

**Kerry W. Pearson**  
24 N Regency Dr W  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

Telephone (office) (847) 577-9000

Fax (847) 577-9068

e-mail [kwplaw@earthlink.net](mailto:kwplaw@earthlink.net) or [Kerry@KerryPearson.com](mailto:Kerry@KerryPearson.com)

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

March 9, 2011

Mr. Mike Constantino  
Project Review Section  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street (2nd Floor)  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Transitional Care Center of Arlington Heights - Application for Certificate of Need

Dear Review Board Members:

This letter is written in opposition to granting a certificate of need to Transitional Care Center of Arlington Heights for a proposed facility at 1200 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL.

As a person who has lived in Arlington Heights for 25+ years; maintained a law practice in Arlington Heights for 30+ years; has had my parents need transitional care in Arlington Heights; and has served for over 7 years as a local elected official (Arlington Heights Memorial Library Board of Trustees); I care deeply about Arlington Heights and the services made available to its residents. (Both of my parents had need of transitional care facilities during their elderly years, and we were fortunate that they were able to use three very high quality facilities in Arlington Heights for these needs. I know from personally having visited them hundreds of times in such facilities that they were well cared for.)

As an attorney who has a concentration in estate planning, I am well aware of other transitional care facilities in Arlington Heights other than where my parents stayed, as I have had to visit clients in such other facilities. I am also aware of facilities providing transitional care in immediately adjoining communities.

Arlington Heights is very fortunate to have both the number and quality of care facilities that now exist in the village. Where the demand needs of a community for such care facilities are already being met, adding an additional facility does not help the community, it hurts it. Over-saturation can lead to one or more facilities closing, resulting in a net loss to the community, and the one(s) likely to close can be those that might be the least profitable in the monetary sense, but are so because of their meeting the need to continue providing services to those whose assets have run out. Will a new facility that causes market over-saturation be obligated to take on such patients? No. Can a new, for profit facility expected to be willing to take on such patients who have exhausted their funds? No. The community is not benefitted from the addition of a new facility if it is reasonably foreseeable such addition will result in one or more other facilities closing and/or the patients in such other facilities no longer receiving the care they otherwise would have received.

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I take exception to the statement in the pending application statement that there is "an absence of a facility providing traditional care to the residents of Arlington Heights and surrounding communities." I know many such facilities currently exist, and for the above reasons expressed above I object to the certificate of need being granted for the proposed transitional care center in Arlington Heights in the absence of clear evidence that the numerous area existing facilities are not able to handle the demand, and clear evidence that addition of a new facility will not have a deleterious effect to the community by triggering closing of any existing facility (and/or leaving such existing facilities' patients who are no longer able to pay for their care without comparable replacement care.)

Thank you for your consideration.



Very truly yours,

Kerry W. Pearson  
KWP:dj