



mosaic  
graphics

1908 Century Dr., Eureka, IL 61530  
Phone (309) 467-6113

RECEIVED

OCT 09 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 5, 2012,

Dear Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Board:

12-074

I am the parent of a young man with Down syndrome and believe it is imperative that state institutions be closed in Illinois. I strongly support the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

I'm the former president of the Parc Board in Peoria and I know that many individuals have successfully transitioned from institutions to community living. Community living offers people with disabilities a safer way of living with quality, independence and equality.

Illinois has a "Blueprint" to re-balance the disability system. It was developed in 2008 and updated in 2012 as a seven year guide to move to an integrated community system. It is time to implement the "Blueprint for System Redesign in Illinois."

Everyone can live in the community with the proper supports.

It is imperative that the individuals at Jacksonville be properly supported for a successful transition to community living. We already know how to do this. What we need now is the political will to do the right thing and move this antiquated institutional system into a community system that supports everyone based upon their individual needs.

Sincerely,

Teri Ehrenhardt  
1908 Century Dr.  
Eureka, IL 61530

Governor Pat Quinn

Springfield, Illinois

12-074

Governor Quinn,

I am writing this in support of the state's plan to close State Operated Developmental Centers. As a former state employee who worked in the Department of Human Services and in the State Operated Developmental Centers for 28 years. I held many positions including Assistant Deputy Director of State Operated Developmental Centers. I completely agree with the closure plan. This is a plan that we had developed in the early 1990's and were in the process of implementing prior to the Blagojevich election. We closed Lincoln Developmental Center and Singer Developmental Center leaving 9 centers open with the goal to have only four remaining centers when all was done.

It is time that we allow the people who receive services to live in the least restrictive environment with choices as to their care. This is attainable and is in the best interest of individuals served and their families. However the State of Illinois must follow through with the funding to allow the community agencies to provide the care that the individual requires. This can be done in the community as long as the cost of care is considered and not just a flat rate for everyone. The people who are provided services are all individuals and each has a specific need that must to be taken into consideration.

Please note that I am in agreement with the continued efforts to close the State Operated Developmental Centers and providing services to those in need in community settings.

Thank You

Dianne Kariotis

TO: GOVERNOR  
Quinn

Re: State of Closures

10/9/12

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October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

PAV/Dane  
Dane  
Dane

Melody  
Michael  
Ray

~~OUT~~ Luis  
Brad

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Don A. Humm*

*met Julie W*

*Don B*

*DAVID*

*Barry*

*Frank I*

*Frank I*

*Frank S.*

*Julie R.*

*Vicki*

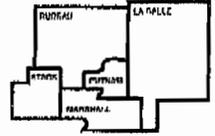


**IVCIL**

*Striving to enlighten the path  
and enrich the journey  
for persons with disabilities...*

**ILLINOIS VALLEY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING**

18 Gunia Drive, LaSalle, Illinois 61301



October 9, 2012

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board  
2nd Floor  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing as an employee of a Center for Independent Living in Illinois, to advocate and support the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

The Centers for Independent Living work hard to reintegrate persons with disabilities back into the community, which is the more economical way for them to live. Living in the community also provides these individuals with the ability to live an independent life with respect and quality of life.

Please continue moving toward closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

Sincerely,

Marla Michalak  
IVCIL Youth Advocate

Phone: 815/224-3126 Voice • 815/224-8271 TTY  
Toll Free 800/822-3246 Voice & TTY • Fax: 815/224-3576  
web address: [www.ivcil.com](http://www.ivcil.com) • email: [ivcil@ivcil.com](mailto:ivcil@ivcil.com)



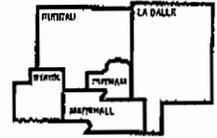
what matters.™



Striving to enlighten the path  
and enrich the journey  
for persons with disabilities...

# ILLINOIS VALLEY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

18 Gunia Drive, LaSalle, Illinois 61301



## FAX

To: Illinois HFS

Date: 10/9/12

Attn: \_\_\_\_\_

From: Marla Mikaluk

Fax #: 217-705-4111

No. of Pages: 2

Re: Jacksonville Day Center

Urgent     For Review     Please Comment     Please Reply     For Your Information

Comments: EMPOWERMENT  
\_\_\_\_\_  
AND EMPLOYMENT  
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Phone: 815/224-3126 Voice • 815/224-8271 TTY  
Toll Free 800/822-3246 Voice & TTY • Fax: 815/224-3576  
web address: www.ivcil.com • email: ivcil@ivcil.com



Rosalie Der  
748 Whalom Ln.  
Schaumburg, IL 60173

October 9, 2012

Dale Galassie  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Chairman Galassie:

Thank you for your work on behalf of the citizens of the State of Illinois. I heard that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board will take up the issue of closing the Jacksonville Developmental Center because you have received letters from Jacksonville stakeholders. I would like to state my support for the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and Governor Quinn's plan to rebalance the system that supports people with disabilities.

