burnham merger to form Covenant and then through Provena merger. *THE SPIRIT, CULTURE OR MISSION HAS NOT CHANGED*

Throughout my career, which began as an exercise physiologist, grew to an RN role in the CCU for a couple of years before serving as a Clinical Educator, and then Director of Education Services. Over time, the ministry allowed me to grow to my present position as Regional Director of Organizational Development. At every step of my employment the ministry has supported my desire to grow, develop and change.

Although I have had opportunities to leave for other positions, the mission, culture and people of this organization has kept me here.

My wife is a fellow employee at the hospital, where she too has worked her entire career. Having raised two daughters on our Provena salaries, and reared our family in this community, we have an immense personal stake in its continued success.

And that is what this merger is all about – positioning Provena Covenant, a resource so vital to the community, so that it can change with the rapidly evolving and complex world in which it operates. Speaking both from a personal and professional perspective, I believe it is the right strategy.

I hope you will approve the application of the merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

Sincerely,





United Way
of Champaign County

404 W. Church Street
Champaign, IL 61820-3411
217 352 5151
217 352 6494 f
www.uwayhelps.org

August 8, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

On behalf of the United Way of Champaign County, the people we serve and the programs we support, I request your approval of the merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

Provena Covenant Medical Center, and its wonderful family of employees, has long supported our local United Way through generous financial support, board service and volunteer committee work. It has consistently ranked among our top work place campaigns and contributed nearly \$15,000 in 2010. Impressive totals like that have amounted to literally hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years... funding which advances the common good by providing programs and services to children, families and individuals in all types of need from all walks of life.

Beyond their financial contributions however, is the true partnership in support of agencies like ours, which I have also been privileged to witness in my role as a community leader and advocate for human services. Despite its increasingly challenged financial resources in these economic times, Provena Covenant continues to support United Way and many other human service agencies in the community.

LIVE UNITED.



August 10, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

I have proudly served on the Board of Provena Covenant Medical Center, its predecessor organization Burnham Hospital and its former parent ServantCor Health System, from 1986-2003 and again at Provena Covenant from 2008 to present. For more than 30 years, I have worked in the medical field as President and CEO of both Burdette Medical, Inc. and Acoustic MedSystems, Inc. of Champaign. Additionally, I have served on the faculties of Georgia Tech, Emory University, Univ of Illinois, and Johns Hopkins. For nearly 30 years I have also served on workshops and research grant review panels for the National Institutes of Health.

If one thing is certain, it is that I know health care. In all my experience, I must admit that these are unquestionably the most challenging times the industry has ever seen, as providers grapple with steep budget cuts to Medicare and Medicaid – vital programs which support two populations for which Provena cares most deeply about...the elderly and the poor. Two populations, mind you, which also happen to be growing.

Here in Urbana/Champaign, Provena Covenant's commitment to serving all regardless of their ability to pay is unsurpassed and unquestionable. Yet, in this economic climate, the ministry's ability to continue to do so cannot be a given into perpetuity.

Provena's merger with Resurrection Health Care will strengthen the system as a whole and improve access to services for those most in need. It will help these providers who play such critical roles in overall health and wellbeing our communities to sustain the headwinds they currently face.

Ultimately, it will preserve and enhance the legacy of their Catholic founders who gave all so that we today in this community could have healing and hope. I respectfully request your positive consideration and approval of the Provena/Resurrection Certificate of Need application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Everett Clif Burdette".

Everette Clif Burdette, PhD
CEO

Acoustic MedSystems, Inc.

My name is Olivia Brown.

I have a concern about the changes that are happening at Provena Covenant, especially with the doctors.

So many of my doctors, who were Provena doctors or independent doctors, have left our community over the past year or two.

Some of them have gone to Christie Clinic, but once they are at Christie Clinic, it is almost impossible to get in to see them if you have Medicaid, or if you need some financial assistance. Christie Clinic doesn't help the lower-income community members the way that the Provena and independent doctors did. I don't think that Christie Clinic should be allowed to be on the Board of Provena Covenant if Christie won't agree to see Provena's Medicaid and low-income patients.

I want to know if this merger between Provena and Resurrection is going to bring more doctors to our community – especially Provena doctors or independent doctors, who have always been more willing to serve the low-income members of our community?

It has really been a hardship to have the Provena doctors and the independent doctors leave. You start seeing a doctor you like, one who wants to take care of you and will give you discounts or will see you even if you have Medicaid, and then next thing you know, they are gone! It has happened with too many of our Provena and independent doctors over the past year or two. And it is really a shame and a hardship because patients need continuity of care, not a revolving door of doctors.

I want to be a Provena patient, but ~~I can't go to Christie Clinic and~~ all my doctors are gone. I want to know how this merger is going to improve access to care to Provena or independent doctors for people like me.

Thank you.



