



# MIDWEST SLEEP INSTITUTE

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**Mohammad Waseem Kagzi, M.D.**  
*Diplomate American Board of Sleep Medicine*  
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549 Barron Blvd  
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Grayslake, IL 60030

February 12, 2019

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FEB 13 2019

HEALTH, FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project 18-039, Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake

Dear Ms. Avery:

I write this letter to show my strong support for the above referenced application for a dialysis clinic to be established in Grayslake. I am an internist, with offices in Grayslake & Gurnee and therefore have many patients who live in Grayslake and surrounding communities. As a long-time physician here, I know that too often the area clinics are so full that patients have difficulty being placed on a treatment shift that is best for them. Although I am not their nephrologist, my patients tell me of their struggles.

I know that patients who can access care with fewer restrictions will show up more often and be more compliant in their treatment. It is often difficult for dialysis patients to find optimal transportation so many times each week, especially if they must travel far out of their community for care. This is what I see my patients facing because some of the closest clinics cannot accommodate them at the time they need.

Seeing the hardship dialysis treatment creates, it is my desire that residents of the Grayslake area who find themselves in kidney failure have ample access to convenient treatment times and would not have to settle for whatever is available to them. Placing a clinic in Grayslake would allow them this opportunity and hopefully make the transition to dialysis treatment a little easier on them.

I respectfully encourage the Board to approve the Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake application.

Sincerely,

*Mohammad Kagzi*  
Mohammad Kagzi, MD

18-039

February 11, 2019

**RECEIVED**

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

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
 SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Dear Ms. Avery:

In July of 2018 I submitted a letter as the proposed Medical Director and in support of the Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake CON application. My practice, Associates in Nephrology, used its patient data to substantiate the need for the clinic and to verify that the facility would be at 80% utilization two years after beginning operations. Data provided was from June 30, 2018. I have now reviewed our patient records as of December 31, 2018 (6 months later) and found the following.

The number of AIN in-center hemodialysis patients in the Grayslake area has increased from 179, when the application was submitted to 191, in just 6 months. This is an increase of 7%.

**Patients of AIN in Grayslake Area 12/31/2018**

Zip Code	Fresenius Kidney Care							DaVita			Total
	Antioch	Gurnee	Lake Bluff	Mundelein	Round Lake	Waukegan Harbor	Zion	Lake County	Lake Villa	Waukegan	
60002	3		1						5		9
60015								1			1
60020									2		2
60030			3	2	9				3		17
60031	1	4	5		2			1	1		14
60040								1			1
60041					1						1
60042								1			1
60044			2								2
60046			1		2				3		6
60047				2							2
60048			2	1							3
60060			1	17				4			22
60061			1	5							6
60064		1	8							1	10
60069				2							2
60073			1		15			1	7		24
60083		1	1		1		1				4
60084				2							2
60085		3	8		1	11	1			6	30
60087	1	2	2	1		2				4	12
60088			2								2
60089				2				1			3
60096			1			1	1				3
60099			3			2	3			3	11
60625			1								1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>191</b>

My partner and I joined Associates in Nephrology in 2016. Over the past two years we have seen a 17% average yearly growth in the number of hemodialysis patients we treat in the Grayslake area.

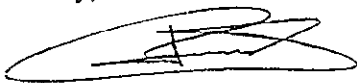
June 2018 to December 2018		
Date	# In-Center Patients	Growth
6/30/2018	179	-
12/31/2018	191	7%

2015 to 2018			
Notes	Date	# In-Center Patients	Growth
Private Practice	12/31/2015	86	-
Joined AIN	12/31/2016	139	62%
AIN	12/31/2017	167	20%
AIN	12/31/2018	191	14%
<b>Avg Growth Past Two Years</b>			<b>17%</b>

As you can see by the chart on the previous page, we admit to all clinics in the area based on where patients live and/or their preference. My patients who live in the Grayslake area are finding it difficult to secure a treatment schedule time that is suitable in the closest clinics because the desirable shifts are full. Often the only shift available is at night and that is not optimal for dialysis patients, a majority of whom are elderly. Transportation back and forth to treatment is often an extreme hardship on them and their families. There may be limited access available at a clinic further away from their homes, but I cannot and would never try to force any patient to go where they do not want to go. They want to stay near their homes as much as possible.

I am thankful to the four Board members who recognized the need here that I do and who voted yes for this project at the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. I strongly feel that if there had been more Board members in attendance that day, the project would have gained one more vote and been approved at that time. The need in the Grayslake area of Lake County is only on the increase and I respectfully encourage remaining Board members to consider a yes vote for access for my patients who will be needing dialysis services in the upcoming years.

Sincerely,




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Jawad Munir, M.D.



## FAMILY CARE OF LAKE COUNTY

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Lake Villa, Illinois 60046  
(847) 245-8700  
Fax: (847) 245-8771

SEMYON MASLOVSKY, M.D.  
EUGENE POMERANETS, M.D.

