

Constantino, Mike

From: anne.murphy@hklaw.com
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2011 5:07 PM
To: Constantino, Mike
Attachments: Letter of Support_Advocate South Suburban Hospital.pdf

I attach a public comment letter from Advocate South Suburban Hospital regarding Project 10-078 (Proposed Discontinuation of Oak Forest Hospital), and ask that it be placed in the project file.

Thanks.

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Advocate South Suburban Hospital

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April 18, 2011

Mr. William Foley
Chief Executive Officer
Cook County Health and Hospitals System
1900 West Polk Street
Chicago, Illinois 60612

Re: Oak Forest Hospital – CON for Discontinuation

Dear Mr. Foley:

I am writing in regards to your recent request for a letter assessing the impact of discontinuing inpatient services at Oak Forest Hospital. We appreciate your ongoing efforts to keep us informed of your transition plans, and particularly the opportunity to meet with your leadership team, as we did last Fall.

As you know, Advocate provides considerable health care services to residents in the Southland. At the same time, we actively partner with other providers to enhance the Southland's health care delivery system whenever possible. We acknowledge your need to discontinue inpatient services at the Oak Forest location. We also believe that a robust immediate care facility on the Oak Forest campus is essential to the Southland's delivery system and meets an important need in our community. As an immediate care facility with extended evening and weekend hours is a central element to your transition plan for Oak Forest Hospital, we do not oppose your plans or your CON application. We encourage you to consider operating the Oak Forest immediate care sixteen hours a day in order to preserve a significant level of access for the community.

With regard to our ability to provide care to Oak Forest Hospital patients, Advocate South Suburban Hospital has capacity to care for some Oak Forest patients and would do so without restrictions, conditions, limitation or discrimination. We understand from you, however, that the large majority of inpatient referrals from Oak Forest will be sent to Stroger Hospital and that you expect the impact on us to be minimal.

We look forward to working with you further as Oak Forest Hospital's transition progresses. Should you have any follow up questions or concerns, please have your office contact Elyse Forkosh Cutler, Advocate's Vice President of Strategic Planning and Network Development at 630-990-5388.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Englehart
President

cc: Dale Galassie, Chair, Illinois Health Facilities and Review Board
Dr. Terry Mason, Incoming Interim CEO and Chief Medical Officer, CCBHS