

# *Committee to Protect the Residents of the Jacksonville Developmental Center*

12-074

P.O. Box 340  
Jacksonville, IL 62651

For more information:  
Lonnie Johns  
217-473-4485

## **CHAOS AT JDC**

Governor Pat Quinn is requiring the Jacksonville Developmental Center (JDC) to close by October 31, 2012.

On October 30, the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board is expected to vote on the request of the Illinois Department of Human Services to close JDC. The Board is accepting written public comments on the proposed closure until October 10, and will accept oral testimony at its meeting at the Bolingbrook Golf Club in Bolingbrook on October 30.

"JDC is in near chaos," states Lonnie Johns, Chairman of the Committee to Protect the Residents of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

"Over 100 staff members have left and more are leaving this month. No replacements are being hired, and contract nurses are being used to replace the skilled Registered Nurses that have left JDC," says Johns.

"Since no one is being hired, current staff members are being instantly promoted in an attempt to keep JDC in operation. A person who is a housekeeper one day may be a bookkeeper the next day. Contract nurses don't begin to have the knowledge, experience and very specialized skills needed at JDC," states Johns.

"Our Committee was created to deal with this crisis, to bring it to the public's attention, and to demand changes and solutions," according to Johns.

"Over 100 residents are still at JDC. They deserve the very best the State of Illinois has to offer. As of today, they are not getting the 'person-centered' care promised by the Governor. Instead they are subject to the constant interventions of the \$150,000 a month private firm hired by the Governor whose only purpose is to convince the residents of how bad JDC is and how wonderful a community placement would be." Johns concluded.