

RECEIVED

September 25, 2015

SEP 28 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Dear Ms. Avery:

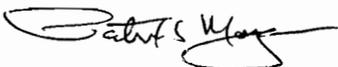
The purpose of this correspondence is to express support for Project #15-038 the reconfiguration of the existing Rockford Memorial Hospital Rockton Avenue facility and Project #15-039 the establishment of a second hospital campus on Riverside Boulevard.

Rockford Memorial is the Level III NICU for the Northwest Illinois Perinatal Network serving 15 hospitals. It is the only Perinatal Center from the West Chicago area to the Mississippi River. In addition, the hospital operates a 7 bed pediatric intensive care unit. Both services are of critical importance to the region.

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago (formerly Children's Memorial Hospital) has maintained a long standing transfer agreement with Rockford Memorial Hospital to support the needs of patients from the Rockford community who require specialized services that are not otherwise available in the region. This past fiscal year there were 64 children transferred to Lurie Children's from Rockford Memorial many of whom were critically ill newborns. In addition, this past August we entered into an agreement to provide neurocritical care telemedicine coverage. This service provides patients in the Rockford Memorial emergency room, pediatric unit and PICU timely access to our highly trained team of Neurocritical Care physicians for the diagnosis and treatment for fragile patients.

Given the important services provided to the families in the Rockford area by Mercy Rockford Health System we support the projects referenced above.

Sincerely,



Patrick M. Magoon
President & CEO