



**ALEXIAN**  
**BROTHERS**  
Hospital Network

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MAR 30 2011

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 23, 2011

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project 10-090

Dear Chairman Galassie:

I am writing to oppose Centegra's attempt to build a hospital in Huntley because it would duplicate health care services and undermine regional specialty programs like those we offer at the Neurosciences Institute.

In my position, I act as a liaison between our neuroscience specialists and other physicians throughout the region, who need to refer their patients for neurosciences care. There is a shortage of neurosurgeons who perform the complex and comprehensive procedures that our neurosurgeons do. This means that our programs at St. Alexius serve the neurological needs of residents from throughout the northern Fox Valley – including Huntley and Crystal Lake. Our specialties at St. Alexius include stroke, epilepsy, Gamma Knife and neurosurgery.

Our programs are on par with the academic medical centers in the city of Chicago, thanks to Alexian Brothers' dedication to recruit top specialists and obtain the most up-to-date technology and equipment. St. Alexius is able to offer this hard-to-find care to southeastern McHenry County because we are a regional medical center, just like Sherman, Provena St. Joseph and Advocate Good Shepherd hospitals. Residents in the Huntley, Lake in the Hills and Algonquin area are fortunate to be so close to so many outstanding hospitals.

March 23, 2010

Project 10-090

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Right now, all of the hospitals in and around McHenry County have plenty of hospital beds available because the projected growth for the area in the last few years hasn't materialized. And, area hospitals have made commitments to the state that they will serve the entire region. Not only that, but the goal in health care these days is to have quicker, and fewer, inpatient visits. And, by 2018, we should expect lower patient demand because of the changes required by federal health care reform.

If this new hospital were allowed, the health care system in the area would be overbuilt. And that spells trouble for programs like ours, which would be weakened. When St. Alexius suffers, our Institute does too. And, worse, so do the residents of the entire region who depend on specialized health care.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robbin Arnfelt".

Robbin Arnfelt

Regional Manager, Business Development

Alexian Brothers Neurosciences Institute

opposition

March 24, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Project #10-090 (Centegra Hospital – Huntley)

Dear Mr. Galassie:

As an employee of Sherman Hospital I am committed to providing high-quality care to our nearby communities. Sherman Health made a \$325 million investment to improve health care in the region with its replacement hospital. And it's paying off for residents of northern Kane and southern McHenry counties.

I believe that Centegra's proposed Huntley hospital is unnecessary and would burden our already overwhelmed state and federal budgets. And, Centegra would need to charge high rates to cover its expenses. That means people like me – either through higher taxes or higher private insurance rates – would have to pick up the costs.

Here are just a few of the concerns I'd like to raise about Centegra's proposed Huntley hospital:

- A hospital in Huntley would duplicate existing services in the area, which are easily accessible to Huntley. Area providers already have more than adequate capacity to provide more services if they are needed.
- If a new limited service hospital were to be built, it would make all hospitals weaker. The hospital would draw patients from existing hospitals, undermining their long-term plans.
- Centegra has a job to do as the steward of its community's health care dollars and building this hospital would be a big mistake. Centegra should focus on protecting the health care safety net by expanding the subsidized community services it provides, such as cancer screening programs, health education classes, support to FQHCs and mental health outreach services.

I oppose Centegra's plans to build a hospital in Huntley, and I ask you to reject Centegra's CON permit application.

Sincerely,

Gayla Combs  
147 Kimberly Rd, Dundee, IL 60118  
Gayla.combs@shermanhospital.org

March 24, 2011

Dale Galassie, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
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Sincerely,



Eric Krueger  
724 Woodbury Court  
Sugar Grove, IL 60554