



CATHOLIC URBAN PROGRAMS

7 Vieux Carre Dr. • P. O. Box 3310 • East St. Louis, Illinois 62203
(618) 398-5616 • Fax (618) 398-9005

Gerard "Gerry" Hasenstab
Executive Director

August 30, 2013

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

RE: Project #13-034 St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville

Dear Ms. Avery,

I serve as Director for Catholic Urban Programs and I support St. Elizabeth's Hospital's certificate of need application.

Catholic Urban Programs serves the Metro East region by assisting residents with their basic needs, including helping them find and receive treatment for substance abuse and/or mental illness. We serve those who have nowhere else to turn.

St. Elizabeth's proposal to work with Touchette Regional Hospital to ensure that Touchette is the primary behavioral health provider in the Metro East would be a life-saving resource for so many people in need. It will provide easier access to comprehensive services for the entire region.

Catholic Charities of Southern Illinois is committed to providing hope and quality of life support to our most underserved residents. The plan proposed by St. Elizabeth's and Touchette shows me that they are committed to this goal as well, and I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Gerry Hasenstab
Executive Director
Catholic Urban Programs

Illinois Associates In Psychiatry, P.C.

Mark E. Freeman, M.D.

Mark A. Napier, M.D.

RECEIVED

SEP 09 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

August 28, 2013

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

RE: Project #13-034, St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing to express my support for the certificate of need application submitted by St. Elizabeth's Hospital. I believe the plan to open a newly expanded behavioral health unit at Touchette Regional Hospital at the same time St. Elizabeth's discontinues its service would be of great benefit to Metro East patients and families.

As a psychiatrist who works in Edwardsville and has referred many patients to St. Elizabeth's, it's my opinion that the area would benefit from these mental health services.

When people have a mental illness the smallest difficulties can seem like immense challenges. Giving these patients a medical home at the proposed Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence at Touchette would make it much easier for them to get the comprehensive treatment they need.

I'm pleased to see that the Center of Excellence would concentrate solely on delivering behavioral health services in the most effective and efficient manner possible. Consistent, preventative mental health care not only helps to reduce medical costs, but improves quality of life for patients.

For all these reasons, I urge the board to approve this application and support improved access to high quality behavioral health care for Metro East residents.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark Napier

ST. CLAIR COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Dana F. Rosenzweig,
LCSW
Executive Director

August 28, 2013

Board Members

Patricia Hamlin Shevlin
President

Eialne Rogers Cueto
Senior Vice President

Ann Martz Barnum
Vice President

Elliott D. McKinney
Secretary

Robert Clipper, Ph.D.

Brad Harriman

John "Skip" Kernan

Kristi A. Luetkemyer

Curtis L. Schildknecht

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

RE: Project #13-034 St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville

Dear Ms. Avery,

I serve as the program director for the St. Clair County Mental Health Board and would like to let you know about my support for St. Elizabeth's Hospital's certificate of need.

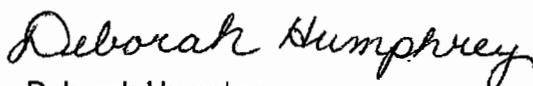
The role of the St. Clair County Mental Health Board is to plan, fund and monitor services for those with mental health issues. As program director for 14 years, I work closely with many providers of mental health services. Determining the priorities for behavioral health services requires careful consideration. To be effective, the community's needs must be foremost in all planning.

After reviewing St. Elizabeth's certificate of need application, I am in favor of its plan to discontinue its acute mental illness service by January 2016 at the same time Touchette Regional Hospital expands its behavioral health care unit. The new Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence would provide easier access to long-term, comprehensive behavioral health care for all St. Clair County residents.

The Center of Excellence would focus on support and treatment for behavioral health, providing high-quality inpatient and outpatient care. This continuum of care through will greatly benefit patients and their families.