CORONEL Bilingual Services

August 5, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

Through my work, I often serve as a bridge between Latino communities and local service agencies, medical institutions, law enforcement entities, educational institutions, and businesses. I have come to know Provena Covenant Medical Center through my involvement with SmileHealthy, a non-profit organization in the Champaign/Urbana area that is dedicated to addressing oral health needs through prevention, treatment and education.

Since 2009, Provena Covenant has been working in conjunction with Smile Healthy and various community partners in a collaborative effort to proactively address and improve access to regular dental care for residents in need.

I have been very impressed with the level of commitment Provena has made not just to addressing this critical community need at the treatment level, but also taking a holistic approach to the problem by providing education and resources, improving access by creating services where they don't currently exist and advocating on behalf of the patients to fix the problem for the future.

By funding mobile clinics that provide free dental exams, hosting drives to collect proper dental supplies required for healthy teeth and gums, and working with the other members of the collaborative to establish a dental clinic within the local Federally Qualified Health Center, Provena Covenant has played an active role in providing critical dental care is often ignored until health issues are more advanced.

As I understand it, the merger between Provena and Resurrection will further support a continued commitment to meaningful community health programs, like SmileHealthy.

On behalf of the many Urbana/Champaign citizens that count on Provena's participation in service programs like SmileHealthy, I strongly urge your support of their application.

Sincerely,

Alejandra Coronel
President & CEO
Coronel Bilingual Services

45 E. UNIVERSITY AVE., STE. 206
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820
(217) 355-8252

28 W. NORTH STREET - 1ST FLOOR
DANVILLE, IL 61832
(217) 442-5252



118 STATE CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
(217) 782-2507

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE
MICHAEL FRERICHS
STATE SENATOR · 52ND DISTRICT

August 9, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

Because I believe it will benefit the Champaign-Urbana community, I am writing in support of the merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

One of our local hospitals, Provena Covenant Medical Center, is included in the merger. The continued success of Provena Covenant, which I believe will come about through the proposed arrangement, is very important to the residents of Champaign-Urbana as the hospital provides extensive charitable assistance to many patients in need and also offers a wide range of pro-active community health programs such as free screenings and health talks.

In addition, over 1,000 local residents depend upon Provena Covenant for employment.

Affordable and accessible healthcare for all in need and good paying jobs are two major quality of life attributes for successful municipalities. We have that and more in Provena Covenant Medical Center, and on behalf of our citizens of Champaign-Urbana, we would like to see it continue and grow.

To the extent that this merger will facilitate that, I ask your approval of the Provena/Resurrection application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Frerichs".

Michael Frerichs



CHRISTIE CLINIC

Medicine for Your Life

August 9, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: PROJECT # 11042
Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care Corporation

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am the CEO of Christie Clinic, one of the largest, multi-specialty medical practices in Illinois. Because Christie has locations throughout East-Central Illinois, both Provena Covenant Medical Center in Urbana and Provena United Samaritans Medical Center in Danville are preferred providers when our patients need hospital services.

The Christie Clinic is pleased to support a merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

We make this recommendation based on one of the main goals of the merger which is an extremely positive transformation of the patient, resident and family experience. It is a very similar goal to one we have at Christie, where we are continually investing in new technology to provide our doctors with the tools they need to best diagnose and treat our patients.

Supported by its parent organization, both Provena Covenant and Provena United Samaritans have made substantial strides in enhancing facilities and technologies. Both hospitals are in the midst of implementing Electronic Health Records which truly will transform the experience for patients and families by ensuring seamless care in the safest possible manner.

In addition, both hospitals have major renovations underway... new birthing suites at Provena Covenant, a \$5 million project where Christie OB/GYN's are looking forward to delivering their tiniest patients, and a state-of-the-art cancer center in Danville where leading-edge therapies will combine with the compassionate service that is a known hallmark of Provena ministries.

Facilitated by this merger, Provena hospitals will solidify their positions as places where physicians want to practice and patients want to receive care.

Thank you for consideration of Project Application #11042, the merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care.

Sincerely,

R. ALAN GLEGHORN
Chief Executive Officer

Thomas Rohrer
August 17, 2011

Good afternoon. My name is Thomas Rohrer.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony about the Provena Resurrection merger.

I am speaking today because I am a member of the Medicare 100 Plus Program, which is a program that Provena Covenant Medical Center and the Champaign County Health Care Consumers provide for low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Many of us with Medicare just can't afford supplemental health insurance, and Medicare leaves us with big out-of-pocket expenses that can be really unaffordable, like the Part A deductible.

Medicare 100 Plus is a financial assistance program that gives low-income Medicare beneficiaries a discount on our out-of-pocket hospital expenses at Provena Covenant. Many of us get a 100% discount, and it is a great help.

The Medicare 100 Plus Program makes it possible for people like me to be able to get the care that we need, when we need it, without the worry of a huge medical bill.

This program has been wonderful for me. I have been a member for a couple of years now. Champaign County Health Care Consumers helped me enroll in the program and they keep me current in the program.

