

Constantino, Mike

From: Beth A. Shaw [bas@renalcareassoc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2012 1:06 PM
To: Constantino, Mike
Cc: Lori.Wright@fmc-na.com
Subject: Physician Support Letter
Attachments: 20120703125715950.pdf

June 29, 2012

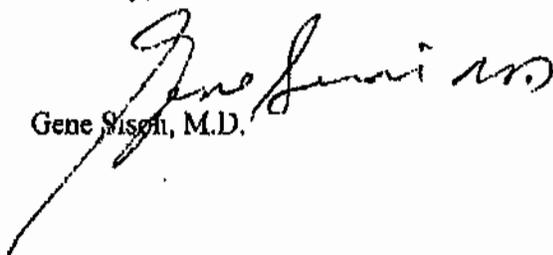
Dale Glassie, Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Glassie,

I am a family doctor here in Pekin, Illinois. Ninety percent of my renal patients requiring dialysis are taken care of by the Illinois Kidney Disease and Hypertension Center. I support the application of Fresenius Medical Care to operate a dialysis facility in North Pekin, Illinois.

Most of my dialysis patients are sick and elderly with transportation challenges. They require dialysis three times a week. As much as possible, they prefer to have their treatment within the Pekin area.

Sincerely,


Gene Sison, M.D.

Good morning

I know Fresenius wants to open another dialysis Clinic in north Pekin and I want to ask that you let them build it.

Fresenius is a very good dialysis company and they always want the best for their patients. We need more room in the Pekin area. Please allow Fresenius to build.

Larry Bromham

To whom it may concern

Fresenius Dialysis clinic in Pekin has been taking good care of me since may of 2011. They really care about me and I want them to be able to build another clinic in the Pekin area. I don't want someone else to build here because I know how much the staff at the Fresenius clinic care about me and how good they are to everyone.

Please let them build another clinic to help other patients too.

William J. Clark

7-2-12

To whom it may concern,

MY NAME IS KEVIN, I HAVE BEEN ON DIALYSIS
NOW FOR 4½ YEARS. 2 CENTERS, 1 IN EAST PEORIA, AND
1 IN PEKIN, I AM ALIVE TODAY BECAUSE OF FRESTINUS
AND THE STAFF THEY HAVE. THE PEOPLE THAT WORK FOR
THEM ARE LIKE FAMILY, CAREING, FUN, HELPFUL TO EVERY
ONE UNDER THERE CARE. PLEASE LET THEM CONTINUE
TO HELP AS MANY OF US AS THEY CAN WE NEED THEM.

THANK YOU,

KEVIN Taylor

7-2-12

Dear Sirs:

In may went to Dr. in may 2006 because of high PSA. Follow up CAT scan showed Cancer in kidney. I had surgery June 2006 to remove kidney. When I went back to get stitches cut, the Dr. told he I had to start Dialysis. I had to start Dialysis in East Peoria because there was no Room in Pekin.

My daughter drove me to the dialysis unit 3 times a week. I really enjoyed the people in East Peoria but I needed to be closer to home. It took me a year to get transferred to Pekin.

I want Fresenius to be able to open another clinic in the area. They take good care of everyone here and the people in this area need to be able to stay close to home. The Pekin Clinic still has more and more people. We need Fresenius to open another unit.

Bill Sidel

June 27, 2012

Dear Ms. Wounded Arrow

This is in regards to my
Came at the Peke Unit.

I want let me say it is very
clean and well organized. I never have
over a twenty minute wait on arriving.

The staff as kind and take very
good care of me while I am there.
I get my feet checked by a nurse.
My dot is discussed and I get
helpful hints for proper eating.

I can only say good things
about the unit.

I thank you,
Carol Smith

Dale Glassie, Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Glassie:

I am writing to support the application submitted by Fresenius Medical Care to build a dialysis facility in North Pekin, IL. This application is Project # 12-004, Fresenius Medical Care North Pekin. I was made aware that this project was issued an "intent to deny" when presented to the Board in June, and that subsequent to that meeting, another application for a Pekin unit was submitted by a joint venture of a Dr. Usman and DaVita. I am presenting my support for the original Fresenius application and that the Board approve this at your September meeting.

I am a Family Medicine physician actively practicing at ProHealth Family Medicine in Pekin. I have a very busy outpatient clinic practice, as well as a steady inpatient service at Pekin Hospital. I am currently employed by Pekin Hospital, and have been so, for the past 8-1/2 years. Since my arrival here, I have had referred and co-managed many patients with the physicians of RenalCare Associates. I can confidently say that I have never had any patient complaints, nor have I had any cause to support any claims of substandard care. Every patient I have ever sent to these physicians has been treated well, and every medical condition, complication, or concern has been addressed to extreme satisfaction. The care my patients have received has been exemplary, and the recommendations given have all been very beneficial, both for my patients and for my own ongoing education.

As a primary care physician, I am fully aware of the needs of my patients requiring dialysis. Perhaps the one complaint I hear, if anything, is that for patients, a drive to Peoria is necessary due to the full capacity at the Pekin facility. Many of my patients are elderly, and many of them face transportation challenges. In fact, the thought of having to go to Peoria for ANY reason upsets many of my elderly patients, causing great anxiety; that anxiety can easily aggravate any ongoing underlying medical illness they may have. Now, imagine having to make that trip three or four times a week, every week. Dialysis is NOT an easy or pleasant treatment; my patients are quite often, tired, weak, and nauseated. To add the stress of driving on top of that adds insult to injury. Sadly, there are no other options at this time.

In many cases, it is the elderly spouse who ends up having to drive the patient to Peoria. Believe me, knowing some of my patients, that situation is fraught

with danger; quite frankly, it puts the patient and their spouse, as well as the other drivers on the road, at risk for harm. Approving the Fresenius application to open another facility in the Pekin area can help alleviate that immensely.

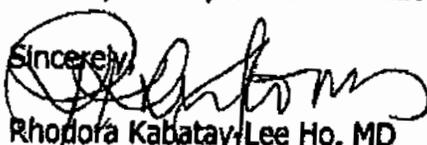
I believe, from a practical standpoint, that if Fresenius and RenalCare were to provide another facility in this area, it would be quite busy from the moment it opened. They already have an established patient need and would not have to build their practice up to support the new facility.

Fresenius and RenalCare have been here for many years. They have an established relationship in our community. They are a proven entity, with a well-respected and established Physician group and staff. That offers significant comfort to patients, which is not a small factor in this service. Conversely, this staff knows their patients, which makes rendering care much more efficient.

Fresenius has also provided dialysis to Pekin Hospital inpatients. This service took quite a bit of time to establish, with securing staff and providing in-service training to our own nursing staff as well. Much hard work and dedication by all parties involved brought this to fruition. I do believe that this has served to improve even more on the service we provide to our patients. By doing so, in addition to the outpatient dialysis they provide, Fresenius has shown their commitment to Pekin and our surrounding communities, providing dialysis services when no other company was interested in doing so. I am very much in support of rewarding their loyalty with my own. I do not see a need to "establish competition" to continue their level of service; in fact, it is my opinion doing so would ultimately compromise patient care.

The Fresenius project has community support as evidenced by their application. Even those who oppose this project would agree that Pekin residents/patients truly need another dialysis unit and should not be expected to drive to Peoria for treatments three days a week. Therefore, I ask that you approve to Fresenius proposal to build this facility in the Pekin area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rhodora Kabatay-Lee Ho, MD
Family Medicine

ProHealth Family Medicine
600 S. 13th St, Ste 1
Pekin, IL 61554
(309) 346-1102