I hope you will vote "yes" on St. Elizabeth's certificate of need application. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Deborah Humphrey
Program Director
St. Clair County Mental Health Board



St. Elizabeth's Hospital

30, 2013

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 637561

RE: Project #13-034 St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville

Dear Ms. Avery:

In our certificate of need application, we ask that St. Elizabeth's Hospital be allowed to discontinue acute mental illness (AMI) services in 2016.

We want to assure members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (IHFSRB) that there will be an appropriate number of inpatient behavioral health care beds in the Belleville area even after St. Elizabeth's would end its AMI services.

The first point I'd like to make is that the discontinuation of acute mental illness services at St. Elizabeth's Hospital is contingent upon the IHFSRB's approval of the addition of beds at Touchette Regional Hospital (TRH). The beds at St. Elizabeth's will not be discontinued until the TRH unit is ready to admit AMI patients at its expanded unit.

With approval of both providers' certificates of need, the Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence at Touchette in Centreville – which is between Belleville and East St. Louis – would become the primary behavioral health provider in St. Clair County, offering inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services. Both St. Elizabeth's and TRH believe this arrangement will provide better access to these services in the Metro East region.

My second point is that, according to state calculations, there is an excess of AMI beds in the state's designated Planning Area 11, which includes St. Clair County and three other nearby counties. Both St. Elizabeth's and Touchette are in Planning Area 11.

The availability and need for the AMI beds is calculated and reported by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) in its Health Inventory of Health Care Facilities each month.

At the time that the two organizations submitted their certificate of need applications, the most current IDPH inventory was dated May 16, 2013. That inventory showed an excess of 28 beds in Planning Area 11. The inventory has recently been revised and now shows in excess of 51 AMI beds. With the discontinuation of 35 beds at St. Elizabeth's Hospital and the addition of 18 beds at Touchette, the resulting bed inventory will be reduced by 17 and the excess

211 South Third Street
Belleville, IL 62220
618-234-2120
www.steliz.org

*An Affiliate of
Hospital Sisters
Health System*

number of beds will be reduced to 34. Together, the two projects reduce excess capacity while maintaining an appropriate number of AMI beds based upon historical utilization at both St. Elizabeth's and TRH.

I'd like to ask that IHFSRB members vote "yes" to the St. Elizabeth's certificate of need, which, with the approval of the Touchette application, would preserve an adequate number of inpatient behavioral health care beds in St. Clair County while also reducing the excess bed numbers in the planning area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Meyers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Donna Meyers, MSN, RN, *Director of Patient Care Services*

Psychiatry

Prairie Psychiatry, S.C., 301 W Lincoln, Suite 106, Belleville, IL 62220, 618-235-1582/Fax: 618-235-2473

August 28, 2013

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

RE: Project #13-036 Touchette Regional Hospital, Centreville

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am the medical director for St. Elizabeth's Hospital and chairman of the Department of Psychiatry. I support Touchette Regional Hospital's certificate of need to expand its inpatient mental health unit and become the primary mental health provider for the region.

I am proud of the excellent treatment St. Elizabeth's has provided to behavioral health patients for many years. However, we've asked that we discontinue our acute mental illness services at the same time Touchette establishes a Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence in Centreville.

This Center of Excellence would be focused on providing comprehensive Behavioral Health Services to the Metro East region, which will benefit patients and their families.

During a time of shrinking health care reimbursements, it is crucial that we carefully evaluate how to sustain behavioral care programs in the long term. Touchette would have 30 inpatient beds – enough to meet the current needs – as well as outpatient services and comprehensive programs.

St. Elizabeth's and Touchette are working together to do what's best for patients and the community. I ask the Review Board to approve Touchette's certificate of need.

Sincerely,



Randy Jung, M.D.

