Cary A. Hatfield 2027 Zion Hill Road, Centralia IL 62801

RECEIVED
OCT 09 2013
HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 6, 2013

Mike Contstantino, Supv:

**I am writing to OPPOSE project #13-058!!**

I am the guardian for my sister Jane H., (age 60) Who has lived at Murray Dev. Center since it's opening in the early 1960's.

My mother Phyllis A. Hatfield was one of the original founders of the Murray Parent's Association.

Earlier this year, I arranged for a visit for my sister in a local CILA home. It did not go well. The staff was not trained to watch for signs of failing health. Within 2 weeks, I asked for Jane's visit to end and return to her cottage.

**I am writing to OPPOSE project #13-058!!**

Many of the residents living well at Murray Center have behavioral, and health issues that staff at CILA homes and Workshops do not know how to deal with. Plus, all of the residents at CILA homes must attend a daily work-shop/activity. This **does not** work for all types of DD clients. The bus ride itself can be dangerous for them, plus the exposure to new environments and more air-borne diseases and viruses their system is not used to. They are not able to work little jobs, or perform daily living skill practices. Their speech, sight, and arms are not functioning in some cases.

**CILA homes are not for all DD clients.**

My parents fought for 35 years to keep Jane a Murray Developmental Center, and for good reasons. I will continue to fight for Jane's bests interests the rest of her life.

**I am writing to OPPOSE project #13-058!!**

Cary A. Hatfield

10-6-13
Project Review Section - Mike Constantino, Supervisor
525 West Jefferson St - 2nd floor
Illinois Health Facilities
and Services Review Board
Springfield, Il 62761

Dear Sir:

I am writing to inform you that I am opposed to the closing of the Murray Developmental center in Centralia.

A neighbor 50-55 years old has been a resident of the center for 6 to 10 years. He lived with his parents until after his father died. He turned out to be more than his Mother could handle, and he was placed at Murray - His mother has since died. It (Murray) is the only hope or Home he has and he is content there. Murray has been giving good service to the residents of the area - Marion, Jefferson, Washington, Clinton, Fayette counties and others for many years -

Please don't close Murray center!

Sincerely, James R Jones Jr. Resident of Kinmundy Township - Marion County.

*A personal note ...*

Oct. 5, 2013

Mike,

You need to keep Murray Center open.

Thank you,

Rose Marie Hemann

H Rose Marie Hemann
205 Westfall Street
P.O. Box 229
Germantown, IL 62245-0229

Phone
618-523-4410

Oct 6th, 2013

Mr. Constantino,

Please be advised that I am OPPOSED to the closing of Warren G. Murray Developmental Center in Centralia, Illinois.

Two relocated residents are now dead. Two human beings, who relied on Murray Center for everything from health care to love, are dead.

Please help keep the others alive and loved in their home, Warren G. Murray Center.

Cynthia S. Moore
218 W. Kerr St
Centralia, Il 62801

10/5/13
Centralia, IL

To: Mike Constantino
Project Review Section

Re: Project #13-058 -
Warren G Murray Developmental Center
Centralia, IL

Dear Mr. Constantino:
I Am OPPOSED
to the proposed closure of Murray Developmental Center in Centralia.
My son, Darby, now age 33, is a low-functioning autistic man, who has had his home at Murray for 25 years, where he has received wonderful care.
Murray Center is within 20 miles of all of his family, including his brother Mike, his father Gary, + myself, his legal Guardian.
Had Darby been appropriate for placement in a CILA group home, Darby's father + I would have done so long ago.
Darby needs structure, routine +

familiarity with staff that is trained + qualified. Darby would not have his current quality of care in any group homes + I am not going to let anyone move him from Southern IL to another facility up in Northern IL.

Sir, I do not support this closure + I respectfully urge you to turn down the State's Application so that 270 ~~dis~~ developmentally disabled citizens of Illinois can remain in their home.

Sincerely,

Marsha D Holz

Marsha D. Holzhauer

Legal Guardian/Mother of Darby B, age 33, Murray Center, Apple Cottage Centralia, IL

**Ms. Marsha D. Holzhauer**
1847 Moonglow Rd
Centralia, IL 62801

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Murray Center president

"Darby" Bronson - Age 33
+ Marsha Holzhauer - mother/Legal Guardian

Attachment "A"

Oct 8, 2013

Dear Mr. Mike Constantino,

Our son Bryan lives at Murray Center. We strongly oppose the closure of this great facility.