Because of Medicare 100 Plus, I was able to get my Emergency Room bill covered, ~~as well as the surgery that I had to have~~. I don't know where I would be without this program. It has been a real blessing for me and for our community members, and I would like to thank Provena Covenant and the Health Care Consumers for it.

Medicare 100 Plus is a great local program, and I hope that when Provena and Resurrection merge, they will continue this program here in our community, and I hope they will continue the other local programs that each hospital has developed in order to serve the specific needs of each of their communities.

Thank you.

Copenhaver Cumpston

1403 South Busey Avenue

Urbana, Illinois 61801 USA

(217) 714-2389

Statement made 8/17/01 re: MERGER OF PROVENA AND RESURRECTION

My name is Cope Cumpston; I live in Urbana. I work with low income people, some with Medicaid but more who are uninsured to help them get care. The resources for these people for medical and dental care are far below the need.

I have concerns about the impact of this merger on both access to and cost of care for low-income people. Will there be a uniform policy between all the hospitals? Provena Covenant reports that it provides 2.8% of its annual fees for charity care, which is commendable but at the same time no where near what is needed in this community given our poverty rate.

I believe that Resurrection's provisions ~~are~~ for charity care are significantly lower than 2.8%.

I'd also like to request that Provena and Resurrection take a look at their programs for providing discounted medical care for low income people. Provena Covenant provides limited assistance for only the uninsured; and then they have to renew their application every six months. It doesn't provide help for medical debt incurred more than 6 months prior to a new medical need; this policy prevents many people from being able to get care. The assistance plan is a cumbersome and challenging process, not easily accessible to the people with the greatest need. People can go to the emergency room if they are uninsured or under-insured, but then they cannot get follow-up or continuing care. It is likely that by increasing the amount of charity care provided, these hospitals would not incur any more expense than they already do by writing off bad debt. I urge them to look carefully at their existing policies and what could be improved financing for both hospitals and low-income people by providing more ~~charity care.~~ *financial assistance.*

I'm also painfully aware of how expensive the rates are for medical services at Provena Covenant, especially for the uninsured. I believe that the rates charged to the uninsured are higher than those charged to people with insurance because of agreements insurers have worked out with hospitals like Provena. I urge you to look at this policy and compare what it actually costs to care for people versus what rates are charged to the uninsured. Would this merger result in economies of scale that could reduce the costs of medical care for the communities impacted?

I urge you to take these needs seriously as you approach this merger, and take into consideration the considerable needs of our communities.

August 9, 2010

Re: Provena-Resurrection Merger

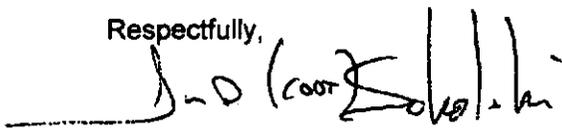
To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to go on record that I wholeheartedly support the merger of the two above-referenced faith-based hospitals. I have lived in Champaign-Urbana for over 20 years. I can attest to the clarity of vision and the strength of purpose that Provena brings to its mission of service to the community and our patients. In fact, because of the effort the hospital expends to make Champaign-Urbana a better place to live, I have stepped forward and volunteered to serve on the Provena board. And through that service, I can attest that Provena is fiercely dedicated to its mission. Having Provena Hospital makes Champaign-Urbana and its environs a truly better place to live and of course, makes for a much healthier and health conscious community.

Based upon what I have learned about The Resurrection Hospital group, I think that this will be a merger of equals, who have shared values of caring and will make both Hospital groups stronger and more able to provide the level of care that we have come to expect from both.

Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,



Jon D. (Cody) Sokolski
One Main Development, LLC.



Claudia Lennhoff, Executive Director
Champaign County Health Care Consumers

Testimony provided to IL Health Facilities and Services Review Board at Public Hearing in Urbana on Wednesday, August 17, 2011

Good afternoon.

My name is Claudia Lennhoff and I'm the Executive Director of the Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC). The Health Care Consumers was founded in 1977 and we are a grassroots citizen-action organization dedicated to the mission of health care for all, and giving consumers a voice in the health care system.

Mr. Eaker, thank you for the opportunity today to provide testimony to the Review Board regarding the proposed Provena/Resurrection merger.

CCHCC has a long and productive history of working with Provena Covenant in order to improve access to health care in our community, especially for low-income, underinsured and uninsured individuals. Our work together includes efforts to improve Provena Covenant's financial assistance program, and community outreach so that Champaign County residents are aware of and are able to receive financial assistance at Provena Covenant. Every year, through our Hotline, we help hundreds of community members receive financial assistance at Provena Covenant, and this has saved local residents and families tens of thousands of dollars in medical expenses that they could not afford.

In addition to the financial assistance program, CCHCC collaborates with Provena Covenant to provide the Medicare 100 Plus Program. This Program provides access to affordable hospital-based care to low-income Medicare beneficiaries in our community, by giving them discounts of up to 100% on their health care costs at Provena Covenant. The Medicare 100 Plus Program was designed specifically to meet the needs of a low-income underserved population within Champaign County.

