Anita R. Becherer
6 Westgate Drive
Swansea Il 62226
618 233 4021
arbpfb@msn.com
10/11/13

RECEIVED
OCT 16 2013
HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

RE;OPPOSED TO PROJECT 13-058, OPPOSED TO CLOSING MURRAY CENTER

I am opposed to the closure of Murray Center. This campus in Centralia, Illinois is one of the best facilities in the entire state when it comes to providing care to our disabled citizens.

Closure of Murray Center will negatively impact the residents access to necessary and appropriate services. Many center residents absolutely need the level of care provided by the state operated developmental centers.

For these families in south central Illinois, the loss of Murray Center will present incredible hardships.

I urge you to deny the DHS application for project 13-058

Sincerely

Anita R. Becherer

Anita R. Becherer
arb

October 12, 2013

Re: Federal Lawsuit/ Governor's Decision to Close Murray Developmental Center in Centralia, IL

Dear Mr. Constantino:

The closure of Murray Center will be devastating to its residents. Parents, guardians, employees, the City of Centralia and surrounding area are stunned at the prospect of its closure. The specialized care its residents demand cannot be provided in a community arrangement; the results will be disastrous, among them abuse, negligence, violence, imprisonment and in many, many cases death. Along with their profound mental retardation, many have multiple disabilities requiring 24/7 nursing care, such as epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, feeding tubes, behavioral problems, etc. and many are wheelchair bound.

The residents of Murray Center have been integrated into their own little community as well as being part of the community of Centralia. Murray Center's excellence in the care of its residents has never been questioned; it's all about the money; the agenda of special interest groups such as ARC and Equip for Equality and DHS's agenda to rebalance the system and doing it on the backs of our most vulnerable.

When touting their agenda and the so called 'success' of Jacksonville's transition , the Governor, DHS, and ARC never mention their placement of profound individuals and how they are coping but they do applaud the higher level individuals and brag of how they can shop, walk the neighborhood, pick their own bedroom, go to movies, etc. It's as if the profound do not exist, making it the most grievous part of their agenda. As we continue to say, 'One size does not fit all.'

St. Mary's Hospital and the people of Centralia have for 40 plus years accepted the residents of Murray as their family. Everyone involved in caring for these residents are special and have over the years made Murray the highest rated facility in the state.

Therefore, we are imploring you to look past the misguided decision of our governor and his officials; DHS; ARC; Equip for Quality and other rebalancing advocates and see the reality the Governor's decision will have on our most vulnerable residents. We cannot stand by and watch this catastrophe happen.

We thank you for your attention and pray your decision will set a precedent in this country whereby the most profound will be provided the services they deserve and not be used as pawns in political gamesmanship.

Sincerely, Richard McLoyaly Melba J. Gonzalez

Richard and Melba Gonzalez

626 West Market St., PO Box 61, Red Bud, IL 62278

618-282-2858

October 10, 2013

Janey Willis
608 West Plum Street
Percy, Illinois 72272

Re: Project #13-058

Mike Constantino, Supervisor:

I am writing you to ask for your help and support with adverting the closing of Murray Development Center in Centralia, Illinois. I am an opponent of this project.

This has been my daughter's home since 1984. The staff and other residents are her family. How can anyone, the State of Illinois and/or the Governor say to her "you and your family can not live here any more because over the years the State of Illinois has made some bad choices with the tax payers money and due to no fault of yours you and your family are being evicted. Yes evicted is what this really is. How can anyone other then me, her legal guardian ,be entitled to make this decision ?

All the press and outrage seems to be about the closing of prisons and mental health facilities for the criminally insane. The people in these facilities are there because they were convicted of crimes against society. The residents of Murray are there thru no fault of their own, yet it seems they are not cared about and do not deserve more compassion and help then criminals. What kind of people are making this decision. A decision that may cost my daughter her life or at the very least the quality of life she is used to and deserves.

Ask yourself this question "what would you do if tomorrow some one knocked on the door of your home and told you that you and your family must move out because the person at your door did not manage their money over the years and will now decide where you will reside and due to no fault of you or your family you will have to bare the consequences. What would you do? Fight for your home and family. That is what I am asking you to do for my daughter and her family, and Murray Center.

