



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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525 WEST JEFFERSON ST. • SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62761 • (217) 782-3516 FAX: (217) 785-4111

**Memo**

**Date:** May 04, 2012

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Place:** Villa Park Village Hall  
20 South Ardmore Avenue  
Villa Park, Illinois

**Re:** Public Hearing - US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

**Purpose:** To document public hearing conducted by Courtney Avery  
Administrator, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

- 
- Number in attendance providing no testimony - 6
  - Number in attendance in support of the project - 20
  - Number in attendance opposed to the project - 0

# ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES and SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

## Public Hearing Register

Project: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis #12-026

Date: May 04, 2012

Location: Villa Park Village Hall 20 South Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park

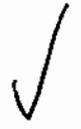
Time: 2 PM

### ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

| ✓ # | NAME<br>(PLEASE PRINT)               | AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR<br>INSTITUTION<br>REPRESENTED OR RESIDENT<br>(PLEASE PRINT) | CITY<br>(PLEASE PRINT) | (S) SUPPORT<br>(O) OPPOSED<br>(N) NEUTRAL<br>(PLEASE PRINT) |
|-----|--------------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| 1   | Kenneth Crine                        | USRC  | Chicago                | S   |
| 2   | Lonny Philip                         |   | Calumet                | N   |
| 3   | Debra Engler                         | USRC  | St. Charles            | S   |
| 4   | Lawrence Noode                       |   |                        | S   |
| 5   | <del>William Smith</del>             |   | MELROSE PARK           | S   |
| 6   | <del>Frank Gabe FRANK PETROVIC</del> |   | NORTH REVERSDALE       | S   |
| 7   | Amir A. NAKIR                        | USRC  |                        | SUPPNA  |
| 8   | <del>Joe Murphy</del>                |   | Villa Park             | S   |
| 9   | Mohammed S. Ahmed                    |   | Oak Brook              | S   |
| 10  |                                      |   |                        |   |
| 11  |                                      |   |                        |   |
| 12  |                                      |   |                        |   |
| 13  |                                      |   |                        |   |
| 14  |                                      |   |                        |   |



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD



Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) PHILIP R. O'CONNOR, Ph.D

City CHICAGO Zip 60657

Signature Philip R. O'Connor

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

U.S. RENAL CARE

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Proactive  
Strategies, Inc



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

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**Project Number:** 12-026

**Date:** May 04, 2012      **Time:** 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) STAN LINDENFELD M.D.

City PLANO Zip 75093

Signature 

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

U.S. RENAL CARE

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

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**Project Number:** 12-026

**Date:** May 04, 2012      **Time:** 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name *(Please Print)* Michael Collins III

City Elmhurst Zip 60126

Signature *Michael Collins III*

I. REPRESENTATION *(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)*

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION  
Name (Please Print) PHILLIP E COLEMAN

City VILLA PARK Zip 60181

Signature Phillip E Coleman

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

PATIENT

~~Approach  
Strategies~~



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Kirk Flowers

City Addison Zip 60101

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

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*Transcript  
rec*



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

J

**Public Hearing Form**

**Facility or Project Name:** US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

**Project Number:** 12-026

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**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Don Kase

City Villa Park Zip 60181

Signature Don Kase

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Speaking for Tom Couraton



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**



**Public Hearing Form**

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**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name *(Please Print)* Dina Schmitz

City Elmhurst, IL      Zip 60126

Signature *Dina Schmitz*

I. REPRESENTATION *(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)*

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Kathy Coleman

City Villa Park Zip 60181

Signature Kathy Coleman

i. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Spouse of patient



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

**Facility or Project Name:** US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

**Project Number:** 12-026

**Date:** May 04, 2012      **Time:** 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Laura Nadler

City River Grove Zip 60171

Signature *Laura Nadler*

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Mark Nadler

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

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**Date:** May 04, 2012      **Time:** 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Love Dave

City Elmhurst Zip 60126

Signature 

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Elmhurst Extended Care Center

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) BILL ELLIS

City PLANO Zip 75074

Signature Bill Ellis

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CAMDEN DESIGN



STATE OF ILLINOIS

HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

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TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) WILLIAM NEUBAUER

City MELROSE PARK Zip 60164

Signature William Neubauer

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

MYSELF AND MY WIFE, SHE IS ON DIALYSIS



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

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Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) FRANK PETROVIC

City NORTH RIVERSIDE Zip 60546

Signature Frank M Petrovic

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

self



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

J

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Kara Murphy

City Everett Bartlett IL Zip 60103

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Access Dispute



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

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Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) George Rodriguez

City CHICAGO Zip IL

Signature [Handwritten Signature]

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

United Neighborhood Organization (UNO)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) ELIZABETH ELLIOTT

City DARIEN Zip 60561

Signature Elizabeth Elliott

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Rep - Bill Mandell



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

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Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

JOHN MURPHY

City

VILLA PARK, IL

Zip

60181

Signature

John B. Murphy

- I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Spouse of Patient Sharon Murphy



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

Facility or Project Name: US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

Project Number: 12-026

Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) RON ROBEY

City BENSENVILLE Zip 60106

Signature Ronald Robey

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Parents



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Hearing Form

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Date: May 04, 2012 Time: 2:00 PM

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

IDENTIFICATION  
Name (Please Print) THOMAS MASON  
Thomas Mason

City Orchard Zip 61053

Signature Thomas Mason

I. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

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STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Public Hearing Form**

**Facility or Project Name:** US Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis

**Project Number:** 12-026

**Date:** May 04, 2012      **Time:** 2:00 PM

**TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT**

IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) THOMAS J MASON

City ADDISON Zip 60101

Signature Tom J. Mason

1. REPRESENTATION (This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

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Hello. My name is Mark Nadler and I am very happy to be here in support of a project that is very important to me and my wife, Laura, who is here with me today. The Villa Park dialysis center proposed by Dr. Cohan and U.S. Renal Care would be so convenient for me and other patients in the area. But even more than that, it would give me back the independence and quality of life I lost when the previous Villa Park center closed and moved to Elmhurst.

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For years I went to the same center just minutes from my house in Villa Park. While being on dialysis certainly isn't easy or pleasant by any means, I was settled into a good routine. I had peace of mind knowing the center was right around the corner from my house and it was easy for me to park right by the door and see my way right in to the treatment area.

The facility where I dialyze now is 15 minutes farther from my house and it is terribly inconvenient. There are only a handful of handicapped parking spots, which I might add you have to walk a half of a block to get to. The other option is to park far away and walk more than a half-block to the front door and to a wheelchair. Then I have to go 4 floors up and down a long hallway before I get to the actual treatment area.

As a result, I can no longer drive myself and I have to depend on my wife. She gets up at 3:00 in the morning three times a week so that she can drop me off for my 5 a.m. dialysis treatment before she goes to work. After treatment, my friend drives from Lombard to pick me up and bring me home. They never complain, and I am grateful for their support, but I know it would be a lot easier on both of them if my treatment center wasn't so inconvenient. Dialysis itself is exhausting, but this added stress and inconvenience makes it far more difficult on me. What's worse is that it's completely unnecessary.

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about a project that I feel has the potential to drastically improve my quality of life. My name is Ronald Robey, and I have been a dialysis patient for 3 years. I am here today because U.S. Renal Care has my full support for opening a new, more convenient dialysis treatment center in Villa Park, Ill.

Although I was fortunate enough to receive a transplant, it ultimately failed, which is why I am on dialysis today. As you may know, dialysis patients visit their treatment centers three or four times a week, with each visit lasting anywhere from 4 to 5 hours. Calling it time-consuming would be an understatement.

That is why it is so important that dialysis patients have accessible and convenient options for where they dialyze. Ever since the Villa Park location closed, I have had to travel farther for my treatment at Elmhurst. Coming from Bensenville, the added distance, coupled with the limited parking and layout of the building, makes the facility altogether inconvenient. It goes without saying that opening a dialysis center in Villa Park would greatly improve my quality of life.

I also think it is important that, as dialysis patients, we have a choice in where we seek treatment. As it stands, I really only have one option and that is in Elmhurst. If there were additional facilities in the area, we would have better access and more choices. I urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve U.S. Renal Care's application for a Villa Park dialysis center. I have no doubt that it is a facility that I would visit, and I know others would as well. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support of this important project.

## Testimony

Frank Petrovic

Good afternoon. I would like to start by thanking you for taking the time to hear my testimony in support of a new dialysis facility in Villa Park. For me, it would make a world of difference. The new facility I visit in Elmhurst is almost impossible to navigate, but unfortunately there is no other option for me.

As any patient with glomerulonephropathy can tell you, the condition alone is difficult, has resulted in kidney failure. and requires me to dialyze four times a day for 45 minutes each time. What might seem like minor inconveniences are major barriers to me, and unfortunately I have encountered many obstacles since switching to the dialysis facility in Elmhurst.

To put it simply, things have been a mess. From the parking situation with a lot full of pot holes to excessively heavy doors, this location is far more difficult to access. I have to go through a long chain of command to get any answers regarding my billing, and finding consistency in care givers has been a challenge. All of these things are avoidable stresses that I believe could be remedied by a facility in Villa Park.

I am also here to voice my support for Dr. Michael Cohan. Dr. Cohan is a cut above. As both my nephrologist and primary care physician, he has been an enormous help in helping me to manage several health issues and coordinating my overall care. In the 15 years that I have been in his care, not once has he been a whip-ya-through kind of guy. He has always taken extra time out of his day, well after his office hours, to help me understand the care I need. Once, he even spent 20 minutes talking to me at 10:00 at night just so I felt more at ease.

I know that I am not the only patient who has this experience with Dr. Cohan. He goes above and beyond for all of his patients. You really don't have to know Dr. Cohan for long to see that the comfort and best interests of his patients are always his priority. There needs to be a better option for people like me. That is why I stand before you today, urging you to support Dr. Cohan and a new U.S. Renal Care dialysis facility in Villa Park. Thank you.

## Presentation at Public Hearing

Good afternoon, my name is Dr. Stan Lindenfeld and I am Chief Medical Officer for US Renal Care. I have been a practicing nephrologist for over 35 years and I have been in my capacity at US Renal Care for the past four years. It is a pleasure to be here and have this opportunity to talk with you about my company and its plans in the Chicago land area.

There are several topics I would like to present to you. The first and perhaps most important is about the quality culture at USRC. As the chief clinical executive, my responsibility is to oversee the quality of care delivered at all USRC facilities. Patient care, as you are probably aware, is delivered by our excellent physicians working with our team of highly qualified nurses and patient care technicians. However, to assure that we are doing an excellent job and to live up to the USRC goal to have "the healthiest patients in the industry," I have in conjunction with our excellent IT department developed a data capture system which allows us to track and monitor over 15 critical clinical outcomes on every one of our patients. These are reviewed and ranked monthly and serve to drive our ongoing quality improvement activities at all of our centers. I am proud to say that through these efforts and the work of our clinical teams and nephrologists, we achieve documented superior clinical outcomes which exceed all national standards.

I now would like to talk briefly about the needs of the Chicago land population for dialysis services and what is driving the rapid growth of the ESRD population in this area. As you are probably aware End Stage Renal Disease is not an equal opportunity disorder. Diabetes and Hypertension account for over 80% of the cases of chronic renal failure requiring dialysis or transplantation. Unfortunately, obesity is a major cause of diabetes and is increasing significantly especially in the Hispanic population. As a result the incidence of End Stage Disease is over 3 times that in a comparable white population. Hypertension or high blood pressure is the major cause of renal failure in the black population and affects a much higher percentage of that racial group. As a result the incidence of ESRD in the black population is over 8 times that of whites. As you can imagine therefore the rate of

increase of ESRD in areas where there is significant growth in both the Hispanic and black population leads to dramatic growth of the ESRD population and a major increase in the need for dialysis services to provide care to these rapidly growing groups. The Chicago land area is definitely one area where this is occurring. These facts help to explain the requirement of new stations in HSA 7 As of April 18, 2012 the need has been calculated as 92 stations, US Renal Care is requesting a total of 13 stations. Our request therefore is clearly within the state calculated need.

