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October 18, 2017

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

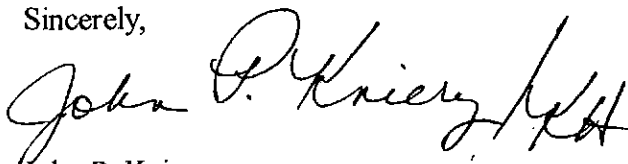
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Arden Shore Child & Family Services for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





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October 17, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.


The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide.

I am supporting this application because HealthVest's services are aligned with the needs identified in the LCHD/CHC 2014 Assessing Barriers to Healthcare Access in Northern Lake County that reported (based on the 2012 Illinois Hospital Discharge Survey) the highest rates of visits to Lake County hospital emergency departments for mental health and substance abuse problems were in the central east and central west parts of the county; persons 15-24 years old were 14 percent of the population but 30 percent of emergency visits, and tragically 42 percent of suicide and self-inflicted injury; persons aged 25-34 years were overrepresented in the emergency department data for anxiety disorder and substance related disorders; and elderly persons were a high percentage of emergency visits for delirium and dementia.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely


Dora E. Maya, PhD
President and CEO