Beyond the financial assistance program and the Medicare 100 Plus Program, CCHCC has also worked with Provena Covenant over the years to address the outpatient access to care crisis here in our community when Carle Clinic and Christie Clinic were denying care to low-income uninsured and Medicaid patients. And we have also worked together on various efforts to improve access to affordable dental care for low-income community members.

This work that we have done together has brought us into a close and productive relationship with Provena Covenant, but it also allows us to understand the struggles and the barriers that local consumers encounter when trying to access the health care that they need.

With the announcement of the proposed merger between the Provena and Resurrection health systems, many community members reached out to CCHCC to ask questions and express concerns about what this merger would mean for our community.

Community members worry that bigger is not necessarily better, and want to make sure that our local hospital doesn't get swallowed up in a huge health system, and removed from its relationship with our community. In other words, community members feel a sense of ownership of, and commitment to Provena Covenant. They value the hospital and the services and programs it provides, and they don't want that local dynamic to change.

In particular, community members expressed concern about whether the merger would harm or benefit Provena Covenant financially. They wanted to know if we would see any changes to the services provided at Provena Covenant and whether we would lose any departments at the hospital. They wanted to know what impact the merger would have on the range of physicians available in our community – in particular, on the decreasing numbers of independent and Provena Medical Group physicians, because they value these physicians and these physicians, more than any others (except those at our free clinics), make outpatient health care accessible for low-income, Medicaid, and uninsured community members.

And community members are savvy – they wanted to know what would happen with the Provena financial assistance program, and whether the program would improve or deteriorate as a result of the merger.

In response to the questions and concerns that our members brought to us, CCHCC met recently with Provena Covenant's CEO Mike Brown and CFO Deb Schimerowski, and we discussed these concerns.

I don't have time now to report the full content of our conversation, but I did want to point out that many of the questions and concerns are addressed in the CON application, where it is stated numerous times that there will be no substantive changes to the way that the local Provena and Resurrection hospitals operate. This includes Provena's commitment to maintaining local governance of its hospitals and continuing the ministries it has developed in each of its communities.

In fact, the CON application states that, under the merger, there will be no substantive changes to hospital operations or staffing or local programs for at least two years.

With regard to the financial assistance program, CCHCC felt strongly that advocates from the community should be involved in working with Provena and Resurrection at the system level, in order to develop the new financial assistance policy for the whole system.

I'm pleased to say that Provena has agreed to include us in the process of developing its new financial assistance policy and program. But I also thought that community members would be reassured to know what is in the CON application regarding financial assistance:

From page 86 in the Provena Covenant portion of the CON application:

"Provena and Resurrection intend to develop a new, consolidated charity care policy for the combined system hospitals, generally taking the best elements of each of the existing system policies. Provena and Resurrection representatives have offered to the Illinois Attorney General's office that this new charity care policy will be shared in draft form with the Attorney General's office, so that the Attorney General's office can provide input into the policy. That policy, as of the filing of this application, is being developed, and will be provided to State Agency staff when complete. Resurrection and Provena have committed to the State Agency to provide this policy to the State Agency prior to appearing before the State Board."

Whether it is in regard to the financial assistance policy, or other issues that are vital to our hospitals and communities, CCHCC feels that we are all better off when we work together in principled collaboration dedicated to improving the health of our community. The community can benefit from mission-based health care, and the hospital and the health system can benefit from consumer and community input at the local and system levels that helps it improve the way it delivers health care.

And so, we look forward to continuing our work with Provena Covenant, and our new work at the system level under this proposed merger, and we think that all of us, community and hospital system, will benefit from the collaboration.

Thank you.

Hi, my name is Nick Quealy-Gainer and I am on staff with Champaign County Health Care Consumers and the coordinator of the Medicare 100/Plus Program. The Medicare 100/Plus program was created in 1984 as a collaboration between Burnham City Hospital and Champaign County Health Care Consumers. Back then, there was a growing problem of low income seniors denying themselves care in fear of the bills that were sure to follow, a problem that persists today in many communities. Medicare recipients are well aware of how they are often left with large co-pays, deductibles and co-insurance for hospital stays or doctor visits. The Medicare 100/Plus program offers financial assistance as well as peace of mind for low-income seniors in Champaign County who would otherwise struggle to afford the out of pocket costs associated with Medicare Parts A and B. This program continued to thrive as Burnham transitioned to Covenant and then on to Provena Covenant Medical Center.

