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Medical Center

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MAY 17 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

May 14, 2012

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62716

Re: Project #12-015 Fresenius Medical Care Schaumburg

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am the President and Chief Executive Officer of Alexian Brothers Medical Center in Elk Grove Village, Illinois and am writing to offer my full support for approval of the Certificate of Need application to establish a 12-station dialysis clinic in Schaumburg, Illinois.

We at Alexian Brothers Medical Center have seen progressive increases in patients who suffer with diabetes and high blood pressure, the leading causes of kidney failure. As such, we have experienced a significant increase in the number of patients requiring dialysis services in our Hospital. We also strive to serve an aging population, one which has sustained a similar trend in the increase of diabetes, hypertension, and kidney failure.

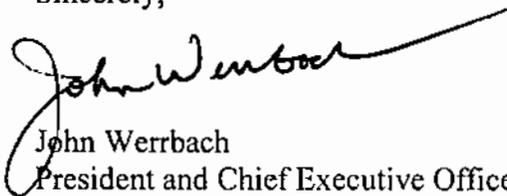
As the number of patients requiring dialysis have increased, our staff and social services at Alexian Brothers Medical Center have been experiencing frequent difficulty with transitioning patients into regional dialysis units for ongoing therapy upon their discharge. Several of the surrounding dialysis facilities are operating at or near full capacity, which often leads to a delay in the discharge of patients needing outpatient dialysis services. As a result, this volume of unnecessary patient days spent in the hospital causes a significant cost burden incurred by the Hospital, as well as by the very patients whom we are trying to serve.

Fresenius Medical Care and Nephrology Associates of Northern Illinois have been providing compassionate and high quality patient care for many years within our region. Fresenius Medical Care has both the resources and expertise needed to provide our patients with many options of care, including home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis, in-center hemodialysis and nocturnal hemodialysis, as well as transplant consideration. Further, approving an open Fresenius-based dialysis unit in our region would provide more comprehensive continuity of care as patients transition from Fresenius care in the hospital to the outpatient setting.

We fully anticipate that the volume of patients requiring dialysis services will continue to increase over time. Alexian Brothers Medical Center wishes to ensure that adequate services will be in place to meet this increased need. As such, I am offering my full support for a new Fresenius Medical Care Schaumburg dialysis facility, and I strongly urge the Board to approve the Certificate of Need that is being submitted at this time.

Thank you for allowing me to lend my support for this much needed service to our community. Please feel free to contact me at any time if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Werrbach", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

John Werrbach  
President and Chief Executive Officer