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Kathryn Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

MAY 16 2018

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Support Letter for:
Romeoville Dialysis, Romeoville – Project 17-043
Rutgers Park Dialysis, Woodridge – Project 17-014
Salt Creek Dialysis, Villa Park – Project 17-016

Dear Chair Olson,

I write in support of DuPage Medical Group's proposed Dialysis clinics. Over our 100 year history, we have provided patient-centered, community-based, high quality, affordable health care to patients in the Chicago suburbs. We are the largest Federally Qualified Health ("FQHC") in the Chicago suburbs, serving over 72,000 patients annually. Among FQHCs, we rank among the top 30% nationally for quality outcomes in multiple measures.

DuPage Medical Group has been a valued partner in our mission. Through its generous contributions through the DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund of the DuPage Foundation, DuPage Medical Group supports our mission to deliver high quality, affordable care when patients need it; in a location they can get to; and given by someone who knows them. DuPage Medical shares our commitment to coordination of care across networks and specialties, and these proposed projects with DaVita are in line with their long-standing collaborative mission and will further improve care for area patients who require dialysis.

We serve a large, multi-ethnic population that is 65% Hispanic and 14% African American who have little or no insurance. These populations have high rates of diabetes and other chronic health diseases. As you know, diabetes is a main risk factor for developing kidney disease. This patient population is especially vulnerable as a result of often irregular access to primary care in the past. In the event that one of our patients in need requires short-term or long-term dialysis, we would welcome the opportunity to have these patients receive their dialysis services from DMG and DaVita.

VNA Health Care is pleased to support DuPage Medical Group's proposed collaboration with Da Vita in establishing these Dialysis clinics and we encourage the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve these projects to better serve residents and neighboring communities.

Sincerely,

Chrissie Howorth
V.P. of Philanthropy & Communications

May 14, 2018

Kathy Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Romeoville Dialysis Center, Project 17-043

Dear Ms. Olson:

I write to express my strong support for DaVita's proposed Romeoville Dialysis clinic.

My elderly mother has kidney failure and is on dialysis. That means I have to take every Wednesday off of work, through unpaid family leave, to bring her back and forth to dialysis that day. Two of my other family members also take time away from work each week to take Mom to her other dialysis treatments.

I know first-hand the challenges faced by dialysis patients and their families to get to these treatments every other day. This is what patients must do to live. Dialysis is physically exhausting for my mom, but it also takes a toll on me and my other family members. We sacrifice a lot for her and many other aspects our lives are compromised: our livelihoods, kids' schedules, our own health, and, of course, limit any time I might have for myself. As it is, I wake up at 4:15 a.m. every work day to keep my life on track.

The Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board must understand these very personal challenges faced by those impacted by kidney disease and why it is so important to have convenient access to dialysis close to home and for the shift that works best for the patients and their families.

I urge you to approve the proposed DaVita Romeoville Dialysis clinic to help ensure that Romeoville residents have convenient access to dialysis appointments, in their community, at the times that are least disruptive to their lives or those of their caregivers.

Sincerely,



Ella Tate

7325 Northgate Way
Downers Grove, IL 60516

May 14, 2018

Kathy Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: DaVita Romeoville Dialysis Center, Project 17-043

Dear Ms. Olson:

I write to express my continued support for DaVita's proposed Romeoville Dialysis clinic. As I shared at the April hearing, this clinic is necessary to address the growing need for dialysis services in northern Will County. The area is densely populated and growing because people like my mother who can afford to leave the city are seeking a safer, more comfortable lifestyle in Romeoville.

My background is in community health and applied science, and I am not surprised that demand for dialysis continues to rise. Because fast food is ubiquitous, cheap and addictive, rates of obesity are continuing to climb along with other chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension. These each contribute to kidney disease, driving increasing need for dialysis services and specialist care.

The proposed clinic is necessary to meet the needs of Romeoville and to ensure all residents who require dialysis have appropriate access in their community. I urge you to approve the project.

Sincerely,



Lilly Hodewa
540 E. 45th Street
Chicago, IL 60653

Brian Smith
950 North York Road
Hinsdale, IL 60521

Kathy Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Support for DaVita Romeoville Dialysis, Project 17-043

Dear Ms. Olson:

I write to express my support for DaVita's proposed Romeoville Dialysis clinic. As you likely know, rates of kidney disease are continuing to rise in the state. This is largely due to our aging baby boomers who tend to experience higher rates of organ failure due to their age and other comorbidities. We are also seeing higher rates of kidney disease due to the American lifestyle and issues that result, such as obesity, hypertension and diabetes, which each increase an individual's risk for kidney failure.

Romeoville has been heavily impacted by these trends, and the proposed Romeoville Dialysis clinic is necessary to meet the significant community needs for increased access to dialysis services. It is crucial that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve this clinic to ensure area residents who require dialysis care can receive high-quality services, in their community, at the times that accommodate their other activities or work schedules (or those of their caregivers).

I fully support this proposed clinic and urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve Romeoville Dialysis.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Smith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Smith