February 08, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Project 18-039, Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Eugene Pomeranets and I am a family practice physician practicing in Lake Villa. Over the last several years, I have become well informed about the plight of dialysis patients in Lake County. The purpose of this letter is to state my full support for the long-awaited establishment of the Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake dialysis center. This facility would answer the current need for accessible dialysis services for residents of Grayslake as well as nearby towns. We have an aging population that is more prone to the diseases that cause kidney failure. Along with kidney disease, these patients deal with a plethora of other chronic conditions.

Therefore, it is imperative to have easily accessible treatment options. The Grayslake location would greatly benefit our community's ESRD population by minimizing the challenge of travelling to and from treatment. Driving long distances is extra hard on the elderly patient and places undue burden on family members who are often involved in their transportation.

I personally want to see this need met for those I treat who suffer from kidney failure to improve their quality of life as well as all area senior citizens who may require dialysis services. I strongly ask the Board Members to consider the many problems one faces with a life on dialysis and meet the need in Grayslake by voting yes for this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eugene Pomeranets, MD

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

February 7, 2019

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project 18-039, Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake

Dear Ms. Avery:

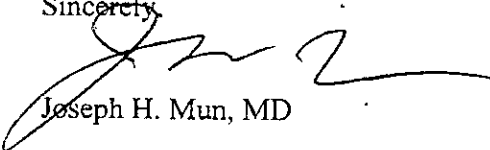
Thank you in advance for the opportunity to voice my support for Fresenius Kidney Care's application for a new dialysis treatment center in Grayslake. As a physician, I see patients throughout the region in communities including Grayslake, Gurnee & Libertyville. I am also affiliated with Advocate Condell Medical Center, serving primary and preventative care in several communities throughout Lake County.

Many of my patients suffer from diabetes and hypertension, two of the leading causes of kidney failure, and therefore are in end stage renal disease requiring regular dialysis treatment. What I hear from them in terms of wait time to be moved to an acceptable treatment time is unacceptable. It is clear there is a far greater demand than can be met with the area's current capacity. That is why I urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve the application before it for a new dialysis clinic in Grayslake.

There is no alternative to dialysis once kidneys fail unless a transplant were possible, however wait lists can take several years. There is also no alternative to the number of hours each treatment may take, but we do have the power to control unreasonable wait times and travel times with facilities in convenient locations. As dialysis patients will tell you, they must go to their treatment center three times a week and spend approximately 4-5 hours there each visit. As a physician, nothing is more important to me than ensuring my patients are as healthy as possible. The more accessible we make dialysis treatment, the less likely patients are to skip treatments and the healthier they will be. The Grayslake facility will address many of the challenges my patients face and improve the quality of life they have.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to support what I believe to be critical to area residents with kidney failure. Without it, they have no choice but to travel further distances for services increasing the already long hours they must devote to this necessary treatment. I urge you to approve this application.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph H. Mun, MD

**WAJAHAT MIRZA, M.D., FACC**  
Specialist in Cardiovascular Medicine

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FEB 13 2019

February 11, 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project 18-039. Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake

Dear Ms. Avery:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the proposed project submitted by Fresenius Kidney Care and Dr. Jawad Munir to open a dialysis facility in Grayslake. I have practiced in this area for over 15 years. I believe this facility will provide critical access to life-saving services for residents both in Grayslake and surrounding areas of Lake County.

A patient's care and well-being rely on their ability to connect with the services and resources that will keep them healthy. The closer they are to a facility, the more manageable their disease and life will become. Dialysis patients, who require treatment several times a week for several hours each time, are keenly aware of this. These patients are often very ill with many co-morbid conditions and are also too often the weakest – the elderly. Driving long distances, accessible parking, securing alternative transportation, and unacceptable late-night treatment schedules are major barriers to their care. The proposed Grayslake facility would certainly allow patients who are able to drive a greater level of comfort and independence and would provide additional transportation options for others.

Fresenius Kidney Care is the prominent provider of dialysis services in Lake County with impressive quality outcomes and attention to patient needs. I also would also like to take this opportunity to endorse Dr. Munir. His medical qualifications are outstanding and his ability to connect with patients and families to support them and go the extra mile is

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1170 E. Belvidere Road, Suite 212, Grayslake, IL 60030. Ph. No. (847) 543-6814.

**WAJAHAT MIRZA, M.D., FACC**  
Specialist in Cardiovascular Medicine

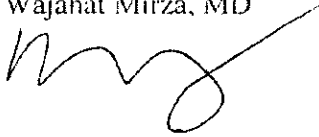
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second to none. He is held in high regard among his colleagues and I am confident that his role as Medical Director will greatly contribute to the Grayslake facility's patients.

In closing, I hope that the Board will see the merits of this proposal. I believe it is the right team leading the effort and that Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake will greatly improve the quality of life for area patients.

Sincerely,

Wajahat Mirza, MD



WAJAHAT MIRZA, M.D., FACC

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