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HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

October 31, 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

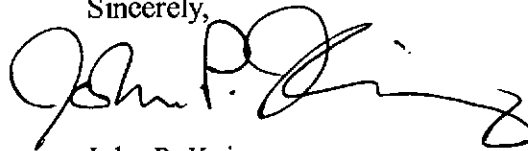
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed three (3) support letters from Vista Home Health and Hospice, Arbor Counseling Center, Ltd., and National Alliance on Mental Illness, Metro Suburban 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

Enclosures



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September 7, 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 of the growing need for psychiatric care in this community and Lake County. Currently, many family members are forced to travel great distances for such care. In many instances, financial restrictions make that virtually impossible. At a time that their loved one truly needs them, that level of support is hampered by travel. Additionally, follow-up appointments suffer the same hardships. Lake County is a vibrant area and well-supported by the medical community with hospitals, numerous Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Facilities, and many home care and hospice agencies. Support for a behavioral hospital by US HealthVest is a natural to enhance the quality and level of care that provides the specialty needed by Lake County residents.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Lithgow", with a long, sweeping underline.

David Lithgow
Administrator
Vista Hospice

ARBOR

Counseling Center, Ltd.

August 1, 2017

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

RE: US HealthVest's Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of US Healthvest's Certificate of Need application to expand behavioral health beds at Vista Medical Center West in Waukegan, IL.

As a psychotherapist located in Gurnee at Arbor Counseling Center, my patients have experienced frequent delays in accessing inpatient psychiatric care mainly due to bed shortages. There have been many times patients have had to wait to access care.

A local solution to this mental health care barrier in Lake County would be essential.

The information I have included has not been used to support another pending or approved CON application for a behavioral hospital.

I urge you to support the approval of certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. Approval of the application will increase access to these important services in our area.

If you have any additional questions, I can be reached at 847-625-9004 ext. 129.

Respectfully

Scott Stolarick, LCPC
Program Director
Arbor Counseling Center, Ltd

Buffalo Grove • Hoffman Estates • Crystal Lake • Gurnee
Administrative Office: 1401 McHenry Road, Suite 122, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
Telephone: (847) 913-0393, Fax (847) 913-9630
www.arborcounselingcenter.com



NAMI

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Metro Suburban

Serving Chicago's near west suburbs

August 2nd, 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 patients waiting for a psychiatric bed in hospital emergency departments has been a significant issue brought to our attention by our membership.

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,

Kimberly Knake
Executive Director
NAMI Metro Suburban