

August 3, 2020

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & FEDEX DELIVERY**

Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761  
Attention: Courtney Avery, Administrator

**Re: Supplemental Information re: Austin Dialysis at Loretto, Project 19-022**

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in support of the certificate of need (“CON”) permit application submitted by the co-applicants Loretto Hospital and Austin Dialysis at Loretto (collectively, the “Applicant”). Specifically, this letter not only supports this all-important project for Chicago’s Austin Community, it also formally declares our commitment to recruiting and engaging a nephrologist, either as an employee of our group practice or as an independent contractor, who will provide services through our group practice and oversee the development of the Applicant’s in-center hemodialysis center as its medical director, directly treat patients in need of both inpatient and outpatient dialysis care, and work to expand the service line as demand grows based on Loretto Hospital’s expectations.

We are firmly committed to meeting the healthcare needs of Loretto Hospital. Our practice group has a physician services agreement with Loretto Hospital, in which we agree to provide key physician services at the hospital and its outpatient sites as needed. Loretto Hospital, recognized as a key safety net hospital, has the ability through the service agreement to ask us to add a category of service at any time, and if our group does not presently have a physician to provide said services, then we have contractually agreed to seek out, recruit, and then engage one or more physicians in the specialization desired by the hospital. As of the date of this letter, Loretto Hospital has requested that we recruit and engage the services of at least one qualified nephrologist to run the program and treat patients in need of dialysis treatments once a CON permit has been granted for the project.

We pledge and certify to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (the “State Board”) that we will take all reasonable efforts to recruit and retain at least one, perhaps multiple, nephrologists who will solely focus on the Applicant’s dialysis center. We further pledge to keep the State Board informed of our recruitment efforts from time to time, to ensure that the state is aware of our efforts to engage a nephrologist for the project.

Should you have questions, do not hesitate to contact me at [Mira.Iliescu@lorettohospital.org](mailto:Mira.Iliescu@lorettohospital.org) or at (773) 450-5422. We appreciate your consideration for this project.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Elena Iliescu-Levine, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer  
MPG Physicians