Today, we have a wonderful working relationship with Provena Covenant that allows the Medicare 100/Plus program to serve hundreds of seniors in our community. CCHCC is able to administer the program in partnership with Provena's Financial Assistance Program in a very smooth and effective manner. As coordinator of the Medicare 100/Plus program and on behalf of the hundreds of low-income seniors who benefit, I hope to see this great local program continue following the merger between Provena and Resurrection Health Systems. CCHCC's executive director Claudia Lennhoff and I recently met with the CEO of Provena Covenant, Mike Brown, as well as the CFO, Deb Schimerowski, and we were pleased by their assurances

that Medicare 100/Plus would not be impacted by the proposed merger. In fact, we were told that the local ministries of all the Provena hospitals would stay relatively unaffected and would continue to support the local communities and programs, such as Medicare 100/Plus.

Of course, there are always improvements to be made to any charity care program, but in my experience this program has achieved the goals it originally set out to improve access to affordable health care for low-income seniors who use Provena Covenant Medical Center and affiliated services. It is my hope that under this merger, we will continue to grow the Medicare 100/Plus Program locally as well as improve access to financial assistance for all communities served by Provena and Resurrection Hospitals.

Thank you.

The Provena/Resurrection Merger: Is Bigger Necessary Better?

Dr. John Hilty
Urbana, Illinois

I feel uncomfortable about the proposed merger of Provena/Resurrection and wonder if this is really in the best interest of the communities that these organizations serve. What will be the final result of this seemingly never-ending succession of mergers? Will Illinois ultimately be dominated by 2-3 large hospital chains? Will this best serve the interests of the communities within the state? When does big become too big?

One potential problem in dealing with a large chain of hospitals (which would be the result from a Provena/Resurrection merger), is that it could become less responsive to the needs and concerns of local communities. When dealing with a local community hospital, it is probably easier to make policy changes by lobbying hospital administrators who are not accountable to people higher up in the organization at a remote location. If such lobbying efforts fail, local publicity about policy shortcomings or failed promises to the community can often shame administrators into doing the right thing. On account of its sheer size, a large chain of hospitals is more likely to ignore either local lobbying efforts or local publicity.

Another problem with large organizations, including large hospital chains, is that they are more likely to file lawsuits against individuals, community groups, or government agencies that engage in actions that are contrary to their financial self-interest. Large organizations have more financial resources to hire lawyers and are more likely to sue, or threaten to sue, anyone who stands in their way. This often results in lawsuits that take years to resolve and costs millions of dollars. Within Champaign County, two large health care organizations (Provena and Carle) have already instigated such lawsuits during the past decade.

Mergers are often justified on the basis of economy of scale: that is, large organizations have more bargaining power with suppliers and can demand lower prices from them. Sometimes, savings also result when redundant positions, particularly in administration, are eliminated. The drawback to mergers, however, is that larger organizations tend to be more monopolistic in their business practices and can charge higher prices for their services. While this benefits the bottomline of the newly merged organization, it also damages the financial health of the communities that are being served by this organization, while reducing consumer choice. If there is any evidence that large hospital chains charge lower prices for their services than local hospitals, I am not aware of it.

I am also worried about the charity care programs that non-profit hospitals are required to provide to the uninsured poor under state law. If Provena merges with Resurrection, will the new chain of hospitals preserve the charity care program at Provena in Urbana, or weaken it? Are Provena and Resurrection willing to express their commitment to charity care in writing? It is my fear that the new organization resulting from this merger will eventually weaken the local charity care program by focusing more on its bottom line. As a result, many people could face severe financial hardship as a result of hospitalization.

I encourage members of the review board to consider carefully the issues that have been raised here. Thank-you for your consideration.

**Testimony of Thomas Nehring
System Senior Vice President, Mission Services
Provena Health**

RE: Project Numbers 11039 – 11051
The Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care

Good morning. My name is Tom Nehring, and I am System Senior Vice President of Mission Services at Provena Health. I am here today in support of the merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care. In my role with Provena, I have been responsible for cultural integration of mission, vision, values and Catholic ministry identity; community benefit; advocacy & government relations; clinical and organizational ethics; leadership development and spirituality & spiritual care services across our health system for the past nine years. Previous to joining Provena, I did similar work for ten years at Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare, another Catholic health system. During this time I have also worked on national committees and boards involved with Catholic health care.

In my career within Catholic health care, I have come to know that our ministry as a whole works to bring alive the Gospel vision of justice and peace. We answer God's call to foster healing, act with compassion, and promote wellness for all persons and communities, with special attention to our neighbors who are poor, underserved, and most vulnerable. By our service, we strive to transform hurt into hope.

For more than 125 years, Provena Health ministries have existed for the sole purpose of caring for all regardless of their ability to pay. It is a commitment that is at the core of our Mission: to build communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

It is how we concretely live out directive #3 of the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services given to us by the Bishops of the United States: "In accord with its mission, Catholic health care should distinguish itself by **service to and advocacy for** those people whose social condition puts them at the margins of our society and makes them particularly vulnerable to discrimination: the poor; the uninsured and the underinsured;

children and the unborn; single parents; the elderly, those with incurable diseases and chemical dependencies; racial minorities; immigrants and refugees. In particular, the person with mental or physical disabilities, regardless of the cause or severity, must be treated as a unique person of incomparable worth, with the same right to life and to adequate health care as all other persons." This is what we strive to do.