In my experience in supporting children and adults with disabilities in Illinois and overseas, I have found that individuals with disabilities are best supported with community based services. My colleagues who have spent time in the Jacksonville Developmental Center as recently as last month report uncomfortable room temperatures, many insects, poor living conditions, and lack of supporting individuals to access the community. I do believe the staff at Jacksonville Developmental sincerely care about the welfare of the individuals who reside there, but individuals with disabilities would do better in smaller community integrated settings. I also believe that large State developmental centers do not use State money in the best way. Twice as much money is spent to support an individual in a State developmental center than is spent to support an individual in a community integrated living arrangement.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please feel free to write to me at the above address or e-mail me at [rosieder@yahoo.com](mailto:rosieder@yahoo.com) if you have a response.

Sincerely,



Rosalie Der

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Arthur Voss

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RON MCQUINN", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Leslie Bludorn

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Samuel Romanah

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jenny Adkins

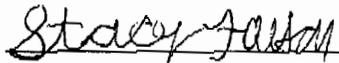
October 9, 2012

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

 \_\_\_\_\_

October 9, 2012

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Potter Downs

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Manoj J. Almi

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Karla Owens

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Denise Dearborn

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Tom Dedy

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Tim Kennedy

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Kathie Broult

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Pull

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Golda Smallwood

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jim McCorona

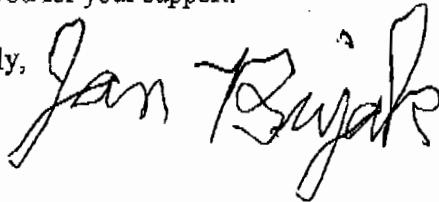
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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan Bujak". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,". Below the signature is a horizontal line.

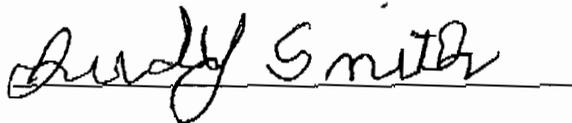
October 9, 2012

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rudy Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Galt", is written over a horizontal line.

October 9, 2012

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Barbara Eford

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Derry Viced

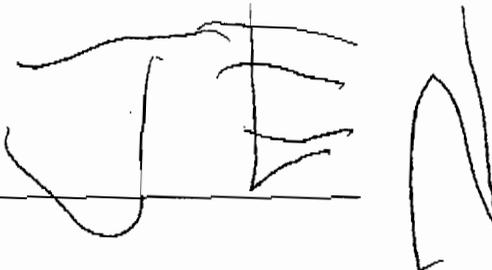
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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'JEN' in a stylized, cursive font. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Debra A. Kamp

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

PERCY

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lee', is written above a horizontal line.

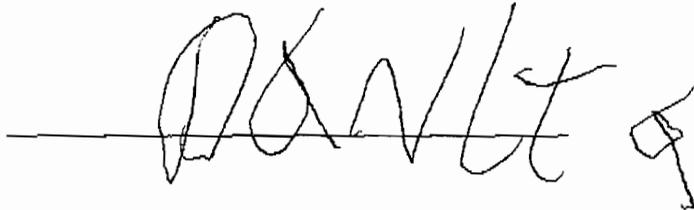
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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Velt", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and includes a small mark at the end.

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
DANIEL P. WELLS

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Timothy Monahan

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

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Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Don De Pierre

October 9, 2012

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board:

I am writing to ask you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center and the Governor's plan to rebalance the system. As an individual with a disability, I support moving my peers from State Operated Developmental Centers into smaller community integrated settings. I feel my peers would receive better support through community based services.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

*Damon*

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October 9, 2012

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Please Do Not Close JDC

To Whom It May Concern:

My Name is Sarah Schuessler and my sister, Nicole, is a resident at JDC. Nicole was born with mental and physical disabilities. She is deaf, has a cleft lip, and has lived a challenging life including open heart surgery days after she was born. She was so tiny and the doctors didn't know if she would live or not. Nicole ate through a feeding tube in her stomach for the first 8 years of her life. She is 34 now but has the mind of a child and becomes obsessed and fixated with certain things that are special to her. She has developed an unhealthy love for stuffed animals that motivates her to constantly wander off (escape) and walk into the homes and vehicles of complete strangers to inspect for any toys that they may have.

