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**JUN 03 2019**

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Dear Ms. Avery and Health Facilities and Services Review Board,

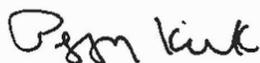
On behalf of the Shirley Ryan Abilitylab please accept this letter of support for the Certificate of Need request from Advocate Illinois Masonic regarding the proposed facility expansion. The Shirley Ryan Abilitylab has been a strategic partner of Advocate Illinois Masonic since 2004. Together we provide inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation services to their community.

Since the inception of our partnership, the outpatient rehabilitation program has been located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor adjacent to the inpatient rehabilitation program. The current facility has reached capacity delaying patients access to treatment. Because it is located within the hospital patients need to walk long distances to get from parking to the treatment space. This is particularly challenging as the majority of patient seeking rehabilitation services have mobility issues.

The planned expansion will solve the above issues and provide for enhanced services. The new facility will have expanded space allowing patients to start treatment in a timely manner. There will be much better access as the program will be on street level close to the entrance to the building. With the expanded space, we will be able to provide physician clinics adjacent to therapy, which greatly enhances communication and collaboration between the treating physician and therapists. This has a significant impact on the patient experience and outcomes.

For these reasons, we urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Peggy Kirk, SVP & COO

Shirley Ryan Abilitylab  
355 E. Superior St  
Chicago, IL 60613