Today, I must tell you that that the needs of the poor and marginalized are greater than ever.

Newly released figures, detail that our service in 2010 resulted in a charitable impact upon our communities of more than \$186 million for Provena Health. Nearly sixty million of that was given away in free care at cost through charitable assistance, which totaled over \$35 million, and bad debts, which equaled nearly \$25 million.

Sixty-two percent of that \$186 million or \$114.5 million represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from State and Federal government's Medicaid and Medicare programs. In addition, Provena contributed over \$12 million in community benefit services, which are specific programs and activities aimed at meeting identified community health needs.

Taken as a whole, Provena Health's contributions, on average, represented more than \$511,000 in charitable benefit each and every day.

[In Danville]

In the greater Danville area, Provena United Samaritans Medical Center's 2010 charitable impact represented more than \$16 million, 40 percent of which (or \$6,732,497) was free care at cost and 46 percent of which (or \$7,591,823) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, Provena United Samaritans contributed over \$2.2 million in community benefit services and had a combined daily charitable impact of more than \$45,000, on average, in 2010.

[In Champaign]

In the greater Champaign-Urbana area, Provena ministries, including Provena Covenant Medical Center, Provena Home Health, Provena Hospice and Provena Medical Group, delivered a total 2010 charitable impact of more than \$23 million, 38 percent of which (or

\$9,135,877) was free care at cost and 54 percent of which (or \$12,878,301) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, the ministries in Champaign-Urbana contributed over \$1.8 million in community benefit services and had a combined daily charitable impact of more than \$65,000, on average.

[In Aurora]

Provena Health ministries in the greater Aurora community including Provena Mercy Medical Center, Provena Fox Knoll, Provena McAuley Manor and Provena Medical Group, have delivered a total 2010 charitable impact of nearly \$20 million, 51 percent of which (or \$10,249,634) was free care at cost – composed of charity care and bad debt - and 30 percent of which (or \$5,903,517) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, these ministries contributed over \$3.7 million in community benefit services. Taken as a whole, Provena's contributions, on average, represented more than \$54,500 in charitable benefit each and every day.

[In Elgin]

Provena Health ministries in the greater Elgin community including Provena Saint Joseph Hospital, Provena Geneva Care Center, Provena Home Health, Provena Hospice, Provena Medical Group, Provena Pine View Care Center and The Greens of Elgin delivered a total 2010 charitable impact of more than \$34 million, 25 percent of which (or \$8,555,294) was free care at cost – composed of charity care and bad debt - and 71 percent of which (or \$24,446,605) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, these ministries contributed over \$1.3 million in community benefit services. Taken as a whole, Provena's contributions, on average, represented more than \$94,000 in charitable benefit each and every day.

[In Joliet]

Provena Health ministries in the greater Joliet community including Provena Saint Joseph Medical Center, Provena Home Health, Provena Medical Group and Provena Villa Franciscan, delivered a total 2010 charitable impact of more than \$58 million, 29 percent of which (or \$17,492,731) was free care at cost – composed of charity care and bad debt - and 68 percent of which (or \$39,754,690) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, these ministries contributed over \$1.6

million in community benefit services. Taken as a whole, Provena's contributions, on average, represented more than \$161,000 in charitable benefit each and every day.

[In Kankakee]

Provena Health ministries in the greater Kankakee community including Provena St. Mary's Hospital, Provena Fortin Villa Learning Center, Provena Heritage Village, Provena Home Health, Provena Medical Group, Provena Our Lady of Victory and Provena St. Mary's Adult Day Center delivered a total 2010 charitable impact of more than \$26 million, 28 percent of which (or \$7,402,750) was free care at cost – composed of charity care and bad debt - and 70 percent of which (or \$18,666,295) represented combined provisions of care not fully reimbursed from Medicaid and Medicare. In addition, these ministries contributed over \$600,000 in community benefit services. Taken as a whole, Provena's contributions, on average, represented more than \$73,000 in charitable benefit each and every day.

These amounts not only represent an enduring commitment to serve all regardless of their ability to pay, but also underscore the critical role Provena ministries play in the communities we serve, especially during difficult economic times. We recognize that among those we serve are often those most in need. We are privileged to have their trust, and we work daily to ensure we continue to provide nationally recognized, high quality care and services to each and every individual who comes through our doors.

I am pleased to submit into the record Provena Health's 2010 Report to Our Communities which details at a much greater level our enduring commitment to serve all and the charitable impact we deliver within the communities we serve.

As complexities within our nation's health care system evolve, we are compelled to adapt and innovate; to preserve, strengthen and grow our ministry for the benefit of the millions of people in Illinois who depend upon us for care. And that is why we seek your approval for our partnership and collaboration with Resurrection Health Care.

