

2975 Rufenach Lane  
Kalispell, Mt. 59901  
April 10, 2014

Courtney Avery  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RECEIVED

APR 18 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

14-008

Dear Ms Avery,

This letter is in regards to the Neighbor's Rehab Center in Byron, Illinois wanting to put on an addition to their complex.

Both of my parents (Homer and Grace Snyder) arrived at the Neighbor's facility in November of 2012. Both of my parents at the time were 97. My Mother was on Hospice due to end stage COPD. My father had just spent 2 weeks in the hospital and at the time could not go home.

Byron does not have an assisted living facility. Living at home on their own had become increasingly hard for them. They both needed help to get thru the day. We had tried a live in person and it just was not working. When my Dad got sick and could not go home we (my sister and I) had to make a decision on where to place my parents.

My Father had lived all his life in Byron and was a very active person in the community for many years.

My Mother had resided in Byron for over 79 years and was also very involved in the community for many years.

We talked to their minister and ask his opinion in where to place them. Their church is right next door to the Neighbor's Rehab Center. He said he would go over daily for awhile until they got adjusted, which he did. He said Mom and Dad both were such a big part of Byron and they would receive much more company staying here in Byron. My sister and I had the same opinion. Also, going to Rockford, Oregon, or Mt. Morris would have been a hardship for family members to visit my parents due to distance. It would have meant some family members who visited them weekly would not have been able to visit them as often.

While my Mother was still alive they were able to share a room which was important to all involved. One complaint that we had was that they had to share a bathroom with 2 other patients. After my Mom passed my Dad had to share a bathroom with 3 others and it caused a lot of stress for him. It would have been wonderful if they would have had it so every room had its own bathroom.

At this point my Father is still at the Neighbor's Rehab. It has been absolutely wonderful that he was able to stay in Byron for the remainder of his life. He has a lot of company – probably more than any other patient. That has been so very important for him.

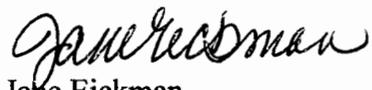
When my Mother was passing they were fortunate to have the entire room, as they roomed together. There was plenty of room for the family to come and say good bye and to sit with both of my parents even if the staff had to be with my Mother. However, now my Dad only has ½ of a room. If he lingers on at the end there is hardly room for more than one person to be with him. Having a bigger private room for hospice people or others that are in the process of passing would be such a benefit for the patient and the families.

Another complaint that we had was the dining room is small. When my parents arrived at the nursing home they had to eat in the room with the people who had to be fed by others. This was because the other room was full at the time. It would have been a much nicer experience for them if they could have been at a table where other people could talk and were more alert like they were.

I could not be in Byron for the meeting held at the City Hall. However, over the last couple years I have spent several months in the Byron area visiting my parents. I have seen all that the Neighbor's Rehab Center has to offer. It would be a tremendous benefit to the Neighbor's Rehab Center and the city of Byron to have this new addition with additional beds and an updated facility.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane Eickman".

Jane Eickman