I would now like to tell you about US Renal Care's unique ownership model. All new facilities that are being developed by USRC are owned jointly by USRC and the nephrologists that admit their patients to our units and serve as our Medical Directors. This model of ownership has historically not been used by large dialysis providers where the facilities are owned completely by the dialysis corporation. We feel that a joint venture model allows important input into the business decisions made by the company in terms of the issues that affect patient care and the resources that are made available to assure quality of services. Having the physicians as partners gives an excellent balance between the business and clinical expertise in managing our facilities. As Chief Medical Officer, it gives me a chance to work not just with our physicians in their role of Medical Directors but equally important as involved business partners. Having their involvement on this level has been very rewarding and advantageous. Working together, we bring a combined knowledge to the running and operation of our facilities that serves the patients we care for. We are very pleased with the success of this model and now incorporate it in 100% of our new facilities. We are also very pleased by the fact that USRC recognizes, as do our partners, our obligation to serve the indigent population of the areas we serve. As a result of that belief, we have grown our Charity care treatments from 1,705 in 2008 to over 2,300 treatments in 2011. This amounts to an increase of Charity Care cost from \$280,941 to a level of \$595,473, an increase of over 111% over the past 3years.

USRC is extremely appreciative of the opportunity to serve the patients and families of the Chicago land area and I am grateful to have this opportunity to speak with you on our behalf. Thank you for your willingness to listen to me.



# Village of Villa Park

20 South Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, Illinois 60181-2696

Thomas E. Cullerton, Village President  
Hosanna Korynecky, Village Clerk  
Rich Keehner, Jr., Village Manager

[www.invillapark.com](http://www.invillapark.com)

Phone (630) 834-8500  
Fax (630) 834-8967  
TDD (630) 834-8589

March 27, 2012

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Letter of Support for U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis  
Certificate of Need Application / Project 12-026

Dear Chairman Galassie,

As Village President of Villa Park, I am writing in support of the U.S. Renal Care application to establish a 13 station dialysis facility in Villa Park, Illinois. U.S. Renal Care is known for providing high quality of care for patients with chronic and acute renal disease. U.S. Renal Care also provides patients with a choice of a full range of quality care, including in-center or at-home hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis services.

As Villa Park is seeing a growing number of Hispanic and African American patients, who are at a disproportionate risk for diabetes and high blood pressure, which are the leading causes of kidney failure, lack of available access to dialysis care will continue to increase without the approval of additional dialysis chairs. We anticipate that the volume of patients requiring dialysis services will continue to increase and wish to ensure that adequate resources are available to meet the needs of the patients in the Villa Park area. As such, I strongly support this project and ask that the Board approve the Certificate of Need application for the U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis facility.

Respectfully,

Tom Cullerton  
Village President, Villa Park

*Sharon Murphy  
pg. 1 of 2*

Mr. Dale Galassie

Chairman

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie,

My name is Sharon Murphy, and I am writing to urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve U.S. Renal Care's application for a dialysis treatment facility in Villa Park. I have lived in Villa Park for 36 years, and know first-hand how difficult it is to seek dialysis treatment while maintaining quality of life.

Twenty years ago, I was one of the thousands of dialysis patients in the region who would go for treatment that lasted 4 hours three times a week. That doesn't take into account the extremely long wait times, the travel time or the recovery. Many times dialysis therapy also requires a spouse or family member to help with transportation or attend the treatment sessions.

I received a transplant in 1991, but unfortunately the transplant failed, and I was placed back on dialysis. Now, I receive dialysis treatment at home and make regular visits to my doctor. Although I no longer have to visit dialysis facilities, it is still very important to me that I have easy access to them in case my treatment doesn't work correctly. Right now there are limited options, and I know I would have to endure long wait times. Having gone through the experience of needing to visit dialysis centers, I know it would make a world of difference to me – and many other dialysis patients – to have another option for care in my own community.

pg. 282

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support for this project. I hope the board will approve the application for this project that will give me and many other dialysis patients a convenient option.

Thank you.

Sharon Murphy

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my support for U.S. Renal Care's application for a Villa Park dialysis treatment facility. I respectfully ask that you and the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board members approve this important project.

My wife, Lois, has been on dialysis for a year and a half. As I am sure other patients and their families will tell you, dialysis does not just affect the patient – it impacts their friends and family as well. Dialysis treatment requires frequent visits – three times a week – with each visit lasting three or four hours. Because dialysis often leaves patients feeling weak and because they are often chronically ill, they need help, particularly with transportation and treatment visits.

Until recently, I would drive Lois to the nearby dialysis center in Villa Park three times a week. Unfortunately, that facility closed and we must travel to Elmhurst, which is twice as far from our house. That means it doubles our travel time, and it doubles the amount of gas we use in our car. As a spouse of a dialysis patient, I can't stress enough how big of a role the convenience of a dialysis center plays. Treatments are frequent and they are lengthy. I have been fortunate to have a job that allows me the flexibility to work around Lois' dialysis schedule, but I know of many other families who aren't as lucky.

Access to a dialysis center should be a top priority. If we had a closer, more convenient choice, there is no doubt in my mind that we would visit that location. I believe that dialysis patients and their families should have a choice when it comes to where they seek treatment. Sadly, my wife and I do not have one. That is why I am hopeful that U.S. Renal Care's application to open a center in Villa Park is approved. I am confident that this board will see the need for it. Thank you for the opportunity to support what I feel is a critical project for me and my family.

Sincerely,



William Neubauer

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am writing to you as a dialysis patient who fully supports U.S. Renal Care's application for a dialysis treatment facility in Villa Park. For me, it comes down to convenience and choice, and right now I don't have either.

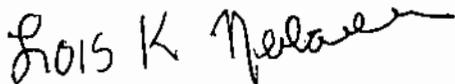
I was so disappointed when I recently found out that the facility I had been visiting in Villa Park for a year and a half was closing. Everything about the Villa Park facility worked for me - the parking was convenient and the location was very close to my house.

Now, I must travel further doubling the driving time, to visit a dialysis facility in Elmhurst. Although it is brand new, it is very inconvenient. From the parking to the elevator that takes us up four floors, the building is not suitable for dialysis patients. As if the treatment isn't bad enough, the experience of just getting there is just plain awful. Unfortunately I don't have any other choice.

I was relieved to hear that U.S. Renal was applying to open a facility in Villa Park with Drs. Cohan and Kittaka. It is exactly what I - and so many other patients - need. I have been seeing Drs. Cohan and Kittaka since I began needing dialysis treatments a year and a half ago. I find them both to be excellent doctors, and I am glad that they are leading this effort to provide better access and more options for dialysis patients like me.

I urge this board to approve the application for a dialysis center in Villa Park. It would certainly make things a lot easier on me and so many other area patients who depend on this life-saving care. Thank you for the opportunity to support this important project.

Sincerely,



Lois Neubauer



## The United Neighborhood Organization

954 W. Washington Blvd., 3rd Floor • Chicago, Illinois 60607  
312.432.6301 tel • 312.432.0077 fax  
uno-online.org



May 4, 2012

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Letter of Support for U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis Certificate of Need  
Application, Project No. 12-026

Dear Chairman Galassie,

This letter is written in support of the U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis Certificate of Need Application. The Villa Park and Addison communities are in great need of additional dialysis resources to provide care to the growing population of Hispanic residents who require such services. Both the high incidence of end stage renal disease for Hispanics and the growing Hispanic population in Villa Park and Addison make it essential that the Board approve this project to provide much needed dialysis resources for the Villa Park and Addison communities.

According to the 2010 census, the Village of Villa Park saw an increase of 40% in its Hispanic population from 2,770 individuals in 2000 to 3,894 individuals in 2010, which is 17.8% of Villa Park's total population. In Addison, the Hispanic population saw an increase of 45% in its Hispanic population from 10,198 individuals in 2000 to 14,212 individuals in 2010, which is 40.1% of Addison's total population.

In addition to the high population growth in the Villa Park and Addison communities, Hispanic populations also suffer from an incidence rate of end stage renal disease which is two times greater than for Non-Hispanic Whites. This rate of incidence is more severe in certain populations with some studies documenting incidence rates for diabetic end stage renal disease as high as six times for Mexican Americans as compared to their non-Hispanic white counterparts. It is clear that without this project the high incidence of end stage renal disease coupled with the substantial growth of Hispanic residents will result in an extreme shortfall in dialysis resources in the Villa Park and Addison communities. The state of Illinois cannot afford to neglect the growing health care needs of its residents.

I believe that this project is essential to meet the needs of the Villa Park and Addison Hispanic communities and urge the Board to approve this project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Juan Rangel'.

Juan Rangel

**John Murphy**

**Testimony**

My name is John Murphy, and I am writing to you because I am in full support of U.S. Renal Care's proposal to open a new dialysis facility in Villa Park. My wife, Sharon, has been a dialysis patient for almost a year. Though we are fortunate enough to have the necessary equipment to do her dialysis home, that wasn't always the case.

When Sharon's transplant failed, she had to go to a facility in Downers Grove three times a week. What many people fail to understand is that dialysis treatment does not just affect the patient. Because I wanted to make sure that she remained healthy, I would drive her there, come home, and four hours later drive to the facility to pick her up. The procedure alone takes more than four hours, but the total trip could cost us more than five hours each visit when you factor in travel and extremely long wait times. Those extra hours were time that we missed being with our kids or catching up with friends and family.

Because of the enormous time sacrifice, what little time can be saved in the commute and in shorter wait times is precious. That is why I support U.S. Renal's plan to open a treatment facility in Villa Park. It will give dialysis patients an additional and more convenient location—one that may save them hours in drive time every month.

Thank you for your consideration. I know from experience that those patients and families who have to do on-site dialysis treatment will appreciate those saved hours more than words can say. In my wife's case, it would also be a huge help to know there is a more convenient option in the event that she does need to visit a dialysis treatment facility.

Sincerely,

John Murphy

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## Dr. Cohan Public Hearing Transcript

My name is Dr. Michael Cohan. My colleague Dr. Martin Kittaka and I are practicing nephrologists at the Elmhurst Clinic and I speak today in support of the U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis facility. I have been treating nephrology patients for over nineteen years. I did my undergraduate work at the University of Pennsylvania and medical school at the Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. I performed both my residency and fellowship here in Chicago at the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center and have been treating patients in the Chicago area since that time. My practice of nephrology in the Chicago area has always been affiliated with Elmhurst Memorial Hospital. During the nineteen years that I have practiced with Elmhurst Memorial Hospital, I have witnessed first-hand the excellence of care that Elmhurst provides to its patients.

I am here today to discuss my partnership with U.S. Renal Care to establish a dialysis center at 200 East North Avenue. This site is the location of a former dialysis clinic. Nearly all of my patients obtained their dialysis at this site which is convenient for those that reside in the Villa Park community and the surrounding areas. Furthermore, this location provides an easily accessible facility for patients to receive their dialysis treatment. As a single story building with immediate access to parking, this location is ideal for dialysis patients to obtain their treatments as patients can exit their car and enter the facility within moments. This convenience is important because, from a patient care perspective, the reduced travel time and accessibility to care increases the quality of life that my patients enjoy, despite the exhaustive demands of their dialysis treatment. As my patients require dialysis treatments three times a week, I feel that the

1/7 2013  
Cohen

convenience and accessibility of this site will greatly improve the wellbeing of my patients. Receiving life sustaining dialysis treatment is a demanding proposition, both physically and mentally. Every measure of convenience that can be provided to a dialysis patient increases their quality of life. While you and I may not appreciate the detrimental effect of an additional five minute drive or ten minute wait time, my patients must experience these hardships multiple times a week and often following difficult dialysis sessions. This location has provided dialysis treatment to my patients for a significant period of time and, through this project, I hope to re-establish their accessibility and convenience of care.