Together as Catholic healthcare providers, we will embrace the work that lies ahead to create a health care system that is available and accessible to everyone; that is health and prevention-oriented; that rewards quality not quantity; that is transparent and consensus-

driven; safe, that is effective and patient-centered; and that addresses health needs at all stages of life, from conception to natural death.

Thank you.

**Testimony of Michael Brown
President and Chief Executive Officer
Provena United Samaritans Medical Center and Provena Covenant Medical Center**

RE: Project Numbers 11039 and 11042
The Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care

Good morning and thank you for the opportunity to not only share with the public our goals for what we hope to achieve through a merger between Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care, but to also describe the benefits of this new partnership to the people of [Danville/Urbana-Champaign]. My name is Mike Brown, and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Provena United Samaritans Medical Center and of Provena Covenant Medical Center.

I would like to begin with a letter from Guy Wiebking, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Provena Health and Sandra Bruce, the President and Chief Executive Officer of Resurrection Health Care [read letter].

For local hospitals like Provena United Samaritans and Provena Covenant, there are number of excellent benefits to being part of health system, and especially one that will be among the largest in our State. I want to draw your attention to the point in Mr. Wiebking's and Ms. Bruce's letter that states: "The size and scope of the new Ministry will improve financial viability through a new structure that focuses on savings in corporate and administrative costs, *while concentrating resources in our local health care ministries where care is provided.*"

Concentrating resources in our local health care ministries where care is provided – our leaders get it. They know that success in health care is not derived from big corporate overhead; but rather by investing in caring for people in the communities in which we are privileged to serve.

As a member of Provena Health, our local hospitals in East-Central Illinois – and ultimately, our patients and employees – have time and again benefitted from the System's "think global, act local" approach. From technological enhancements that improve quality and patient

safety to leading-edge diagnostics to patient and family-centered renovations and new programs, our local hospital ministries have grown in ways we never could have without the support and resources of a greater system.

As health care faces unprecedented changes, as we confront decreased reimbursements, as the need for charity care and financial assistance becomes greater than ever and as our aging population tests the system as never before, hospital survival lies in what we at Provena call "Systemness." That is maximizing efficiency and cost savings by centralizing "back office" type functions at a Corporate level, so that resources can be focused on where they matter most – in caring for our local communities.

We have some of that now as being part of Provena, and we stand to gain more under the new organization. In fact, work is already underway to expand our charity care and financial assistance programs where the need is great due in large part to the struggling economy.

There, to continue to ensure that we do not lose sight of what's important to our local communities, will be our wonderful and deeply dedicated local Boards of Directors which will operate as they currently do under the new structure. Our local Foundations will continue to do the same, with our locally raised dollars staying right here, to make a difference in the lives our friends and neighbors.

The partnership will also more strongly support our role as a leading employer in the markets we serve, with our employees enjoying the stability of being part of a larger health system, with competitive pay and benefits, career advancement opportunities and a faith-based culture of diversity, camaraderie, respect and compassion.

Above all, our merger will preserve and strengthen for generations to come the promise our Founding Sisters made here in [Danville/Urbana-Champaign] over 100 years ago...that through our ministry, all in need would have healing and hope in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the Provena family, I would like to thank all who joined us today in person or in spirit for their support of our new future and also to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board for the opportunity to tell our story. Thank you.



19065 Hickory Creek Drive, Suite 300
Mokena, IL 60448
708 478 7967 Tel



7435 West Talcott Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631
773 792 5555 Tel

August 17, 2010

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield IL 62761

RE: IHFSRB Projects #11-40 -- #11-53

Dear Ms. Avery,

In early July, after several months of talks among the Sponsoring Congregations and between the Boards of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care, as well as due diligence and discernment, we reached an agreement to come together to form a new patient, resident and family centered health Ministry that will serve a large portion of Illinois. The size and scope of the new Ministry will improve financial viability through a new structure that focuses on savings in corporate and administrative costs, while concentrating resources in our local health care ministries where care is provided. A new parent organization will oversee the existing Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care corporations.

Throughout the lengthy and thorough decision process, we came to realize our unique similarities. Our new Ministry will support innovation and growth under health reform. The new Ministry will be designed to excel at the patient, resident and family experience and provide high quality care and value across the continuum. In partnership with our physicians and employees, we are committed to building healthy communities by identifying community health needs and developing strategies to keep people healthy, as well as caring for the sick.

More than 4.5 million people live in areas we serve. The combined Ministry will encompass 12 hospitals, 28 long-term care and senior residential facilities, more than 50 primary and specialty care clinics, six home health agencies and the second largest behavioral health services program in the state. In addition, the Ministry includes Resurrection University, a fully-accredited, not-for-profit, Catholic-based specialty school for health sciences. We will have nearly 5,000 physicians and more than 22,000 employees.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board for giving us the opportunity to tell our story at today's public hearing. We respect and appreciate the conscientious work to make this series of hearings possible so that we, our supporters, stakeholders and community partners have the opportunity to speak about our plans.