The closure of Murray will have an adverse impact for the Murray Center residents. For our son in particular, he has been in many 16 bed facilities, also smaller homes such as CILA's. The last home said he could never come back.

He has spent many years between the homes mentioned at Choate + also Murray Center. ~~Many~~ Many homes we were interested in Bryan being admitted, would not accept him. That is a great concern should Murray be closed.

We do not support this closure project and urge you to turn down the application. Please think if your child was at Murray Center, how you would feel about this!

Sincerely Yours
Mr + Mrs Jimmie Hecke

7-Oct-2013

I am writing to OPPOSE Project #13-058 to close Murray Center. I do NOT support the closure of Murray Center. I wish for Murray Center to be kept open and operational.

My older brother, Phil Adcock, has lived at Murray Center since 1991. Phil is immobile, nonverbal, and completely dependent on those around him for assistance. I have read the letters from DHS, and I have listened to Kevin Casey speak, but I remain concerned that Phil would not receive an adequate level of care in a community home, let alone the care that he currently enjoys at Murray Center.

Even if Phil received an equivalent level of care in a community home, he would gain no real benefit in leaving Murray Center. He already participates in the community as much as possible, but his activities are necessarily limited, due to his immobility and fragile health.

I am also concerned that community homes already in use have had major problems, such as leaking roofs and weak floors. I fear that an immobile and nonverbal person like Phil would be in real danger from problems like these.

And I also fear that other residents of Murray Center who are mobile and verbal would be in danger in these homes. My understanding is that some of the residents of Murray Center were unable to live in community homes in the past, and I do not believe these past problems have been addressed, or even fully acknowledged.

I respectfully ask you to take all of these concerns into consideration, and I urge you to decline this project and keep Murray Center open and operational. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Eric Adcock

Eric Adcock
4 Greenview Ct.
Springfield IL 62704-2145
Personal cell: 217-652-5191
Personal mail: adcockea@echoalpha.info

Oct. 6, 2013

Mike Constantino, Supervisor

Object Review Section

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson Street – 2nd. Floor

Springfield, IL. 62761

Dear Mr. Constantino:

I am writing this letter concerning the closure of Murray Center. I feel very strongly that Murray Center should not be closed. Many of these residents have lived at Murray Center for all of their lives or most of their lives. This is their home! These residents do not understand why they must leave the home that they know and love. The people who work at Murray Center are devoted to the residents. They love and take excellent care of the residents.

People and families, like myself, move into new residents because it is what we want to do. Sometimes we move because of jobs, sometimes we move because we want to be closer to family or friends, sometimes we move because we need a larger house or because we need a smaller home. We choose!! These residents and their families don't have that choice if you insist that Murray Center be closed.

I know someone who is working in one of the homes you have transferred some residents to live. This person tells me they are not adjusting to their new environment. They feel insecure and confused. Please keep Murray Center open for the welfare of the residents.

For your information, I do not work at Murray Center, do not know anyone who works at Murray Center, do not know any of the residents. I am a concern citizen of Centralia, Illinois. I am also opposed to DHS' applications.

Let the Murray Center residents live out their lives at Murray Center. Don't take any new residents. Close one building at a time as the residence die and the population gets smaller and smaller.

This I believe is the best for the Murray Center residents.

Sincerely yours,

Richard H. Hughes

RICHARD H. HUGHES

Mike Constantino, Supervisor Project Review Section

Illinois Health Facilities and Service Review Board

525 W. Jefferson St. 2nd Floor

Springfield, Il. 62761

Dear Mr. Constantino:

As a lifetime resident of Illinois, almost all of it in Centralia, I can tell you without qualifications that our area will lose both residents and economic capital if our local Murray Developmental Center is closed. Please leave it open.

I live next to Murray Center, and every day as I pass it I notice the great number of cars parked around the cottages, as the buildings that house the residents there are called. Many, many people are employed there around the clock. It will be devastating to our community if an exodus of those people employed there happens. They are consumers, home owners, church goers, families that care for their older members who also live here. They are people who have children who attend our schools that will be in rock-bottom financial straits if they lose student population. Spouses will, of course, move with those employees who lose their jobs at Murray Center, then the businesses, factories, of which we have very few, restaurants, etc. will lose all levels of workers, including RN's, executives, teachers, and others.