My family and I cared for Nicole at home for many years until my brother and I became teenagers and began to prepare for college. Nicole's behavior only intensified over the years. It became a full-time job for my family to maintain her care and there were 4 of us. It soon became obvious that we could no longer maintain the level of care that she needed. One Christmas Eve she managed to slip out of the house after everyone was asleep (despite the alarms that my parents had installed on the doors and windows). She was only wearing a nightgown and socks and there was snow on the ground. She made her way to a neighbor's house, broke-in, and began to un-wrap their presents under the tree! This is one of dozens of similar stories that resulted in a frantic search and often ended with Nicole being brought home in a police car along with a damage report from her escorting officer.

Searching for a suitable living situation for Nicole was a challenge. Our first attempt at community living was not with JDC and turned out to be a disaster. She quickly figured out the escape procedure and wasted no time in paying her new neighbors (and any potential stuffed animals they may be hiding) a visit. She frightened the home owner so badly that he told the police he almost got his gun thinking it was a burglar. My parents were nervous and scared.

This is how we found JDC and they have been an absolute blessing for Nicole and our family. They provide her with quality care and keep her safe and are located close to our family. We travel 2 hours to see her as much as we can. It is not always easy to find time to make the trip and I am tormented with guilt for not being able to see her more often but I always think

about her and do the best that I can. Moving Nicole to another state facility farther away would be devastating for her and our family. My sister is a very special person with special needs and she loves her family very much.

I don't expect life to be fair. I can accept the changes and challenges that come along. I have some ability to affect outcomes of my decisions and can be responsible for and take care of myself. My sister Nicole is different. This doesn't seem fair.

I have lived in Illinois my entire life. I am the proud daughter of a Vietnam veteran, work and pay my taxes, and consider myself to be a good citizen. I have always had faith and taken comfort in knowing that our society and government would provide the basic needs for people like my sister. Times are tough in our country and state admittedly but it seems to me that a road could remain un-repaired for a while or that savings could be found somewhere in the budget so that Illinois can continue to provide for the basic needs of the disabled.

Where will you send my sister?

Sincerely,



Sarah J. Schuessler

REMARKS:

Urgent  For your review  Reply ASAP  Please comment

Phone 217.328.3095  
 Fax Phone 217.328.0201

From: Barbara M. Pritchard

Phone 785 4111  
 Fax Phone 785 4111  
 CC:

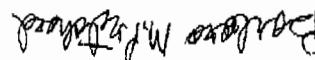
To: Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board

Date 10.9.12  
 Number of pages including cover sheet 2

Barbara M. Pritchard  
 1907 Autumn Ridge Dr.  
 Urbana, IL 61802  
 Phone: 217.328.3095  
 Fax: 217.328.0201  
 Email: bmpritchard@comcast.net

**FAX**

Barbara M. Pritchard



Sincerely,

I have met and worked with many of the residents of JDC. They have told me of their wish to be in the community and I believe this is something that Illinois must do. We need to change how we serve people with developmental disabilities to give them a chance to lead productive lives. Improved services would help individuals and our State.

Studies have shown that it costs no more in the aggregate for individuals to live in the community with needed supports. By doing this, individuals with developmental disabilities live much happier and more productive lives. Like any other individuals, people with significant disabilities can give back to their community if given the appropriate chances to do so.

13 states plus the District of Columbia have closed all of their state-run institutions, promoting community living for individuals with developmental disabilities. I believe it is imperative that Illinois move in the same direction to allow individuals moving out of JDC to live the lives they choose with supports designed specifically for them.

I am writing as an individual with a disability and the co-founder of the former Campaign for Real Choice in Illinois and a current member of the Community for All Coalition. These groups have been working for several years to help promote community living which is developed with individualized supports for people with developmental disabilities.

Re: Closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
525 W. Jefferson Street  
Springfield, IL 62761

October 8, 2012

Barbara M. Pritchard  
1907 Autumn Ridge  
Urbana, Illinois 61802  
Home phone: 217.328.3095  
Email: bmpritchard@comcast.net