The U.S.R.C. Villa Park Dialysis facility is also needed to serve future patients that will require treatment for end stage renal disease. In the past several years, I have treated a growing number of patients who require dialysis. A great deal of this growth is attributable to the substantial demographic change in my community. The number of African Americans and Hispanics has grown substantially and the prevalence of diseases associated with ESRD among those populations is causing very rapid growth in the need for end stage renal disease services. Furthermore, the aging of the baby boomer generation is becoming increasingly evident in my patient population. The average age of patients seeking nephrology care has increased and, consequently, a greater portion of my patients require dialysis services. As a result, the approval of this application is necessary to meet the growing demand for dialysis services that results from the changing demographics of Villa Park and the surrounding areas.

In putting together a plan for a dialysis facility, I have spent extensive time discussing these issues with my co-applicant, U.S. Renal Care. U.S.R.C. is known for providing excellent quality of care for their patients and they immediately understood the importance of providing quality

pg 3 of 3  
Cohen

and convenient care for patients on dialysis. As I will act as the medical director for this facility, U.S.R.C. and I found that we shared a significant commitment to the issues of quality and convenience of care. Through our discussions on these matters, we concluded that the best way to meet the dialysis need in this area, and also provide convenient access to such care, was to establish the proposed U.S.R.C. Villa Park Dialysis facility in this location. As a result, I view the approval of this project with the utmost importance to the wellbeing of my patients.

Finally, it is important to note that my patients also share my enthusiasm for this project as I have repeatedly heard them voice their support of establishing a dialysis facility at this site. Through my treating relationship with my patients, I have been fortunate enough to earn their trust and receive their enthusiastic support in this endeavor. Their support of this project, however, is not solely a result of our relationship but speaks to the merits of the application itself, as I have discussed here today. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Board approve this project.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this important matter.

Mr. Dale Galassie  
Chairman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Application

Dear Chairman Galassie,

Thank you for the opportunity to support U.S. Renal Care's application for a dialysis facility in Villa Park. As Administrator of Elmhurst Extended Care Center, I recognize that there is a need for this kind of outpatient care in our community, particularly among our residents when they leave our facility.

Since 1960, Elmhurst Extended Care Center has provided around-the-clock care and a comfortable community to senior citizens serving the nearby communities of Villa Park, Addison, Oak Brook, Lombard and Bensenville. Our facility and our staff are recognized regularly through awards and accreditations for the care and quality of life we deliver.

We are Medicare-and Medicaid-certified and offer a range of health care and wellness services, including Alzheimer's care, rehabilitation and inpatient dialysis for patients with kidney issues, which is how we came to know Dr. Michael Cohan. Dr. Cohan and the residents he sees at Elmhurst Extended Care have strong patient/physician relationships, and it is clear that he is truly committed to providing top-notch, compassionate care to every patient, day in and day out.

Although Elmhurst Extended Care Center offers inpatient dialysis care, once residents leave our facility, patients continue to require outpatient dialysis therapy. Important to note, we have seen an increase in the number of patients requiring dialysis. Ensuring a facility in Villa Park is open to serve area patients is critical to meeting the health care needs of our community. Knowing that Dr. Cohan would be affiliated with this facility gives us the utmost confidence that patients will receive the best care available when they need it.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this important project. I urge the board to approve U.S. Renal Care's application for a Villa Park dialysis facility.

Sincerely,

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my strong support for a U.S. Renal Care Villa Park dialysis center led by Dr. Cohan. My name is Laura Nadler and my husband, Mark Nadler, has been on dialysis for 6 years and has been a patient of Dr. Cohan for more than 15 years. Getting this project approved is so important to me and my husband that I took off of work to be here today.

My husband used to receive his dialysis treatments at the Villa Park facility before it recently closed and moved to Elmhurst. It was close to our home and it was convenient and easy for him to drive himself every day. The Elmhurst center facility is further from our home, the parking is terrible and it's a long walk to the actual treatment area. Needless to say, it's very hard on dialysis patients and as a result, I now drive my husband to dialysis three days a week. Our days begin at 3am and we leave the house around 4am to make sure he arrives on time for his 5am treatment.

I then head out to work and unfortunately, I'm unable to pick my husband up when he is done so we have to count on a family friend to do so. I will do anything for my husband and so will our family and friends. But this all seems very unnecessary and unfair to Mark and other patients out there who were so used to going to a convenient facility so close to home. It just doesn't make any sense to make things more difficult on patients who already endure enough. That is exactly what happened when this facility moved. It really diminished Mark's quality of life and made things far more inconvenient than they need to or should be.

That is why we were so happy to learn that Dr. Cohan was responding to the patients' needs by leading an effort to open a center at the same location. It is exactly what Mark and other patients in the area need. And beyond the great location, this facility will have the added benefit of being led by what we consider to be one of the finest doctors out there.

Dr. Cohan always puts Mark's interest first and truly cares about his patients, taking the time to listen to their concerns. He also coordinates with Mark's other doctors to ensure that he is receiving the best care possible and offering support every step of the way. In fact, he even gave us his cell phone number just in case. Dr. Cohan is a true patient advocate in every sense of the word.

As you review this project, please keep in mind the positive impact it would have on my husband and every other patient and family in the area. This is more than just another center, but it represents quality of life to those that need it most. Please approve U.S. Renal's Villa Park facility. Patients need and deserve it. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

**Kathy Coleman**  
**May 4, 2012**  
**Villa Park Public Hearing**

Good afternoon, my name is Kathy Coleman, and my husband Phil Coleman has been on dialysis for more than 3 years. We live in Villa Park and that is where Phil used to go for dialysis treatments three days a week. Unfortunately, the facility recently closed and relocated to Elmhurst and it has been a terrible experience ever since.

We live just blocks from the old facility and Phil could drive himself there, park, and walk right into the treatment area. Now, he has to go to a dialysis center that is further from our home and a lot less convenient. It's in a much larger building, four floors up, with very little handicap parking and a long ways to walk to get to the treatment area.

Given the added time and effort it takes to get to dialysis, Phil can no longer get there on his own. Because I work, I can't always take him and now we must rely on the help of others to bring Phil to treatment, whether it is a neighbor, one of our kids or a family member. And while we are more than happy to help, not having a facility nearby has certainly stripped Phil of his independence.

That is why I'm here today. My husband and other patients and families in the community so desperately need the Villa Park facility to open so that they can have the care they need, close to home. As if dialysis wasn't bad enough, make patients travel far from home and deal with the inconvenience of this facility isn't fair and it's unacceptable.

Convenience isn't our only concern, either. After treatment, I worry about how my husband is feeling. Dialysis patients are very tired after treatment, and low blood pressure is a real concern. God forbid something should happen; I'd want to know that I can get to him quickly. While the commute isn't entirely unbearable now, I can only imagine how bad it will be during the snowy winter months.

Dr. Cohan has been Phil's doctor for three years. He is an incredibly supportive doctor to both my husband and me and takes the time to listen to our concerns. Knowing that he is behind this facility makes it all the better. Having Dr. Cohan lead a Villa Park dialysis center would be such great news for all area patients, including my husband. I urge the board to approve the application. Thank you for listening.

**TESTIMONY OF PHILIP R. O'CONNOR, Ph.D.**  
**TO THE ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**  
**IN THE MATTER OF U.S. RENAL CARE VILLA PARK DIALYSIS**

*Introduction and Background*

My name is Philip R. O'Connor. I am testifying in support of the application submitted by the limited liability company applicant associated with U.S. Renal Care, Inc. ("U.S. Renal") to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board for a Certificate of Need ("CoN") for the U.S. Renal Care Villa Park Dialysis facility to be located in Villa Park, Illinois.

At the request of U.S. Renal, I have examined changes since the year 2000 in the demographic make-up of HSA 7 relevant to consideration of this CoN application. My conclusion is that there are compelling reasons for approval of the application.

My analysis and my resulting conclusions are informed by my background in economic regulation and by my lengthy experience related to health insurance as well as life, property and casualty insurance. I have served as Illinois Director of Insurance, the State's chief insurance regulator and as Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission, the State's utility regulatory agency. I hold a doctorate in Political Science from Northwestern University with a concentration in methodology, demographics and metropolitan development. I have also had an extensive consulting career involving economic competition in regulated industries. A copy of my resume is attached to this testimony as Appendix 1.

During my tenure as Illinois Director of Insurance, I was deeply involved in some of the earliest efforts to adjust medical insurance reimbursement methods to encourage improved utilization and to support development of lower cost treatment venues.

### *Framework for Consideration of a Certificate of Need*

In order to determine the merits of a CoN application, the Board considers estimates of likely patient populations and the potential adverse impact of inadequate availability of service providers and access by patients to those service providers. The Board also considers the implications of an excess of service providers on investment in localized health care assets and operations. In seeking to strike an optimal balance, the Board takes into account a variety of factors and ultimately and most importantly, the needs of a local population for accessible and reliable medical and other health services.

Therefore, the Board is in the position of considering U.S. Renal's application in terms of what it means for people requiring renal dialysis for a range of renal conditions. The Board is also in a position to consider issues of access and availability in specific locations within the planning areas.

### *Two Key Demographic Developments to Consider*

There have been key demographic developments in HSA 7 over the past decade that deserve the most careful attention and consideration by the Board as it estimates the need for additional renal dialysis services in the region.

Data from the 2010 U.S. Census shows that since the prior census in 2000 there was only a modest increase of just over 31,000 people in HSA 7, or less than 1%. However, within that small overall increase, there has been a significant surge in the portion of the population belonging to demographic groups that exhibit considerably higher risk of end stage renal disease than does the general population.

The prevalence of ESRD across racial, ethnic and age cohorts can be analyzed in any number of ways. However, there are certain widely understood realities.<sup>1</sup>

First, the frequency of ESRD increases substantially for the portion of the population 45 years and older, with the 65-74 age group having the highest overall rates of prevalence. Chart 1 shows the ESRD diagnosed age curve in 2008, with prevalence peaking in the 65-74 age group. Chart 2 illustrates the dramatic increase between 1980 and 2008 in diagnosed ESRD among the various age cohorts. In 1980, prevalence rates were well below 1,000 per million for all age groups. By 2008, a rate of nearly 6,000 per million had been attained by the 65-74 age group.

Second, prevalence rates for African-Americans and Hispanics are considerably higher than for non-Hispanic Caucasians, regardless of age. Chart 3 illustrates the relative diagnosed ESRD prevalence rates over time for the various ethno-racial groupings. While rates for all groups have risen since 1980, that for African-Americans has risen much more steeply. However, as Chart 3 also shows, the rate for Hispanics has risen more steeply than that for the population overall.

Chart 4 shows that in 2008 diagnosed ESRD prevalence in the general African-American population, with a rate of 5,205 per million, was roughly equal to the prevalence of ESRD in the portion of the overall general population that is over the age of 75. In the case of the general Hispanic population, prevalence at a rate of 2,458 per million was nearly half-again higher than that of the general population at 1,699 per million.

Given these higher rates of ESRD for older populations and for African-American and Hispanic populations, two significant demographic changes in HSA 7 strongly indicate a serious upward trend in ESRD and therefore in the need for accessible dialysis services.

*1) The HSA 7 Population Has Aged Significantly*

- While the HSA 7 lower-risk population under the age of 45 was declining by 173,678, the HSA 7 higher-risk population 45 years and over increased by 204,791. Thus the under 45 population has fallen from 64.8% to 59.2% and the 45 and over population rose from 35.2% to 40.8%. This is an aggregate

net population shift from the younger to the older group of 378,469. The bar graphs in Chart 5 show how the relative changes in the under 45 and 45 and over age group populations changed.