Again, I ask you, please leave Murray Center open, both for the residents there that have known it as their home for many years, and for the people who are employed there. My daughter-in-law never worked anywhere else. She began there many years ago and retired from there a couple of years ago. I know you will do the right thing and see that Murray Center remains open.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Joyce Bealsey

Betty Joyce Bealsey

28499 W. 4th St. Rd.

Centralia, Il. 62801

**Sandra S. Cain**
**1871 Livingston Street**
**Carlyle, IL 62231**
**618-594-3260**

October 5, 2013

Mike Constantino, Supervisor
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Mr. Constantino,

I am writing in opposition to the closure of the Warren G. Murray Center in Centralia, Illinois. Not only would the closure be unethical, but it would also be illegal. The other important factor is the impact such closure would have on the economic situation of the area.

State and Federal laws governing the placement and care of developmentally disabled persons clearly outlines the levels of care that are necessary to meet the needs of these citizens. At Murray Center, those individuals are currently in their least restrictive environment. They are cared for by highly trained professionals who have years of experience in dealing with the many diverse individual needs of this population. If there were a more suitable placement for these individuals, they would have already been placed in other settings. For the residents of Murray Center, that is the most suitable placement. The care takers are compassionate and familiar with the needs and behaviors of the residents.

The economical effect such closure would have would be devastating to the entire community and the staff and their families. The financial situation that the state of Illinois currently finds itself in cannot possibly be helped by causing the sudden unemployment of the entire staff at Murray Center. In recent years, the economic climate of Centralia and the surrounding area has declined due to plant closures and numerous other factors. Closing one of the largest employers in the area would only add to that predicament.

In closing, I want to say that I was one of the first employees at Murray Center when it opened many years ago. There are residents still living there whom I cared for 50 years ago. Murray Center is the only home they have known. How anyone with any compassion for the human spirit can consider destroying their home is unfathomable to me.

Sincerely,
Sandra Cain
Sandra Cain

Mr. Mike Constantino, Supervisor
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

October 6, 2013

TO: Mr. Constantino

**RE: Opposition To Project 13-058; Opposition To Closure of Murray Center**

I am the parent of a Murray Center resident and know the level of care that my daughter needs. Community placement is not appropriate at this time. Here are three reasons to deny this project application:

1. Parents and guardians like me are being forced into making cruel choices
2. SODC (state operated developmental center) level of services are being removed from central Illinois and that imposes huge commutes and logistical issues for my family
3. Infringement of the civil rights of people like my daughter are being fought at this moment is U.S. Court. The project in question should not be approved prior to the court's findings

I ask you to reject the closure application. I urge you to do your part to keep Murray Center open. Murray Center is essential to meeting the needs of my daughter.

Sincerely,

Steven Groner
531 East Gorman Street
Nashville, Illinois 62263

5 October 2013

Mike Constantino, Supervisor
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose the closing of Warren G. Murray Development Center in Centralia, Illinois.

One of the reasons that I oppose the closing of Murray Center is that if a resident could live outside of Murray, their family would have them out of Murray and living at home. Many of these residents need 24/7 care which can not be accomplished in a setting outside of Murray Center. We must think of the welfare of the patients and not the welfare of the state.

Two residents that have been transferred out of Murray Center and into CILA's have passed away. This is unacceptable.

In closing, I wish to again express my opposition to the closing of the Warren G. Murray Development Center in Centralia, Illinois.

Sincerely,

Janet Huck

Janet Huck
26243 State Route 177
Hoyleton, IL 62801

Oct. 6, 2013

Mike Constantino, Supervisor

Object Review Section

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson Street – 2nd. Floor

Springfield, IL. 62761

Dear Mr. Constantino:

I am writing this letter concerning the closure of Murray Center. I feel very strongly that Murray Center should not be closed. Many of these residents have lived at Murray Center for all of their lives or most of their lives. This is their home! These residents do not understand why they must leave the home that they know and love. The people who work at Murray Center are devoted to the residents. They love and take excellent care of the residents.

People and families, like myself, move into new residents because it is what we want to do. Sometimes we move because of jobs, sometimes we move because we want to be closer to family or friends, sometimes we move because we need a larger house or because we need a smaller home. We choose!! These residents and their families don't have that choice if you insist that Murray Center be closed.

