

Constantino, Mike

From: JanetC [janetcoleman@ameritech.net]
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2012 8:52 AM
To: Constantino, Mike
Subject: Letter of Support
Attachments: LetterofSupportCouncil.pdf

Mr. Constantino,

Please refer to the attached Letter of Support for "Fresenius Medical Care dialysis facility in Oak Forest".

Thank you.

Janet Coleman, MHS, CSADC
VP & Chief Administrative Officer
The South Suburban Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse

THE SOUTH SUBURBAN COUNCIL

ON ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Michael Constantino
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Fresenius Medical Care Oak Forest (No. 12-012)

Dear Mr. Constantino,

I have been president and CEO of The South Suburban Council on Alcoholism and Substance abuse for more than 22 years. I have a longstanding history of managing programs serving those with substance abuse disorders having previously worked at Ingalls Memorial Hospital in Harvey and Victory Memorial Hospital in Waukegan. During my career, I have become aware that many patients with addictions disorders face end stage renal disease as a result of their years of addiction both as a result of their addiction as well as other causes, including diabetes.

Based on my understanding of addiction, I would like to express my support for the planned Fresenius Medical Care dialysis facility in Oak Forest.

With dialysis, it's possible to live for many years if you adhere to your treatment schedule. But chronic kidney disease saps your strength, and, in a sense, takes away your freedom.

Most dialysis patients require treatment three times a week, 52 weeks a year. The sessions can last up to 5 hours. That's a heavy burden, especially if the patient does not live near a dialysis facility.

I've noticed that patients who rely on public transportation are especially affected when access to medical care is not available in their communities. And, younger dialysis patients have a lot of scheduling issues because many are still in the workforce.

By building a clinic in Oak Forest, Fresenius will bring world-class dialysis care closer to home for many residents. We need more clinics like the one Fresenius is proposing to help our south suburban residents lead healthier, happier and more purposeful lives.

Sincerely,



Allen Sandusky
President & CEO
The South Suburban Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse



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