

September 27, 2013

Mike Constantino, Supervisor
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

SEP 30 2013

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opponent of Project #13-058

Dear Mr. Constantino:

Closure will have an adverse impact upon access to care for Murray Center Residents, including Rigney Sanders of whom I am guardian and mother. My son, Rigney is Severely and Profoundly Mentally Retarded and Autistic. Rigney is unable to speak. While living at home Rigney would have episodes of hitting himself in the head, punching and kicking holes in the walls of our home when he became upset. At school, he would have to be physically restrained by the staff up to 35 times a month because of trying to injury himself. I am a Clinical Nurse Specialist and saw that Rigney had the best community care that was available- involvement with DDS, medical, dental, neurological, psychiatric, and care taker all with experience and training in the care of individuals with Developmental Disabilities. This was the best the community could offer and he still destroyed our home and was admitted to Murray Center for a 4 month stay in 2004. Rigney was brought back into the community with these very same resources and he returned to his previous behaviors and he physically assaulted his caregiver. For his safety and the safety of others, he was placed at Murray Center in 2005.

Murray Center staff saved my son, Rigney's life. He is now on the right medication and has decreased his episodes of injuring himself and others. He is learning to sign and they are teaching him how to chew food. This is only because of the care of Murray Center. Murray Center's dedicated staff care for and are able to provide a safe, environment for Rigney. It is because of their expertise and training, Rigney is able to thrive. Murray Center is his home. Rigney will NOT survive out of this type of environment. It has given me peace to know my son is safe and well taken care of.

I do not support this closure project and urge you to turn down the application.

Sincerely,



Stacia Woods
Mother and Guardian of Rigney Sanders