I know someone who is working in one of the homes you have transferred some residents to live. This person tells me they are not adjusting to their new environment. They feel insecure and confused. Please keep Murray Center open for the welfare of the residents.

For your information, I do not work at Murray Center, do not know anyone who works at Murray Center, do not know any of the residents. I am a concern citizen of Centralia, Illinois. I am also opposed to DHS' applications.

Let the Murray Center residents live out their lives at Murray Center. Don't take any new residents. Close one building at a time as the residence die and the population gets smaller and smaller.

This I believe is the best for the Murray Center residents.

Sincerely yours,

K. Ruth Hughes

512 Murray Dr.
Centralia, IL. 62801-6012

Please do not close Murray Center!!!
Please oppose DHS' application!!

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board,

Do I think Warren G. Murray Developmental Center should close? Absolutely Not for several reasons but mostly because of the safety and security of the Murray residents.

You need to take in consideration what it is doing to the residents there. Murray Center is their home and they are very fragile. Several of them have lived there most of their lives and to uproot them from an environment that they are used to would cause either great stress and/or great depression for a lot of them which would result in a faster death. Would you like that on your hands, Knowing that your decision to close Murray center may cause great pain to some one and could eventually cause them to die a quicker death? Make the right decision give life not death and Keep Murray Center open.

The governor has made several reasons why Murray Center should close but for every reason he comes up with to close it I can counteract why Murray center should stay open.

He says there isn't enough money in the budget, that it isn't economical to Keep open. They have never lost their federal certification but there are some of the other facilities who have because they have had problems. Plus Murray's get lots of donations. Parents, workers and even the surrounding community have gone out and bought with their own money, food, deorderant, tooth brushes, toothpaste, Shampoo

and other things for the residents. The murray Parents association has even bought a van, TV'S, dvd players, lifts, and other things that the state won't provide. Besides economically speaking maybe the governor and the other Politicians should start taking pay cuts instead of pay raises so money can be spent to help the unfortunate and not useless things.

Also economically We need to Keep Murray center open because Southern Illinois is hurting. We are losing most of our jobs and if murray's close that would be another at least 300 is not more on unemployment and that is not counting the other businesses that would shut down and more people out of jobs. I would Know because I just lost my job because they were afraid of the economic situation in Centralia if murray's closed. We had several employees who shopped at our store.

Closing murray Center actually is costing Illinois more money than it would Keeping it open. They are paying thousands and thousands to people who are to find homes for the residents and they aren't even Illinois people. They hired extra Security people who really don't do anything, a therapist so the employees can talk to them and who Knows whatelse. And the sad thing is these all are people they didn't need because they already had these on Staff.

Another reason the governor gave for closing Murray Center is that he wanted to move the residents

closer to their families. Closing murray center would move them further away from their families. Keep murrays open because several of the families live in or near Centralia. Some have moved to centralia to be close to them. And there are others who could have them in a facility close to them but they chose to put their loved ones in Murray Center because "the loving compassionate care from the staff" (which I just quoted from an obituary of one of the late residents.) Plus the parents think that murrays is a safe and healthy, happy atmosphere for their loved ones.

Another reason the governor wants to close murray center is because he doesn't want them in an institution. Do not close murray center because it isn't just an institution, its a home. It is called Warren G Murray Developmental Center for a reason. The reason is to help the residents to develop. Some of them go to class or workshop. The residents at murray center are not drugged up and shove into a corner and forgotten. They are very active human beings. They get to go to parades, shopping, workshop, out to eat, fishing and busrides. Of course they don't get to do as much stuff now because they are understaff. Before they even got to take trips to several places in St. Louis like the zoo and cards Baseball games. The staff gives them birthday parties and they even have special

events for them like prom, valentine dances, christmas parties, trick or treat and other things. People from the surrounding communities come and interact with them. They even have church services for those who want to attend. The residents at murray center live a life that is as best to their ability. They love it there. Why would you want to destroy their lives by taking away their home and their family. A lot of the staff have been a long time. And I know at least one and I'm sure there are more that says that she has watched a lot of these residents grow up and that they seem like a second family to her. I know she takes it hard when ever one moves away or they lose them, because it likes losing one of your own. Murray Center must stay open. It is not just a place or statistic, it is a home with one big family. The staff doesn't just think of them as a job, but as their kin. The way that the staff interacts with the residents is awesome when you hear the residents tell the staff that they really like them or that they love them, it makes you feel good to know that you have people that really care about the mentally challenged, because belive me it takes somebody special to do what the staff of murray center does.