The shift in the age balance in Villa Park itself has been similar to that in HSA 7. Although the total population in Villa Park was static at about 22,000, the portion of the population under 45 declined from 68.1% to 61.1% as the population 45 and over rose from 31.9% to 38.9%.

## *2) The HSA 7 African-American and Hispanic Population Has Surged*

- The African-American and Hispanic population in HSA 7 has surged by over a quarter of a million people, more than 8 times the total growth of just over 31,000 people, a 30.1% combined growth rate. The aggregate increase of 262,197 was made up of an increase of 187,944 Hispanics and 74,253 African-Americans, 47% and 20.2% respectively. The bar graphs in Chart 6 illustrate the changes in the African-American and Hispanic populations compared to the aggregation of all other groups.
- Similarly, in Villa Park, the combined African-American and Hispanic population rose from 3,139 or 14.2% of the population to 4,827 or 22%. Within that combined total, the African-American segment of the population rose from 1.7% to 4.3% and the Hispanic share rose from 12.5% to 17.8%.

### *Exercise of the Board's Judgment*

The in-place model utilized by the Board in estimating the need for dialysis services is one that is anchored in an estimation technique that assumes that the need for various services will be based on those experienced by the general population, taking age into consideration. However, in light of the growth of more vulnerable ethno-racial groups as a percentage of the total population, which the planning model does not currently take into account, it is a matter for the Board's expert judgment to adjust for both the compounded impact of major changes in both the age and ethno-racial composition of the relevant populations.

My recommendation to the Board is that it approve the application of U.S. Renal for 13 dialysis stations in Villa Park in anticipation of the near-certain need for additional dialysis service due to the increase in ESRD prevalence due to the significant change in both the age-weighted and ethno-racial population make up of HSA 7 and of Villa Park.

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<sup>1</sup> The data presented in this testimony is based on materials available from the 2010 United States Census and from the United States Renal Data Service 2010 Annual Report Volume 2 "Atlas of End Stage Renal Disease", [http://www.usrds.org/2010/pdf/v2\\_02.pdf](http://www.usrds.org/2010/pdf/v2_02.pdf)

**Philip R. O'Connor, Ph.D.**  
President, PROactive Strategies, Inc.  
1318 W. George Street #3C Chicago, IL 60657  
Phone (312) 980-4860 Mobile (312) 446-3536  
[Phil.OConnor@PROactive-Strategies.net](mailto:Phil.OConnor@PROactive-Strategies.net)

Dr. O'Connor is a recognized expert on the development and implementation of business strategies in network and other regulated industries. He has been a frequent speaker, both nationally and internationally, on utility and insurance issues and has authored numerous articles in professional trade journals. He opened the office of NewEnergy Ventures in Chicago with two employees in 1998 and by 2007 the Great Lakes Region of Constellation NewEnergy had achieved nearly \$1 billion in retail electricity revenues. He was a principal with Coopers & Lybrand Consulting, into which he had merged his own firm, Palmer Bellevue Corporation, in 1994. Dr. O'Connor also served as Illinois' chief utility regulator, chairing the Illinois Commerce Commission, and as Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance and has been appointed to boards and commissions by five consecutive Illinois Governors. From March 2007 to March 2008 he served in the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad as an advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Electricity.

**Employment:**

President, PROactive-Strategies, Inc, (1998-Present)

Vice President, Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. (2002-2008)

Senior VP & Illinois Market Leader, AES NewEnergy, Inc. (1998-2002)

Ministerial Advisor (Electricity), U.S. Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq (2007-8) through Parsons-Brinckerhoff under contract to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Principal/Partner, Coopers & Lybrand Consulting/Palmer Bellevue (1995-1998)

Managing Director, Palmer Bellevue, a Division of Coopers & Lybrand (1994-1995)

President and Chairman, Palmer Bellevue Corporation (1986-1993)

Chairman, Illinois Commerce Commission (1983 - 1985)

• Member, National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (1983-1985)

Director, Illinois Department of Insurance (1979 - 1982)

Assistant to the Director and Deputy Director for Research and Urban Affairs,  
Illinois Department of Insurance (1977 - 1979)

Administrative Assistant to U.S. Representative George Miller (7<sup>th</sup>-CA) (1974-1977)

Assistant to California Senate Majority Leader, George Moscone (1973 - 1974)

Administrative Aide to Illinois Governor Richard B. Ogilvie (1969 - 1973)

### **Public & Political Service, Corporate Boards** (partial list)

- Political Director, Citizens for Governor Thompson (1982)
- Chairman, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Allowance Tracking & Trading Subcommittee of the Acid Rain Advisory Committee (1991-1992)
- General Chairman, Citizens for Governor Edgar (1994)
- Chairman of the Illinois Health Care Reform Task Force (1993-1994)
- Chairman, Illinois Task Force on Human Services Consolidation (1996-1998)
- Member, Illinois State Board of Elections (1998-2004)
- Member, Children & Families Transition Committee to Governor-Elect George H. Ryan (1998)
- Chairman, Interim Board of the Illinois Insurance Exchange (1998)
- Illinois Commerce Commission Millennium Review Committee (2000-2001)
- Member, Bush-Cheney Transition Advisory Committee on Energy (2001)
- Member of the Board, Irish Life of North America (ILoNA Financial) (1992-2002)
- Chairman, Illinois Inter-Departmental Insurance Tax Task Force (2000-2004)
- Loyola University of Chicago Rome Center Alumni Board (1998-2004)
- Member of the Advisory Board, Loyola University Museum of Art (2004-Present)
- Member of the Board, Delphi Financial Group (NYSE:DFG) (2003-Present)
- Member of the Board Reliance Standard Life Insurance (1993-Present)
- Member, Illinois Carbon Capture and Sequestration Commission (2009-Present)
- Member, Board of Haymarket Center of Chicago (2011-present)
- Member, Board of World Engagement Institute (2012-present)

### **Education**

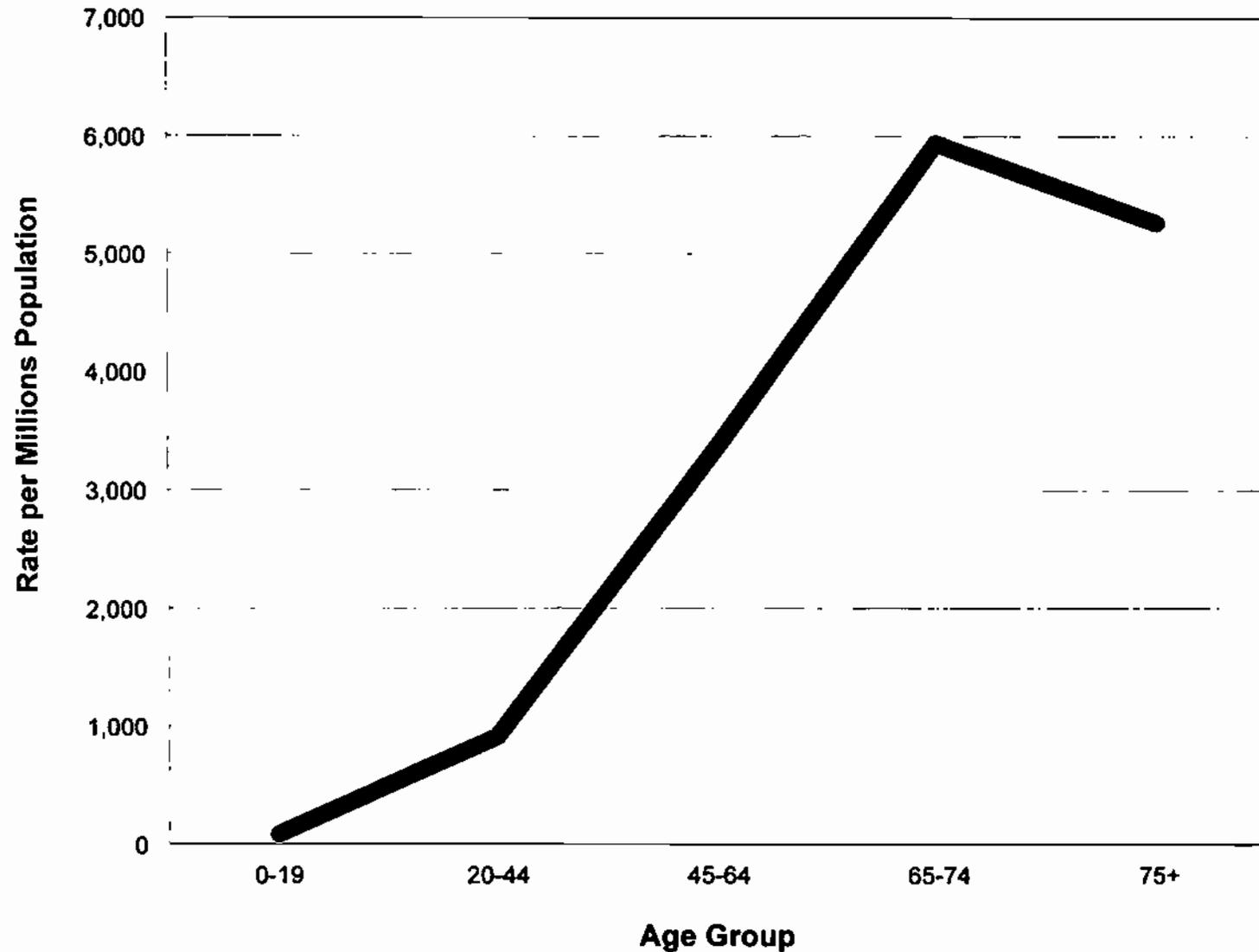
- 1966 - 1968 University of San Francisco
- 1968 - 1969 Loyola University of Chicago, Rome Center for Liberal Arts
- 1969 - 1970 Loyola University of Chicago, A.B. *Magna cum laude*
- 1971 Northwestern University, Graduate School, Political Science M.A. *Co-optation: A Re-definition and the Case of Chicago*
- 1979 Ph.D. Political Science Dissertation: *Metrosim: A Computer Simulation Model of U.S. Urban Systems*

### **Academic**

- 1973 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Advanced Study Institute  
Summer Fellow – Polytechnic of Central London
- 1997 & 1998 Co-Instructor with Professor Alan Gitelson, Loyola University of Chicago  
*Money, Media, Message, Measurement & Motivation: Political Campaigns in the 90s*, an upper division undergraduate course
- 1998 & 1999 Instructor, *The Politics of Deregulation*, Kellogg Graduate School of  
Management, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
- 2005 – 2012 Guide for student tour, *World War II in Rome and Italy*, John Felice Rome Center,  
of Loyola University Chicago