Sincerely,

Guy R. Wiebking
President and Chief Executive Officer
Provena Health

Sandra Bruce, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer
Resurrection Health Care

The Testimony of Sister Evelyn Varboncoeur

RE: Project Number 11042

The Merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Health Care

My name is Sister Evelyn Varboncoeur, and I am a member of the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary religious community. I am speaking today on behalf of the Member Body of Provena Health, which includes the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas; and on behalf of the Sponsorship Council of Resurrection Health Care which includes the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth and the Sisters of the Resurrection.

I am very pleased to be here today to share with the community an overview of what is a very exciting new chapter in the history of Provena Covenant Medical Center and for our health system as a whole. I would also express my sincere appreciation to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board for their efforts to enable this hearing to take place in a timely and organized fashion.

By way of background, Provena Health is a Catholic health ministry that includes six hospitals, including Provena Covenant, 16 long-term care and senior residential facilities, numerous clinics, five home health agencies and other health-related activities operating in Illinois and Indiana. At the encouragement of Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Provena Health came into being on December 1, 1997 from a human need to provide exceptional and compassionate health care services, and to be a sign of hope to all those in the communities it serves.

With a mission to build communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ, we have served our communities since our first hospitals opened their doors, as early as 1882.

From our very beginnings, we have been called to be much more than just a provider of health services. Rather, we are steeped in a culture that is committed to responding to the needs of those we are privileged to serve, delivering high quality care that is accessible to all.

Today, I am representing the five communities of women religious, who in faith and hope, seek the approval of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to form a new Catholic health Ministry to serve the citizens of Illinois through a merger of Provena Health and Resurrection Healthcare Corporation.

As individual health systems, Provena Health and Resurrection Healthcare have long provided compassionate healing to those in need. In keeping with the true spirit of the courageous Sisters who came before us, ours have been ministries deeply focused on quality care for all, regardless of one's ability to pay.

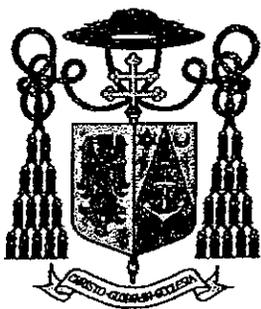
Now, as we anticipate Health Reform and the sweeping changes that will transform the delivery of care as we have come to know it, we are keenly aware that the key to sustaining and growing our person-centered Mission lies in the strength of enduring partnerships we forge today.

Jointly rooted in the traditions of Catholic healthcare, the new Ministry will be distinguished by an ability to deliver quality care across the continuum from a broad and complementary base of leading edge locations and physician networks. From a foundation steeped in a shared heritage and set of values, the new Ministry would give rise to an enormous potential to truly improve the wellbeing of generations of Illinoisans to come.

With a dedicated and talented combined team of nearly 5,000 physicians, supported by over 22,000 employees, the new Ministry will play an important role in the economic vitality of the communities in which we serve. Above all, our partnership will remain true to the hallmarks of our Catholic identity: promoting and protecting the dignity of every individual from conception to death, caring for the poor and vulnerable and properly stewarding our precious people and financial resources.

Finally, I would like to also enter into the record a letter of support from His Excellency, Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago. In his letter, he says, in part, "...I am grateful for the willingness of our state's premier Catholic providers to collaborate in order to meet the current challenges of health care. As they do now, the combined systems will operate without any restrictive admissions policies related to race, ethnic background, religion, payment source, or any other factor. The new system will continue to admit Medicare and Medicaid recipients and to care for those patients in need of charity care....This merger has my full support...."

In conclusion, the combined Provena Health and Resurrection Healthcare will strengthen and expand access to an exceptional tradition of quality care and service millions of Illinois residents who have come to know and depend upon for more than a century. On behalf of the women religious whose communities are sponsoring the proposal before you, we prayerfully request your approval. God bless you all and thank you very much.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

March 17, 2011

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Avery,

Resurrection Health Care Corporation and Provena Health have proposed a merging of the two systems that will better position the combined system's hospitals, long-term care facilities, outpatient centers and other programs and facilities to continue to serve the patients and communities that have traditionally looked to them for care. This system merger is intended to improve the financial viability of both entities as well as enhance patient, employee and medical staff satisfaction. Through a shared culture and integrated leadership, this merger would also position the combined system for innovation and adaptation under health care reform.

The proposed merger will position Resurrection and Provena to strengthen and improve access to Catholic health care in Illinois. This has long been an area of great interest and concern for me, and I am grateful for the willingness of two of our state's premier Catholic providers to collaborate in order to meet the current challenges in health care. As they do now, the combined systems will operate without any restrictive admissions policies related to race, ethnic background, religion, payment source, or any other factor. The new system will continue to admit Medicare and Medicaid recipients and to care for those patients in need of charity care.

This proposed merger has my full support and I can assure you that both Resurrection Health Care and Provena Health are working together collegially and in the best interests of their communities to strengthen and improve access to high quality, highly accountable Catholic health care in the State of Illinois.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago