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To the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board Members:

The Jacksonville Area Chamber of Commerce Board asks you to please consider postponing the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center (JDC). This facility is a mainstay of this area and exemplary in the model care that it provides to the residents.

We ask that you would consider the following key points about JDC:

- Maintains a solid certification record
- Remains in good standing with the federal government
- Had \$2 million in Life Safety Code construction performed last summer
- Has a Health Care Center with a setup similar to a doctor's office which trains residents to go to a doctor's appointment in preparation for life in our community
- Provides a Short Term Assistance Program which works with statewide crisis teams and admits people who have psychological or behavioral needs
- Coordinates work programs within the facility and partners with two agencies in the Jacksonville community, once again in preparation for life outside of JDC

We would like to propose the use of JDC as a centrally located facility that can care for individuals that have not been able to transition to community settings. As the developmental centers close throughout the state, JDC can ensure the continued physical and emotional care in a proven quality program.

Thank you for considering our request, and we ask that you analyze the outstanding programs that our center provides. Please vote against the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

Sincerely,

Sara Gresham
Board Chairman

Ginny Fanning
Chamber President