Keep murray center open because these individuals are real people who deserve a chance at a good

life, a life that is fun and shared with people who care about them. yes they may have some mental or behavioral problems but they are People who we are to protect. they are not just statistics, so please don't let them be

Don't break up the only home that a lot of those residents know. Don't let them slowly die, a depressed life. Keep Murray center open because the staff care about the residents. Keep Murray center open because its their home and family not just some facility or statistic. Keep Murray center open because it is the right thing to do!!

Keep Murray Center Open!!!!

Sincerely,

a concerned citizen

Darla J Spindle

Oct. 6, 2013

Dear Sirs:
Att: Mike Constantine, Supervisor, Project Review Section

I am absolutely 100% opposed to the project to close Murray Developmental Center! What are you even "thinking" about? I retired from Murray Center nearly 10 years ago & worked there 32 yrs, 16 as a social worker & the final 16 as an administrator. You can be certain those residents who could safely be placed outside of an institution were indeed place, many years ago. A big push then was appropriate & we worked closely with the group homes who accepted our resident, both prior to and after the transfers to ensure success. A very small number had to return because (1) all worked together & (2) all wanted the resident to have a safe & successful transition.

The majority of residents remaining at Murray Center either have very frequent & aggressive behaviors or they are too medically involved to move to a group home. No nursing home would accept them as they cannot afford the number of R.N. staff & the hours it takes to tube-feed them.

Our dear residents (some I have known since the late 1960's) would not be safe & would be so fearful in a group home.

Again, the interest of the residents are #1, the interest of their families #2 [illegible] care, [illegible] & comfort that can be given them.

I just spoke to a man (who works in a hardware store) yesterday, who rents a home across from one of the group homes. He has seen police there, many cars coming & going all through the night & "loud beeps" going off all night. He is looking for a different place to move. If a man across the street hears this all night hours how can any resident get proper care & rest?

Thank you for any consideration you might have for our residents.

Sincerely,

Marylee Miller

10-5-13

We are against this project and we are against the closure of Murray Center.

Tom + Mabel Wheelan

**Ms. Mabel Wheelan**
PO Box 231
Beckemeyer, IL 62219-0231

**Cary Fugitt**
**124 East Marvin**
**Centralia, IL 62801**

**Mike Constantino, Supervisor**
**Project Review Section**
**Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board**
**525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor**
**Springfield, IL 62761**

**Dear Mr. Constantino:**

**I have been disgusted and appalled over the decision to close the Murray Center in our town. I am infuriated over how the bureaucrats from Springfield have chosen to use Southern Illinois as the "sacrificial lamb" by deciding to shut down a much valued and necessary facility in our area such as the Murray Center.**

**When the word first came out that Springfield was going to close Murray, this town rallied together in a way that I hadn't seen in my 10 years of living here. The fate of Murray was the only thing that anyone talked about around here for weeks. There were hundreds of green "Save Murray Center" signs everywhere you looked, and green ribbons on all the telephone poles. There was a huge rally of support at the center, which was attended by countless supporters on the front lawn of Murray, which was covered by the St. Louis news.**

**Of course, all of this support fell on deaf ears of Governor Quinn, who after the rally, unapologetically maintained his stance of closing down the center, with no regard to the lives that would be effected. We are going to lose hundreds of jobs in an area that is already economically depressed. When the jobs go, so will the disposable income, as well as reducing the odds of getting new business in this town. Who wants to start a business in a town where hundreds of people are unemployed? On that topic, what exactly is our town supposed to do with the vacant building that's left behind, since I can't imagine much demand for a building like Murray Center? Worst of all, what about the residents of Murray? Many of these mentally or physically handicapped residents know Murray as their only home. How can you look into the eyes of those patients, and tell them that the only life they know is coming to an end, with no clear cut outcome for them, because the State of Illinois no longer feels that these people are important enough to give them their much needed care? What do you tell the families of those patients? What do they do now?**

**Our community needs Murray Center. Our people need the jobs to live, and the residents and the family need the expert care from Murray Center in order to live, too.**

**Sincerely,**

**Cary Fugitt**