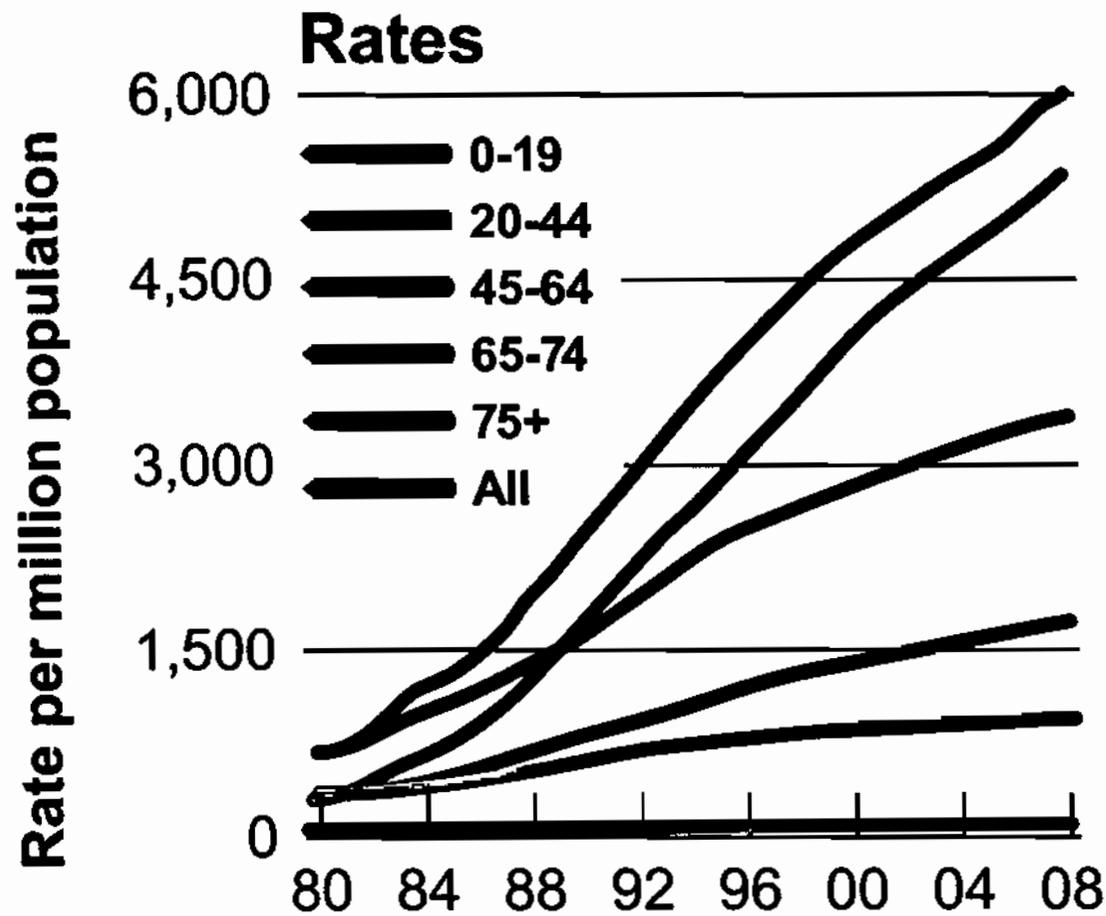
# 2008 ESRD Adjusted Prevalent Rate by Age Group

(Source: U.S. Renal Data Service, 2010 Annual Data Report: Volume 2 Atlas of End Stage Renal Disease, figure 2.12)



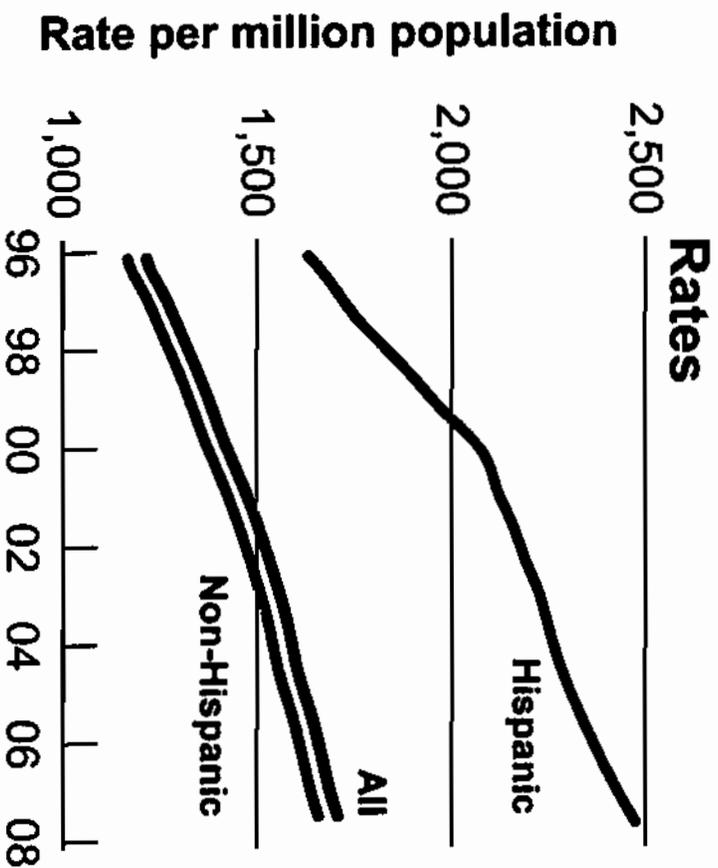
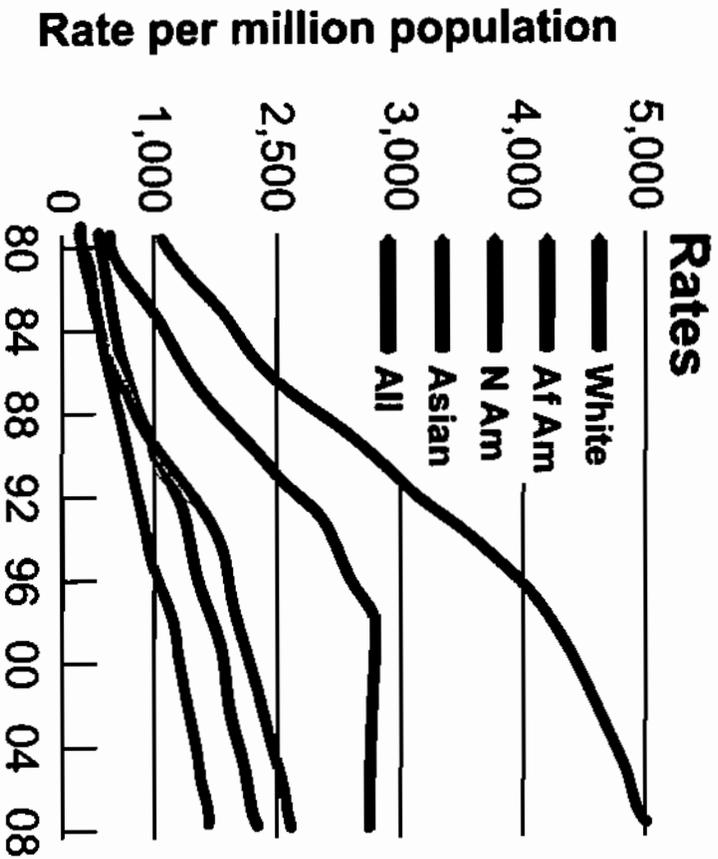
# Growth in ESRD Adjusted Prevalent Rate by Age Group

(Source: U.S. Renal Data Service, 2010 Annual Data Report: Volume 2 Atlas of End Stage Renal Disease, at 258)



# Growth in ESRD Adjusted Prevalent Rate by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity

(Source: U.S. Renal Data Service, 2010 Annual Data Report: Volume 2 Atlas of End Stage Renal Disease, at 258)



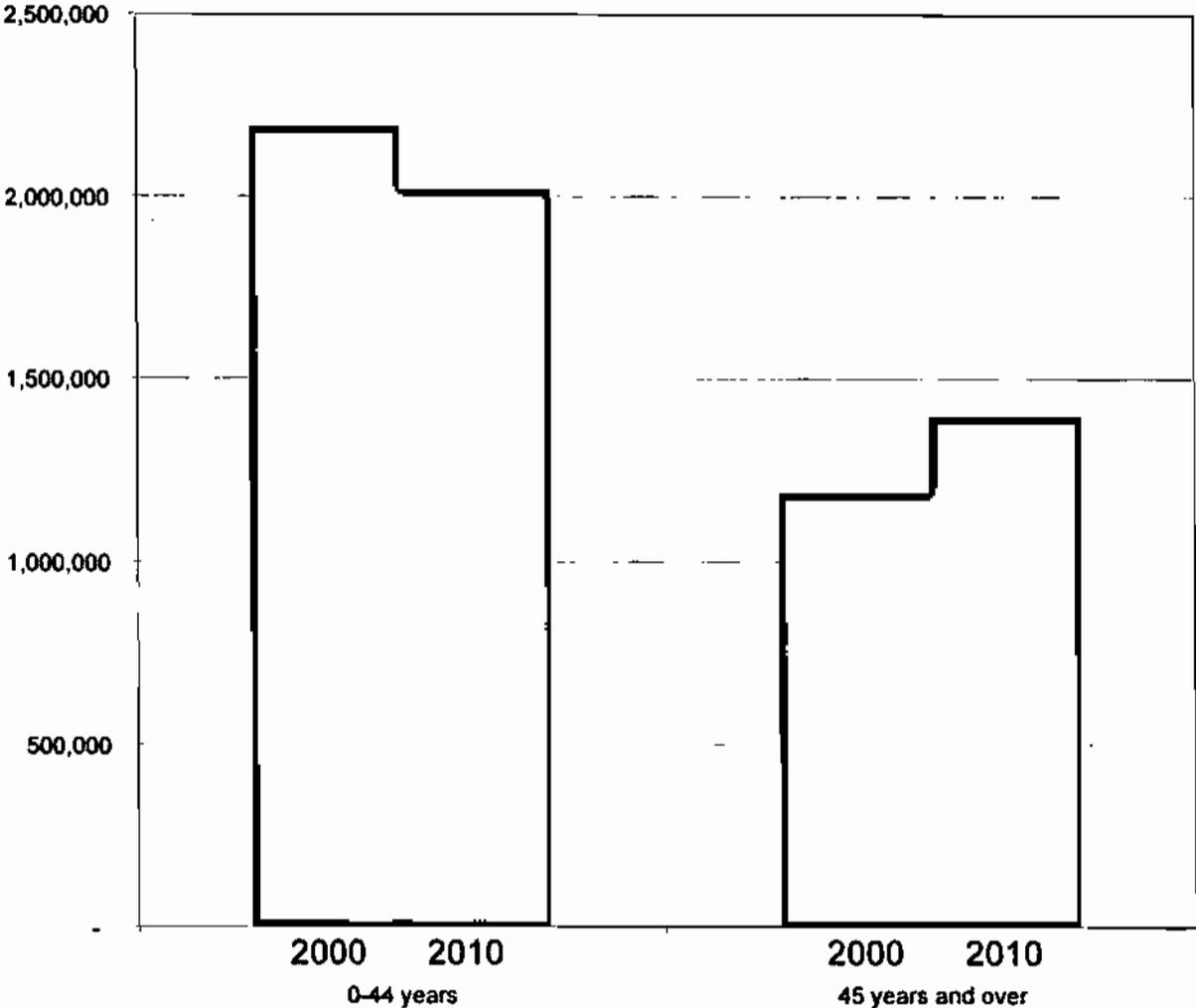
# 2008 ESRD Adjusted Prevalent Rate for Select Age Groups, Race or Ethnicity

(Source: U.S. Renal Data Service, 2010 Annual Data Report: Volume 2 Atlas of End Stage Renal Disease, at 259)

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>OVERALL PREVALENCE OF ESRD</b>                   | <b>1,699 per million population</b> |
| Prevalence for Patients 65-74 years                 | 5,941 per million population        |
| Prevalence for Patients 75 years and over           | 5,266 per million population        |
| Prevalence for African American Population          | 5,205 per million population        |
| Prevalence for Hispanic Population                  | 2,458 per million population        |
| <b>Average High Risk Prevalence (Mixed Average)</b> | <b>4,718 per million population</b> |

