

**HESED HOUSE**  
**Comprehensive Homeless Resource Center**

*Ending Homelessness, One Person – One Family – at a Time...*

659 South River Street  
Aurora, IL 60506-5551

(630) 897-2165 Phone  
(630) 801-9759 Fax

info@hesedhouse.org  
www.hesedhouse.org

February 13, 2012

**RECEIVED**

FEB 16 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

RE: Project #11-120, Fresenius Medical Care East Aurora

Dear Chairman Galassie:

Please accept this letter as a resounding endorsement of Fresenius Medical Care's proposed initiative to establish a 12-station dialysis facility at 924 E. New York Street to better serve their patient population – many of whom are guests of Hesed House.

As the second largest homeless shelter in Illinois, and one of only five shelters in the entire country to offer comprehensive services aimed at preventing and resolving homelessness, Hesed House is very grateful for the services of Fresenius Medical Care – services which are in demand now more than ever in our community.

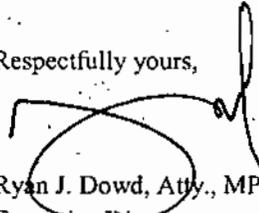
The current Aurora dialysis facility (located at Provena Hospital) is operating at or near capacity, as is the only other dialysis clinic in Aurora (Fox Valley Dialysis, near the Rush-Copley Medical Center). This leaves little time choices to accommodate new patients that work or have family obligations. It can also lead to patients seeking services outside of Aurora, which adds another layer of complexity to an already difficult process. Transportation for dialysis patients is already enough of a hardship with treatment three times a week for life. When cultural and economic disadvantages are added to the equation, it can become an overwhelming hurdle for these patients.

Locating a clinic on Aurora's east side – in the middle of the very population it serves – not only makes a tremendous amount of sense, but is also critical to its goal of continuing to provide the highest standard of care to their patients and to treat their patients with respect and dignity, so they experience excellence each and every time they visit – regardless of ability to pay.

We look forward to strengthening our relationship with Fresenius Medical Care, and I am pleased to support them in their efforts to provide this care to those most in need in our community.

Thank you very much for your time, and I look forward to answering any questions you may have.

Respectfully yours,

  
Ryan J. Dowd, Atty., MPA  
Executive Director  
(630) 914-6424  
[rvandowd@hesedhouse.org](mailto:rvandowd@hesedhouse.org)