I really fear for my daughter's health physically and mentally if she has to leave Murray. A change such as this in her life and routine will be tragic and a mental strain on her that I am not sure can ever be made right. With my daughter's physical and mental problems she is not suited for a group home and they would not be able to care for her and take care of her needs, I tried this at one time. I also am not trained nor do I have the knowledge to care for her as she needs. Murray has all these things and have proven they can see to her physically and mentally all these years.

Please I am asking you to give my daughter and her family the legal rights and quality of life they have a right to.

I do not support project #13-058, the closure of Murray Center and urge you to turn down this application.

Thank you.

Sincerely
Janey Willis
Janey Willis
Mother and Legal Guardian of Debra Ruth Duensing, Resident of Murray Center

October 7, 2013

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

RE: OPPOSED TO PROJECT 13-058, OPPOSED TO CLOSING MURRAY CENTER

I am opposed to the closure of Murray Center located in Centralia, Illinois! This facility is one of the best in the entire state when it comes to providing care to our disabled citizens.

Closure of Murray Center will negatively impact the resident's access to necessary and appropriate services. Many center residents absolutely need the level of care provided by this state operated developmental center.

The location enables families to remain close and interact as much as possible with their loved ones.

I urge you to deny the DHS application for procject 13-058.

Sincerely,

Veronica Wright

Veronic Wright
606 Bornman St.
Belleville, IL 62220
(618) 234-0584 Home

October 7, 2013

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

RE: OPPOSED TO PROJECT 13-058, OPPOSED TO CLOSING MURRAY CENTER

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The location enables families to remain close and interact as much as possible with their loved ones.

I urge you to deny the DHS application for procject 13-058.

Sincerely,

Janet Wolf
4934 Turner Hall Rd.
Belleville, IL 62220
(618) 476-7491 Home
(618) 210-7380 Cell

October 7, 2013

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

RE: OPPOSED TO PROJECT 13-058, OPPOSED TO CLOSING MURRAY CENTER

I am opposed to the closure of Murray Center located in Centralia, Illinois! This facility is the one and only place that has actually provided the care necessary for my developmentally disabled/autistic daughter, Lindsey Katherine Webb.

Yes, a person, with a name and a purpose. Murray, in comparison to CILA placements we have tried, has been able to handle Lindsey without grossly over medicating her in order to handle her rages.

The location enables me to see Lindsey weekly and occasionally bring her home for visits. If Lindsey were to move to another facility far away it would destroy all the progress she has made. She does not adapt well to change. The most important thing to me is my child's safety and wellbeing. We are at Murray by choice, because it works. We are living proof that these wonderful individuals can lead happy lives and have a sense of family that few people ever enjoy.

For these families in south central Illinois, the loss of Murray center will present incredible hardships.

I urge you to deny the DHS application for procject 13-058.

Sincerely,

Peggy A. Webb

Peggy A. Webb
401 Blue Ridge Dr.
Belleville, IL 62223
(618)235-5454 Home
(618)257-5330 Work

Betty Qualls
4141 NW 45 St
Oklahoma City OK 73112

Mike Constantine
Project Review Section
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson St
Springfield, IL 62761

Mr. Constantine,

This letter is a protest against closing Murray Center in Centralia Illinois.

My family and I believe that would be a major mistake. The Murray Center residents desperately need this facility to continue getting the excellent care they receive.

Other options have been tried but are not working. Residents that have been moved to other facilities are not getting the proper care they require. One life has already been lost as a result of being moved. She did not receive the care she required at the new facility. These residents need the protection, health care, familiar faces and surroundings to remain stable and sound.

Not only do the residents need this facility, Centralia and the State of Illinois need it. The employees need it because the city of Centralia has a very high unemployment rate. Please do not take this very Vital Center away from the people and the Community that need and depend upon it.

Any attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated

May God Bless and Guide Your decision.

I was born and raised in Centralia and still have relatives living there.

Sincerely, Betty Qualls and Family

Betty Qualls