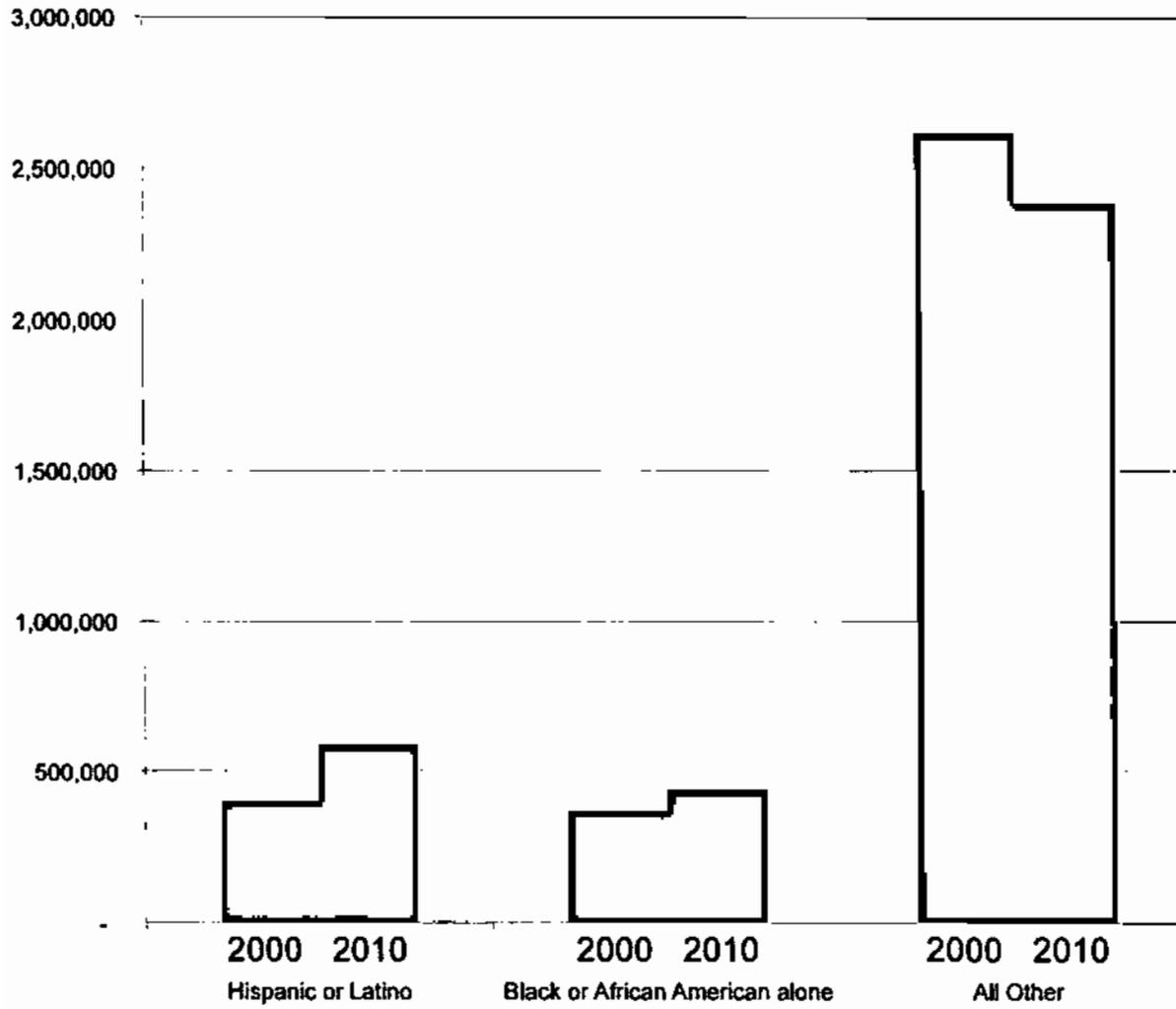
# Health Service Area 7 Age Group Change 2000 to 2010

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau)



# Health Service Area 7 Ethnic Group Change 2000 to 2010

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau)



KIRK FLOWERS  
PUBLIC HEARING TESTIMONY

Good afternoon. My name is Kirk Flowers and though you wouldn't know it by looking at me, a few short months ago I was far from the picture of good health. I spent a couple years on dialysis. But thanks to Dr. Cohan, I am back on the path to wellness and healing.

From the moment that I met Dr. Cohan almost three years ago, I knew that I was in excellent hands. Dr. Cohan never just told me what I wanted to hear. He told me what I needed to hear – even if it was difficult for me - in order to save my life. He is always upfront about what I am up against and he makes sure that I feel comfortable and empowered to take on the challenges that lie ahead of me.

As any dialysis patient knows, questions about your condition, your care and your treatment are constantly on your mind, particularly when you first begin treatment. There was not a moment when I didn't feel like Dr. Cohan wasn't looking out for me. I know that Dr. Cohan has many patients, but the time he took to answer all of my questions and the quality of care he gave me made me feel like I was his only patient. He even gave me his cell phone number.

Dr. Cohan always advocated for me getting a transplant because he felt that it would save my life. I am pleased to report that a few months ago, I was blessed enough to receive one. Dr. Cohan supported me every step of the way. And in many ways, it wasn't just the transplant that saved my life, it was Dr. Cohan.

While I am extremely grateful, it's not lost on me that at any point, the transplant could fail. And if that happens, I would be right back on dialysis. During the two or so years that I was waiting for a donor, I received dialysis at the Villa Park facility, which is very close to my mother-in-law's house. It was a godsend to be able to be so close to my family during my treatment. It's important to me and every other patient out there to have access to care close to home.

That is why I stand before you today urging you to approve this new U.S. Renal dialysis facility in Villa Park led by Dr. Cohan. It is what is in the best interest of patients. Thank you for your time.

Villa Park Public Hearing  
May 4, 2012  
Dina Schmitz

Thank you for the opportunity to publically support U.S. Renal Care's application for a dialysis treatment center in Villa Park. As a dialysis patient, nothing is more important to me than having a real choice when it comes to where I seek treatment. Right now, I don't have a choice, and it concerns me that I am not able to visit a center that is right for me.

Until it closed, I visited the Villa Park facility three times a week for three hours each visit. My experience wasn't always pleasant. There were long wait times, the techs were overwhelmed with patients, and I was frustrated that there wasn't a nearby alternative.

When the Villa Park facility closed and moved to Elmhurst, things didn't change. I am still less than satisfied with my treatment, and I still have no choice but to deal with it. I am not the only one with these concerns. In talking with other patients at the Elmhurst facility, it is clear that they are also looking for an alternative provider in Villa Park.

In addition to wanting a choice in dialysis providers, I also support this project because Dr. Cohan is leading it. Dr. Cohan has been my nephrologist for 10 years, and I truly appreciate how understanding he is. I find that he always works to find a solution that is right for me. He is so attuned to patients needs and that is exactly the type of doctor we need to lead a dialysis center.

As I have already stated, dialysis treatment is extremely time-consuming. As a result, the free time I have left is precious. However, I feel so strongly about a new facility in Villa Park that I didn't hesitate to take the time to be here and show my support for the project. I urge you to approve the U.S. Renal Care application before you and give dialysis patients like me the much-needed choice in where we dialyze.

Thank you.

Good Afternoon.

My name is Bill Ellis. I am here today on behalf of the design and engineering teams that serve US Renal Care for the development of their dialysis facilities.

Personally speaking, I have been involved with dialysis facility design and development since 1987. For these 25 years, I have worked on hundreds of dialysis projects, including everything from new clinics to remodels and renovations and expansions and relocations. We have worked for, and still work for, multiple dialysis services providers, small nephrologist groups, individual physicians and hospitals. I have been involved with placing facilities in free-standing buildings, hospitals, strip shopping centers, old restaurants, warehouses, medical office buildings, high-rise buildings, nursing care facilities, and even a couple of basements.

In our role with US Renal Care we also provide initial site selection analysis and feasibility studies. Our experience gives us an understanding of the physical environment that is essential for this unique patient care set of circumstances. If a particular location will not work, we have never hesitated to say so, much to the chagrin of many of our clients. So far in 2012 alone, we have made strong recommendations against using multiple sites around the country. Each location must satisfy patient and staff needs while complying with all local and state building codes, as well as with CMS rules and regulations for the physical building environment. The rules are many and can be complicated and very interwoven. Not all locations can work. Not all locations make sense.

That said, we do believe that the Villa Park location in question will work. This location is what I have often called, "the classic clinic location". By that term, I refer to a place that offers plenty of parking with plenty of options to maneuver into and away from the unit during patient shift changes so as to maximize patient convenience. After all, having to navigate this process three times each and every week - if we can make it easy, we probably should. The "classic location" will have very few interior building columns that force constricted views of patients by caring staff. The "classic location" will provide ample options for entrances and exits, not only for an emergency, but simply to ease the daily care of patients and the potential strain on staff. The "classic location" will allow for easy emergency vehicle access at all times while simultaneously not interfering with either patient shift change or extended supplies deliveries. Multiple exits and options are essential, and the Villa Park location offers these amenities and opportunities.

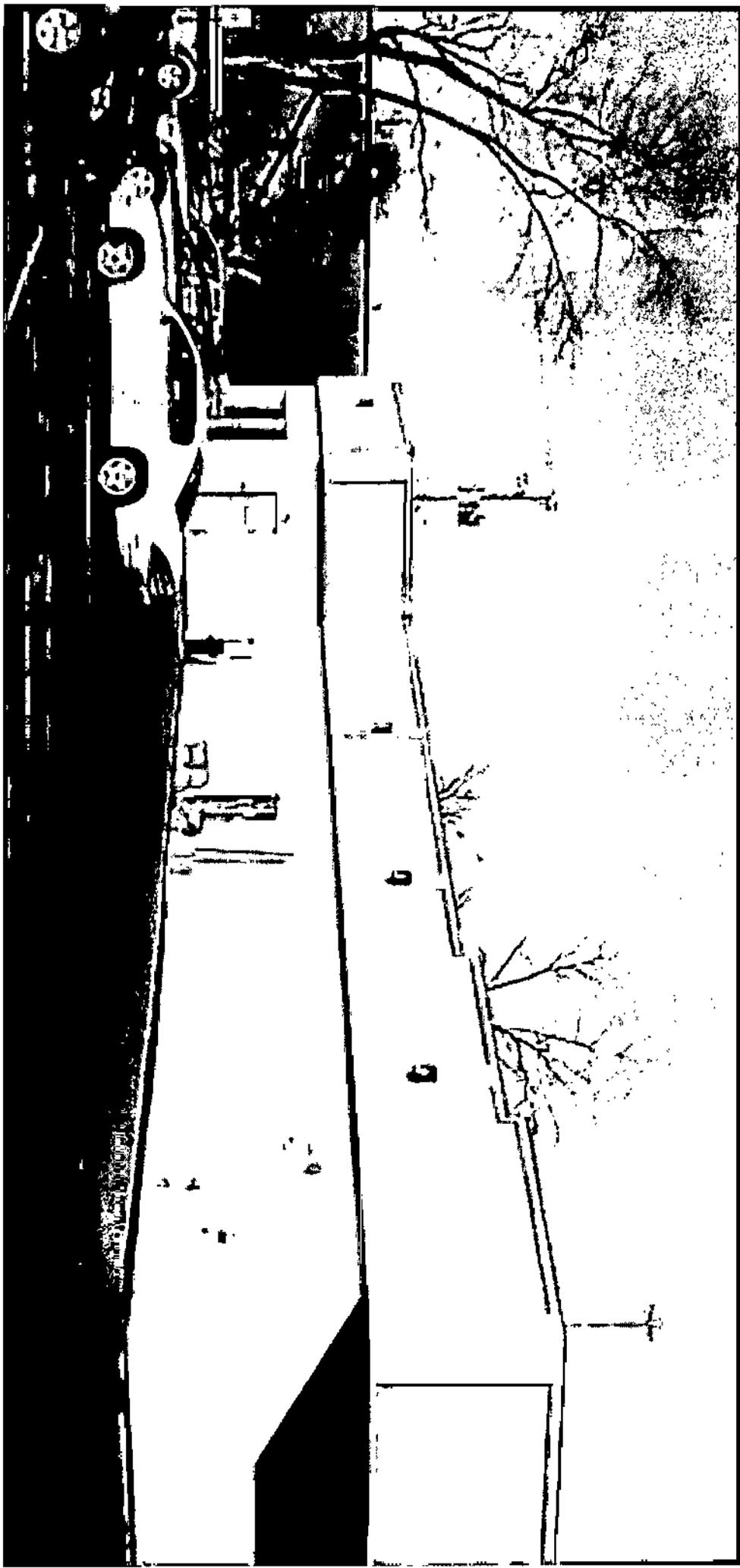
Locations involving older buildings can work. With a little tender care and reinvestment in a building, an older site can be very nicely refreshed. In our many other projects with US Renal Care, they have always committed to provide a new and fresh and fully compliant facility. After visiting this site as part of our feasibility work, we are of the opinion that any remedial work for this site is fairly typical and usual for what we experience in other locations across the country.

