

ST. LOUIS
KIDNEY CARE

1155 Dunn Rd., Suite 211N St. Louis, MO 63136
314.741.1600 314.741.1677

StLouisKidneyCare.com

RECEIVED

JUL - 5 2018

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

July 5, 2018

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: #18-006, Fresenius Kidney Care Madison County

Dear Ms. Avery,

I supported this application with identified patient referrals from the nephrology practice I am in with Dr. Nicholas Mayer. I am writing to give further support of this project due to the important role the Madison County facility will play in the lives of my patients who live in the Granite City area. I currently admit to the DaVita Granite City facilities and will continue to do so on an ongoing basis if the patient so chooses, however I want more options for my patients.

In Missouri I have seen the positive benefits to my patients who are able to participate in the CMS End Stage Renal Disease Care Organization (as described in the application) through a Fresenius Kidney Care clinic. I truly desire to have my Illinois patients benefit from this same program, only available at a Fresenius clinic. Right now, there are no Fresenius clinics accessible for my patients who live in the Granite City/East St. Louis area in Madison and St. Clair Counties.

This program is especially important to the patients in the Granite City area because of the low number of adequately insured residing there and the poverty levels residents are living under. Many of our patients have no interaction with a nephrologist prior to finding out they are in kidney failure. The CMS ESCO with Fresenius Kidney Care will provide these patients with the most thorough care, around the clock access to support and intervention that will provide the best chances of optimal outcomes on dialysis.

Since submitting the support letter for this application, dated January 16, 2018, the number of patients in my practice facing kidney failure has grown in the Granite City area. There were 26 pre-ESRD patients in January and as of June 30th we now have 37. The newest patients, identified below, are expected require dialysis in the first two years after the Madison County clinic begins operations and will be referred there.

62040- 9

62060- 2

These numbers as well as those in the application do not account for the many patients from the Granite City area who end up in the emergency room with unknown kidney disease and failure.

Given the ESRD growth we have seen, the medically underserved status of the area and the amount of time it will take to build the clinic and prepare it for operation, additional stations will be needed in Granite City by the time it opens in 2020.

I ask that you grant Fresenius permission to provide clinic access for patients beginning dialysis two years from now as well as access to the CMS ESCO offered by Fresenius Kidney Care.

I attest to the fact that to the best of my knowledge, all the information contained in this letter is true and correct and that the projected referrals in this document were not used to support any other CON application.

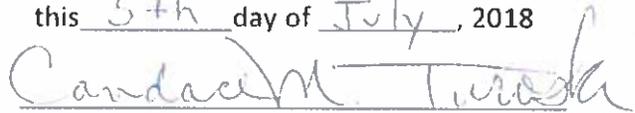
Sincerely,



Donovan Polack, M.D.

Notarization:

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 5th day of July, 2018



Signature of Notary

Seal