Medical Director & Department Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, St. Elizabeth's Hospital
Adjunct Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, St. Louis University, School of Medicine



Hospital Sisters
HEALTH SYSTEM

August 27, 2013

Belleville, IL
St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Breese, IL
St. Joseph's Hospital

Decatur, IL
St. Mary's Hospital

Effingham, IL
St. Anthony's
Memorial Hospital

Highland, IL
St. Joseph's Hospital

Litchfield, IL
St. Francis Hospital

Springfield, IL
St. John's Hospital

Streator, IL
St. Mary's Hospital

Chippewa Falls, WI
St. Joseph's Hospital

Eau Claire, WI
Sacred Heart Hospital

Green Bay, WI
St. Mary's Hospital
Medical Center
St. Vincent Hospital

Sheboygan, WI
St. Nicholas Hospital

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

RE: Project #13-034, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Belleville

Dear Ms. Avery,

As the President and CEO of Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) I am writing in support of St. Elizabeth's application to discontinue Acute Mental Illness beds in Belleville, IL. St. Elizabeth's is an affiliate of HSHS. Both St. Elizabeth's and HSHS have been working together to develop a collaborative program that will ensure behavioral health services will continue to be available for patients in the Metro East area. The approval of Project #13-034 will allow for the creation of a Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence at Touchette Regional Hospital.

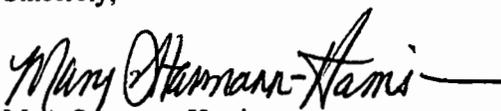
The Center of Excellence at Touchette will have 30 inpatient beds, which is an appropriate number to serve the Metro East's inpatient behavioral health needs. The Center will provide comprehensive programs and services to meet the special needs of behavioral health patients. We believe Touchette's experience providing behavioral health services to St. Clair and Madison counties and the surrounding region for nearly 100 years makes it a logical location for the Center of Excellence.

To help make the Center of Excellence a reality, HSHS has made a commitment to guarantee a \$10 million construction loan to Touchette so it can expand its facility and create the Center of Excellence. In order for this collaboration to work, both certificate of need applications for St. Elizabeth's and Touchette (Project #13-036) would need to be approved by the Review Board. Once the Center of Excellence opens, Touchette will be able to invest in physicians and staff for years to come.

We believe this collaboration is an example of two health care providers coming together to better serve our community. Currently, care for patients suffering from mental illness is often fragmented across the region. Having one strong provider of inpatient mental health services will better serve this patient population in the Metro East region.

I respectfully ask that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve St. Elizabeth's application.

Sincerely,


Mary Sparrmann-Harrison
President and CEO

P.O. Box 19456
Springfield, Illinois
62794-9456
P: 217-523-4747
F: 217-523-0542
www.hshs.org

Sponsored by the
Hospital Sisters
of St. Francis

DAVID M. CONNER, M.D.
9 EXECUTIVE WOODS COURT, SUITE 2
SWANSEA, IL 62226
(618) 222-9383

August 28, 2013

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

RE: Project #13-034, St. Elizabeth's Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am a psychiatrist who works in Swansea in St. Clair County and who often refers patients to St. Elizabeth's. I am writing to let you know that I support St. Elizabeth's Hospital's certificate of need.

St. Elizabeth's plan to move away from behavioral health care at the same time Touchette Regional Hospital becomes the primary regional provider with an expanded behavioral health unit has strong support in the local behavioral health community. I request that you approve of the hospital's certificate of need application and allow them to move forward as soon as possible.

When it comes to funding for mental and behavioral health care in our state, the situation has become dire. We have been forced to watch as ongoing cuts decimate our mental health system.

We need a strong provider of inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services in the St. Clair County area to ensure our patients continue to receive the care they need to live happy, productive lives.

By drawing on the combined knowledge of St. Elizabeth's and Touchette Regional Hospital, Touchette's proposed Regional Mental Health Center of Excellence would be well positioned to improve access to care for Metro East residents. It would also provide for efficient and effective treatment and -most importantly-ensure the long-term behavioral health needs of the region are adequately served.

I request that board members consider the needs of local mental health patients and approve St. Elizabeth's application.

Very Respectfully,


Dr. David Conner