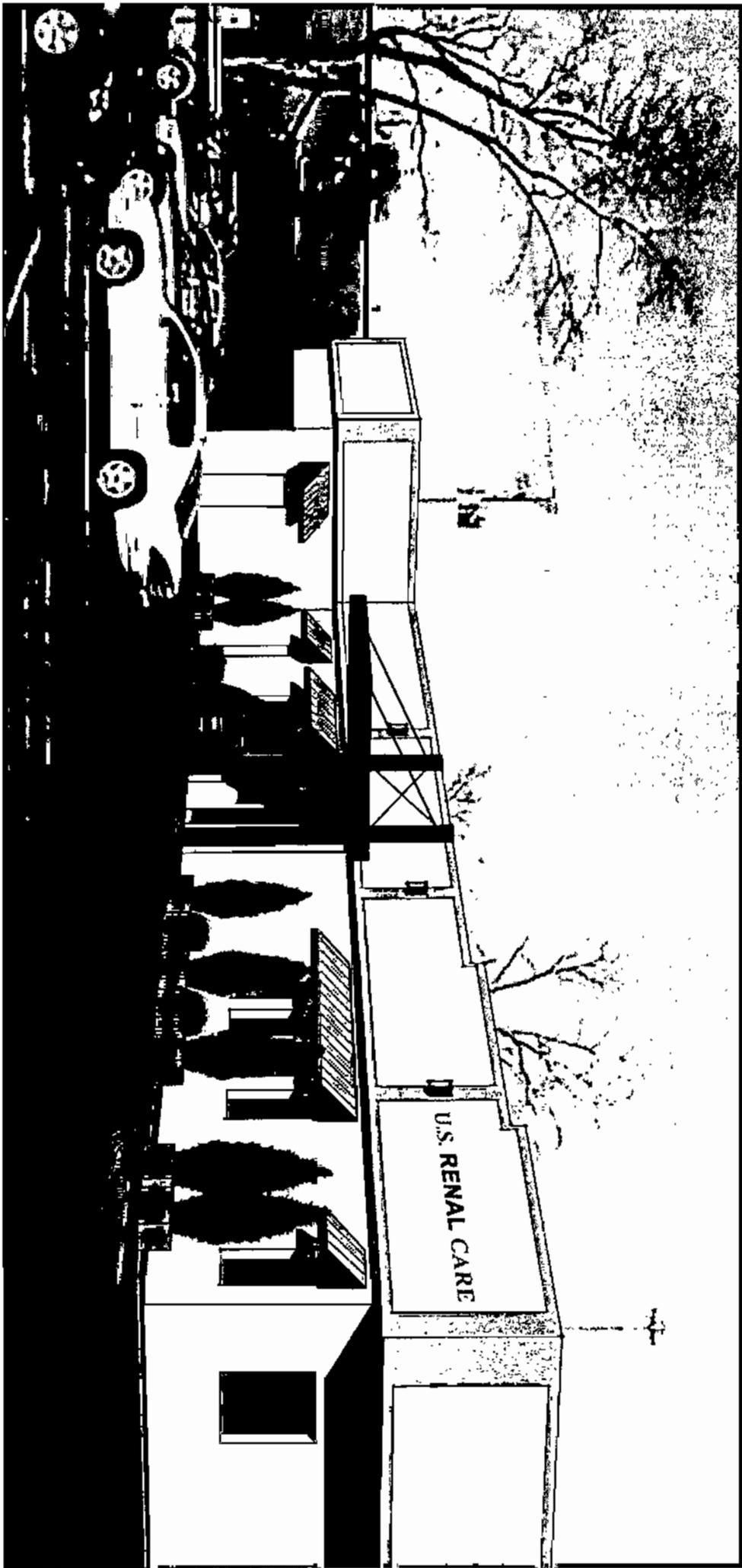
First, the entire contents of the targeted lease space will be removed and the space returned to clean shell building condition. This gives us a clean slate, allowing us to create a design and plan that will be fully compliant with exit requirements, rated wall separations, smoke compartments, and all such items pertaining to building code and CMS guidelines. We will be fully separated from any other tenants or common areas. As an added amenity for this end cap location, US Renal

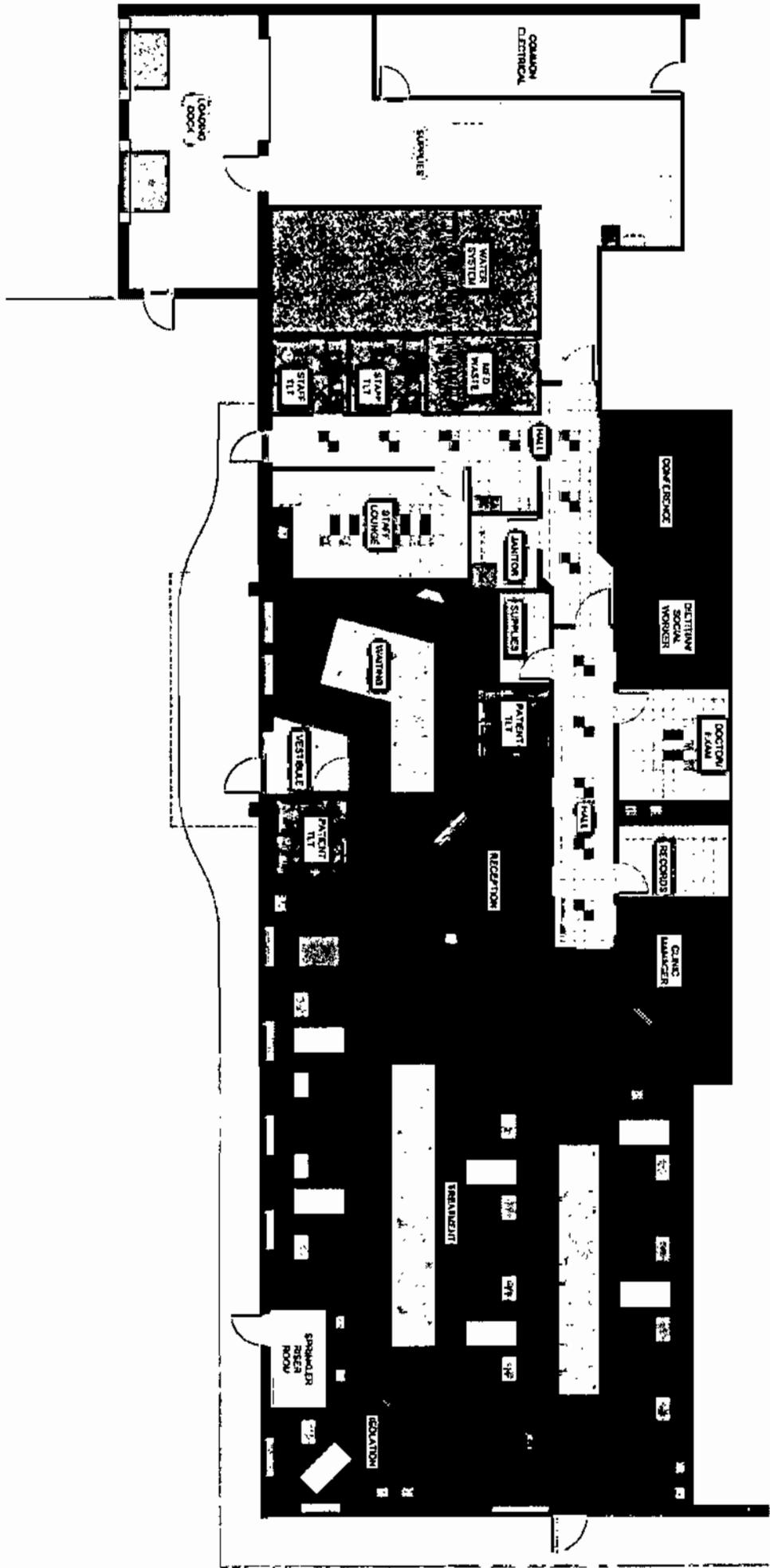
Care has committed to allow us to provide new window openings and canopy / awning features that will enhance patient access and quality of care, of which our drawing shows a representative concept. In observations of the "empty box" during our walk-through, we did not observe evidence in the concrete subfloor or exterior walls that would signal movement, often pushing us to limit further consideration. What we observed was not much different than what we have seen and used in so many other locations.

Although there are some surface cracks in portions of the parking areas, the sub-base appears to be stable and in decent shape. Some maintenance and overall management care is warranted, but nothing that we would not normally expect with an older building and site. Our plans would include providing the necessary repairs and new surface coatings of the parking areas. Some re-striping of the parking areas is needed so as to produce a compliant handicap parking and accessible route, but we believe this is very manageable.

Based upon all our experiences with US Renal Care, they are committed to invest the construction funds and extend all efforts necessary to use this very "classic" location to create an exceptional dialysis facility for the care of this community's patients and families. In all our years of experience in dialysis development and design, this location will work and can support a fully compliant facility.







