Giving Care. Taking Care.

October 9, 2018

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

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OCT 10 2018
HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Transformative Health Care of McHenry Project No. 18-016

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing on behalf of Crossroads Care Center of Woodstock to express our concern about the negative impact the above project will have on our facility. Our Skilled Nursing Facility has been serving the residents of McHenry County for over 25 years.

We would like to point out the 170 bed Skilled Nursing Facility in Huntley, which is less than a 30 minute drive from Crossroads Care Center of Woodstock, is due to open in the coming weeks. To approve an additional 84 bed facility less than 10 miles from Crossroads Care Center of Woodstock will put our facility at great risk.

Our current utilization, as well as the utilization of the other facilities in the area, is below the board's target of 90%. The applicant did not provide sufficient information on how this project will impact the area providers. However, the applicant clearly states that it will be relying on the referrals from the hospital to meet its targeted utilization. This is the one hospital that is the primary referral source for the area providers. This hospital is the main healthcare system in McHenry, as there are not many options in our area from which to draw additional referrals. The hospital has been clear about its initiative to discharge patients home whenever possible, causing the referrals for Skilled Nursing Homes to trend downward. Therefore, in order for the applicant to meet its targeted utilization, they will need to divert patients from the current facilities. This will have a devastating impact on our utilization and our ability to provide the quality care that our residents require and are accustomed to.

In addition, over the last number of years, our facility has begun accepting a significant number of Medicaid residents as well as more challenging cases in order to maintain some level of stability in our

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financial status. This has resulted in a dramatic shift both in how we are able to cater to the needs of every patient as well as the community at large.

We also feel that it is important to mention that within the last 2 years' time, Centegra Hospital System has closed 2 locations and has recently sold to a larger hospital system. This would seem to indicate that there is a financial struggle and challenge in maintaining services in the McHenry County areas. These 2 closures have also significantly impacted our facility's ability to keep our occupancy and maintain our financial stability.

We ask the Board to consider the fact that this project, if approved, will cause unnecessary duplication/maldistribution of services. The unquestionable likelihood that the establishment of a new facility will yield even more facilities that are being underutilized which could be the demise of an existing facility.

Sincerely,

Aharon Adler, Administrator

Aharon Adler
Administrator
Crossroads Care Center of Woodstock