

Independence Is Freedom

LAKE COUNTY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

October 10, 2012

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OCT 12 2012

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Attention Board Members:

On behalf of the Lake County Center for Independent Living and the people we serve, I write this letter to emphatically support the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center. People with developmental disabilities have the right to live in the community, just like you and I. Imprisonment in institutions such as this one, is a violation of their civil rights and should be stopped immediately.

For years it has been common practice to tuck away these individuals, where they are then forgotten. Whether it is out of shame, lack of awareness, or ill preparedness, it is unacceptable. There are numerous community supports in place that assists people to live in the community, independently. In truth, the state of Illinois should invest more dollars to assist people with any disability. It is certainly less expensive to accomplish this as compared to funding institutional residential facilities. More importantly, we must provide a quality of life that people with developmental disabilities deserve.

I leave you with one final question as you reconsider the decision to close the center. Would you want your sons, daughters, or grandchildren to be confined to this facility for the rest of their lives? Or would you want them to have every opportunity to live their lives to the fullest in a community that will embrace and support them? Given the number of children born with a developmental disability, you never know. This could easily be a question that your family might face one day.

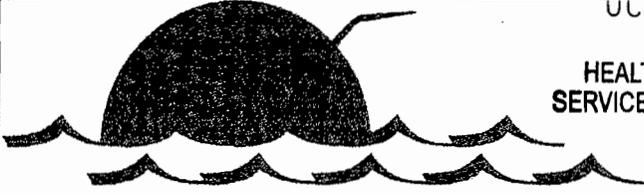
Sincerely,

Kelli Brooks
Executive Director

377 N. Seymour Ave. • Mundelein, IL 60060

377 N. SEYMOUR AVE. MUNDELEIN, IL 60060 • 847-949-4445 Voice • 847-949-0644 Fax • 847-949-4445

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

FAX

Independence Is Freedom

LAKE COUNTY CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

IF FAX IS NOT RECEIVED IN ITS ENTIRETY CALL PHONE: (847) 949-4440
FAX: (847) 949-4445

To: Illinois Health Facilities & Service Board FAX# 217-785-4111

FROM: Kelli Brooks

DATE: 10/12/2012

NUMBER OF PAGES
(INCL COVER PAGE) 2

REMARKS:

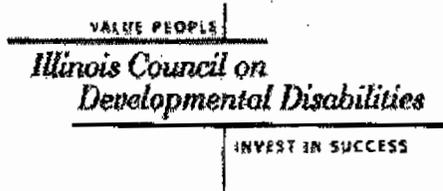
Please see the enclosed letter



377 N. SEYMOUR AVE MUNDELEIN, IL 60060

PHONE: 847-949-4440

FAX 847-949-4445



William Bogdan
Chairperson

Sheila T. Romano, Ed. D.
Director

October 10, 2012

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

Dear Members of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Board:

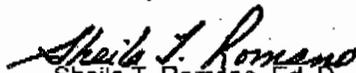
The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD) is dedicated to improving the lives of Illinoisans with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout their lifespan through our advocacy, systems change and capacity building efforts. Our underlying premise is that ALL people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) should have the same rights and opportunities as any other Illinois citizen. As it relates to this topic, we believe people with I/DD should reside in the community near their family and friends. We strongly support the closure of the Jacksonville Developmental Center.

In 2007, the Council produced the *Blueprint for System Redesign* and in 2012 this report was updated to reflect initiatives that have occurred since the original report, including the Governor's Re-Balancing initiative (of which JDC is a part of). This updated report is titled *Illinois at the Tipping Point*. If you would like to learn more about these reports you can access them at <http://www.state.il.us/agency/icdd/>.

The Council developed these reports as a seven year guide to move Illinois from an institutional system into an integrated community system. Even with the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center, we still support more people in institutions than almost every other state in the nation.

We urge you to support the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center.

Sincerely,


Sheila T. Romano, Ed. D.
Director



Fax Transmission

To: Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board

Fax #: 217-785-4111

From: Sheila T. Romano

Date: October 10, 2012

Total Pages including Cover Sheet: 2

Please accept this letter of support for the closure of Jacksonville Developmental Center.

Did You Know the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities...

- Is a federally funded independent state agency that advocates for the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities?
- Has invested more than \$28 million with 436 community organizations since its founding in the 1970s?
- Implements a five-year state plan that addresses numerous issues important to people with developmental disabilities?
- Visit our website at www.state.il.us/agency/icdd

100 West Randolph, 10-600, Chicago, IL 60601 • Voice (312) 814-2080 • Fax (312) 814-7141 • TDD (312) 814-7151
830 South Spring Street, Springfield, IL 62704 • Voice/TDD (217) 782-9696 • Fax (217) 524-5339

Updated 8/03