PROPOSED  
ACCESSIBLE ROUTE  
TO STREET

DIRECT ACCESS TO  
TREATMENT ROOM  
FOR AMBULANCE  
DROP OFF

PROPOSED  
EXTERIOR  
WINDOWS AND  
AWNINGS

PROPOSED  
PLANTER  
BOXES TO  
SEPARATE  
PATIENT  
WALKWAY  
FROM PARKING

PATIENT  
PARKING  
AREA

ACCESSIBLE  
PARKING NEAR  
ENTRY

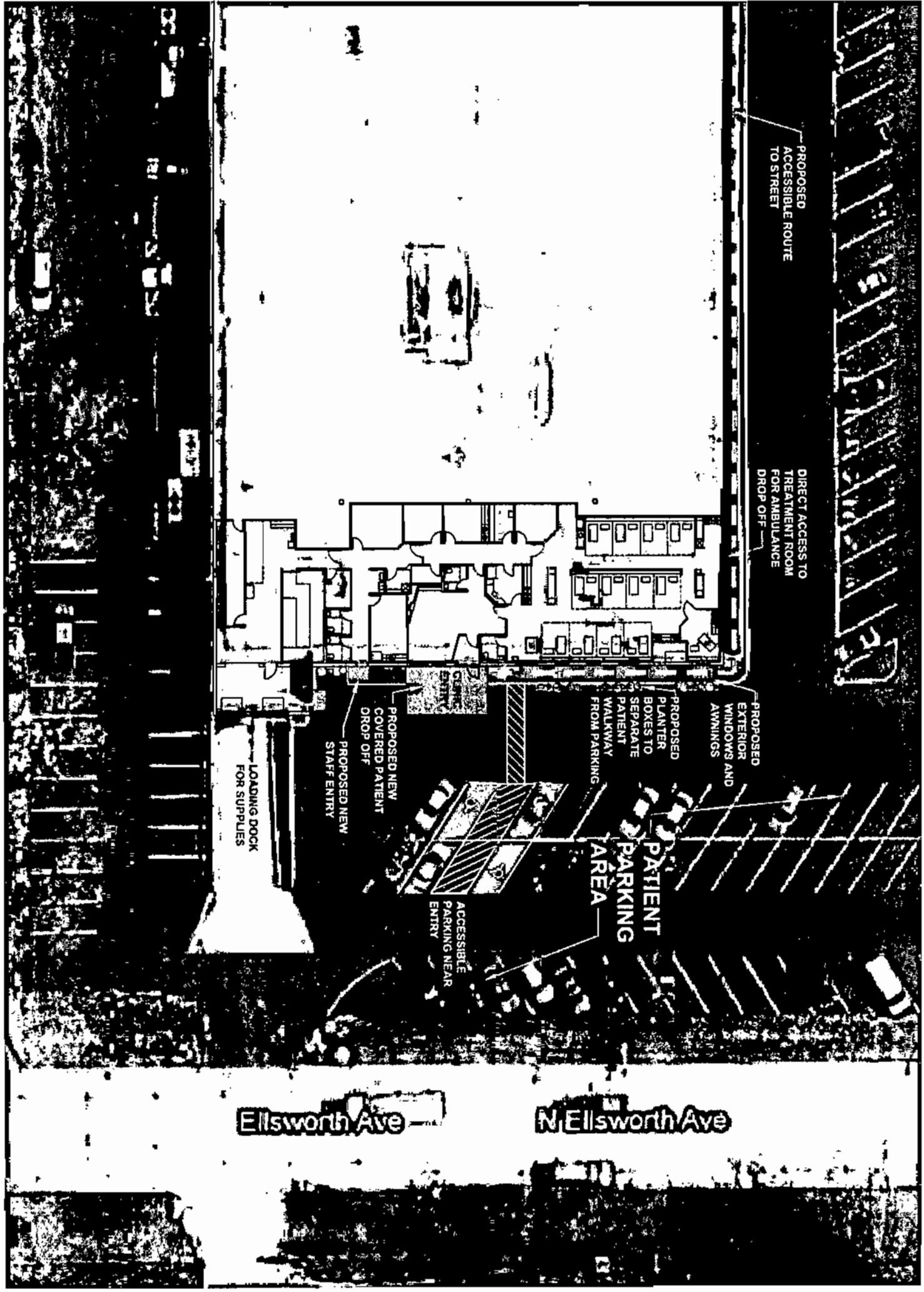
PROPOSED NEW  
COVERED PATIENT  
DROP OFF

PROPOSED NEW  
STAFF ENTRY

LOADING DOCK  
FOR SUPPLIES

Ellsworth Ave

N Ellsworth Ave



W North Ave



PROPOSED ACCESSIBLE ROUTE TO STREET

INDIRECT ACCESS TO TREATMENT ROOM FOR AMBULANCE DROP OFF

PROPOSED EXTERIOR WINDOWS AND PAINTINGS  
PROPOSED NEW STAFF ENTRY

PROPOSED PLANTER BOXES TO SEPARATE PATIENT WALKWAY FROM PARKING

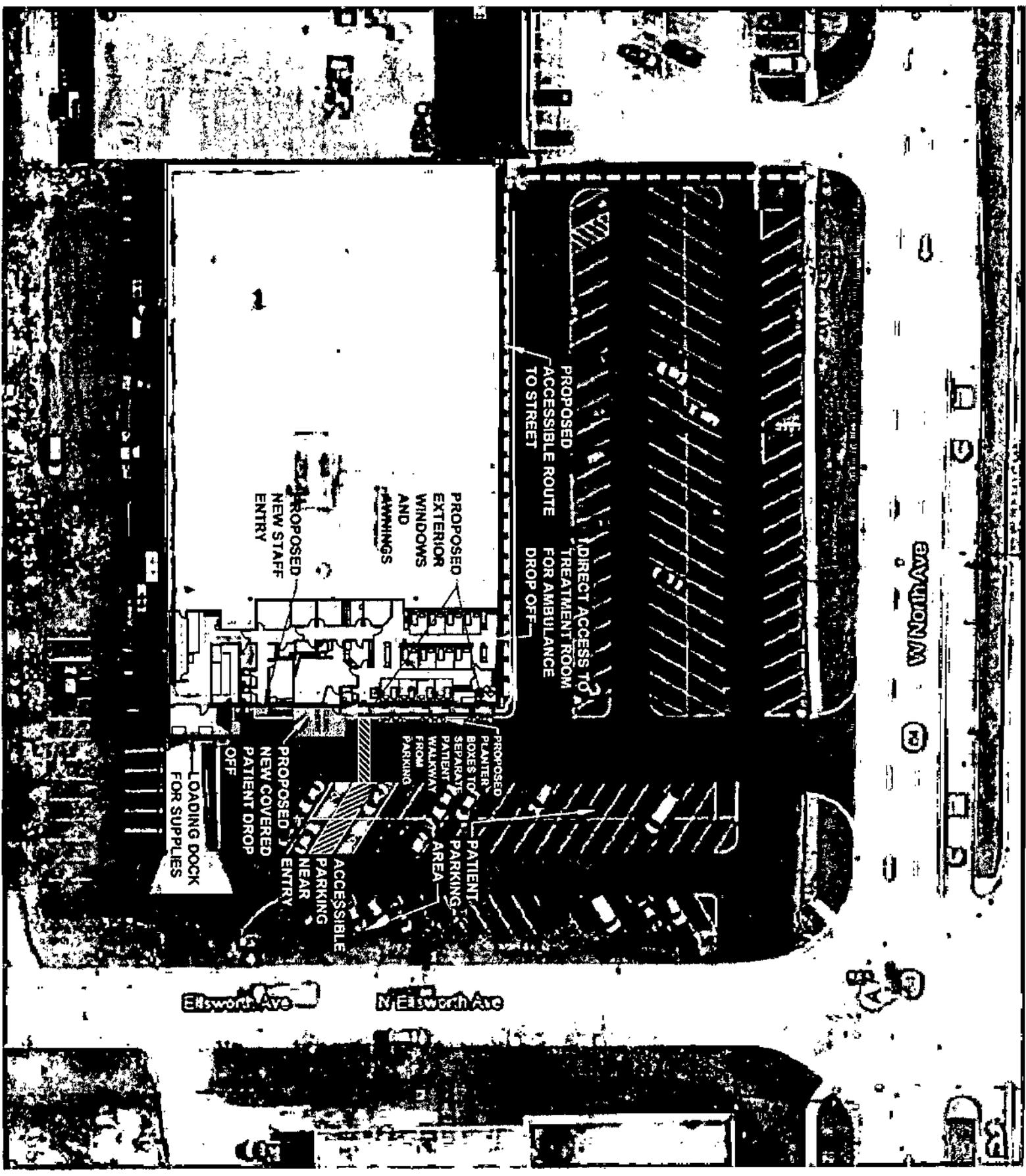
PATIENT PARKING AREA

PROPOSED NEW COVERED PATIENT DROP OFF ENTRY  
ACCESSIBLE PARKING NEAR ENTRY

LOADING DOCK FOR SUPPLIES

Elsworth Ave

N Elsworth Ave



**Phil Coleman**  
**May 4, 2012**  
**Villa Park Public Hearing**

Thank you for the opportunity to explain why I support Dr. Cohan and his work with U.S. Renal Care to open a new dialysis facility in Villa Park. I am on dialysis and have been seeing Dr. Cohan for four years. I believe this is the right time and the right doctor to be opening a new facility in Villa Park. It will help bring quality care closer to me and many others.

I used to go to the facility in Villa Park before it closed. It was only four blocks from my house, and I could drive myself there and come home when it was over. The new facility I have to go to is 15 minutes further each way and getting there is a real inconvenience. It really has made a less than ideal situation far worse than it needs to be.

The parking issue is horrible. If I do drive on my own, it usually means a far walk in a very congested parking lot because the very few handicapped spaces are already taken. When I finally make it to the building, I still have to get to the fourth floor and walk down a very long hallway. Although this might not seem like a big deal to healthy people, for dialysis patients, it is so exhausting. And after three and a half hours of treatment, I have to go back out the same long hallway, down four floors and across the parking lot. We have been lucky to have a mild winter and springtime, but what happens when the snow and ice returns?

When I heard about the potential for a new facility in Villa Park, I became hopeful about what it meant for me. When I found out that Dr. Cohan was behind it, words can't express how happy I was. I feel very fortunate to have Dr. Cohan as my doctor. He has helped me through every step of my dialysis treatment, and I cannot think of a better doctor to have. Knowing that he is working to open a new dialysis facility makes all the difference to me and gives me hope that I will be able to go back to getting the care I need at a convenient facility close to my home.

Again, thank you for the chance to speak to you this afternoon. I can't reiterate enough how important this project is to me and other patients in the area. I truly hope you approve it. Thank you for your time.

## Villa Park Public Hearing Testimony

Good afternoon. My name is Bill Mandell. I am here today for one important reason—I really need a dialysis facility in Villa Park. Since the facility that was there recently closed and relocated to Elmhurst, it has been nothing but a mess for me.

I live in Wood Dale, and the Villa Park dialysis center was less than five miles from my house. I could drive to the facility myself, park right near the door, walk right into the treatment area, and drive myself home after dialysis. But the new location I visit now is further away and the facility itself is much more difficult to access. As a result, I am no longer able to drive myself to treatment. This has really robbed me of my independence and chipped away at my quality of life. In addition, it's impacting my family and friends that must take time from their busy day and help me get to and from dialysis.

First of all, this new facility is too far. When you are a dialysis patient, even a few extra minutes each way can be exhausting. After 4.5 hours of treatment, I would like to be able to drive home in just a few minutes, but the extra distance is just too much. Second, the parking at the new Elmhurst facility is horrible and there are very few handicapped spots. It is too far for me to walk back and forth to the regular parking spots, so I have to be dropped off and picked by someone—usually my sister.

On the one occasion I did drive myself, I had an awful experience. I left my car with the valet, only to find out that my car was misplaced and eventually located on the other side of the hospital. That is the last thing I felt like dealing with after spending 4.5 hours on dialysis.

The bottom line is that a Villa Park facility is conveniently located close to my house and is easy for me to get to. That is why I fully support U.S. Renal's plans to open up a dialysis center in that exact location. I truly hope that you do too. And when you make that decision, please keep in mind that a Villa Park dialysis center would make all the difference to me and other patients in the area. Thank you for your time.

Bill Mandell

## Testimony

Thomas Mason

Good afternoon and thank you for allowing me to speak to you today about why my wife and I need a better option for her dialysis treatment.

My wife, Therese, has been on dialysis for 4 years. The treatments are very time-consuming and hard on her, but they are necessary to keep her healthy. So, three times a week, I drive her to Elmhurst, get her to the front door, up 4 floors, down a long corridor to the treatment area, and then return to pick her up several hours later.

We live in Addison, and she used to dialyze in Villa Park. The new facility in Elmhurst is five miles farther than where we used to go and adds more time to an already time-consuming process. That means less time with loved ones not to mention more money spent on gas which continues to be very expensive. As you can imagine, the time we have away from dialysis is important to us. The added travel time also cuts into our precious free time.

I wish I could wait for her at the dialysis center, but unfortunately the waiting room is extremely small, and the patients are already on top of each other. I do not want to take the seats away from people who really need them. From time to time, I would like to be able to stay to give my wife moral support, like I used to at the Villa Park facility, but it is just not practical here at the new one.

My wife and I are pulling for Dr. Cohan to make this Villa Park facility happen. I know a lot of other patients and their families are too. Thank you for the chance to express my support for U.S. Renal Care's application for a Villa Park dialysis center. I strongly urge you to consider and approve the request. Thank you.