



May 9, 2012

Metro East Dialysis
5105 West Main
Belleville, IL 62226
Tel: 618-233-9018 | Fax: 618-233-5647
www.davita.com

RECEIVED

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. Dale Galassie
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review
Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support for Red Bud Dialysis, Project No. 12-034

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am a dialysis patient, and I live in Coulterville, Illinois. I am writing to support the establishment of Red Bud Dialysis, an eight-station dialysis facility. There are no dialysis facilities within 30 minutes of Red Bud. As a result, I have to dialyze at Metroeast Dialysis in Belleville, which is approximately 45 minutes away. As a result, it is difficult for me arrange transportation to make my appointments. It is very important to me and other dialysis patients living in the area that a dialysis facility is established in Red Bud to improve access to dialysis. I can't live without it.

I am currently able to drive myself to treatment, but am very fatigued following dialysis. It would be so much better for me if I did not have such a long drive home when I am not feeling well. I know that I'm not alone with this situation. Transportation is frequently an issue for dialysis patients, as many others are reliant on friends and family, public transportation, non-emergency transportation providers, and nursing home staff to make our dialysis appointments. It is imperative that dialysis patients, such as myself, have regular and close access to treatment so we can schedule our dialysis around our lives and not vice versa.

Metroeast Dialysis is heavily utilized. A new facility would alleviate overcapacity at existing facilities and provide more flexible scheduling at all facilities.

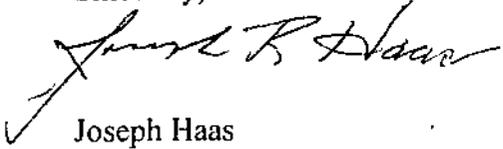
DaVita is a leading provider of dialysis services in the United States. It has taken on many initiatives to improve the lives of patients suffering from chronic kidney disease and end stage renal disease. DaVita recognizes the unique and vital role it plays in enhancing care for renal patients throughout the country. I am grateful to have the benefit of a provider like DaVita in my community.

I fully support the proposed Red Bud Dialysis clinic.



Mr. Dale Galassie
May 9, 2012
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph Haas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Joseph Haas

P. O. Box 675

Coulterville, Illinois 62237