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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 15, 2013

Board of Directors

Patrick B. McGrath, Ph.D.
President, OCD-Midwest

Charles Brady, Ph.D.
Director, OCD and Anxiety
Treatment Program, Lindner
Center of HOPE

Bradley Riemann, Ph.D.
Director, Rogers Memorial
Hospital, OCD Center and
CBT Services

Greetings Board Members:

I am writing to support Alexian Brothers Health System's choice to expand their Behavioral Health Hospital. This is reference to the Alexian Brothers Medical Center Project 13-062.

Being a great mental health provider has its advantages, but also its challenges. There are many days where individuals come to ABBHH or to the emergency rooms in the Alexian System and they are unable to utilize ABBHH's services because all of the beds are full. This indicates that there is a greater need for inpatient services in the area. With its established reputation, ABBHH seems to be a logical choice for granting expansion.

The inpatient beds also support the numerous other programs that ABBHH has, including outpatient services that can see over 300 patients in a day. The inpatient beds are also needed to support outpatient services because there are times that a patient in outpatient needs a higher level of care. Being able to step up a patient in the same hospital is a far better option than having to transfer a patient to another hospital for numerous reasons, including safety and continuity of care.

ABBHH has stepped up to the plate on many occasions. They took over and kept the community health center open even when it was about to close. They have introduced new programs in an economy where mental health services are notoriously decreasing across the country. And, they have worked with the State of Illinois in helping to serve veterans and have worked very closely with our elected officials to promote mental health services.

I am hopeful that you will support ABBHH in its expansion project. I know that they will continue to provide excellent services to the public and to those in need of mental health services.

Sincerely,

Patrick B. McGrath, Ph.D., President, OCD-Midwest.