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January 27, 2014

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield IL 62761

RE: Project 13-071

Dear Ms. Avery,

I've practiced in both Kane and DuPage counties for the last decade. Currently, I am a licensed clinical psychologist practicing in Wheaton, IL, at Alliance Clinical Associates, a large, multi-disciplinary mental health practice. In my experience, Cadence Health's inpatient behavioral health program is unrivaled in this geographic area. I won't refer my clients anywhere else. I'm grieved every time I hear about a client that could not get a bed at Cadence and had to be referred out to another program. In my experience, when my clients are forced to be treated elsewhere due to lack of available beds, they simply have poorer outcomes in the long-term. I hope Cadence's resources will be expanded so anyone who needs it can have access to Cadence's premier treatment program.

Sincerely,



Kelly M. Flanagan, Ph.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

COMMUNITY
high school
DISTRICT 94

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

January 27, 2014

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield IL 62761

RE: Project 13-071

Dear Ms. Avery,

I totally support Cadence Health CDH's request for a Certificate of Need to expand their inpatient psychiatric crisis unit bedspace to accommodate more patients. As a Social Worker at Community High School for the past 19 years, CDH (now Cadence) has been the primary service provider for our students in need of immediate inpatient crisis stabilization and treatment. The staff has always been accommodating and responsive, especially in emergency situations when an immediate response is so critical. I have never had a student or family in need of emergency psychiatric treatment turned away because of being uninsured or unable to pay. I have also been impressed by the quality of the treatment, treatment plans, outcomes and aftercare follow-up as well as the communication with our staff and coordination of services. Recently, however, they have been increasingly limited in their ability to admit our students for inpatient care when needed because of the unavailability of bed space. Please let me know if there is anything our staff can do to support their application. Our students and their families need to have critical services available to them in the community in which they live and work. Granting a Certificate of Need to expand psychiatric beds could save lives.

Sincerely,

Vivian Walsh

Viv Walsh, LCSW
Social Worker
West Chicago High School
(630)876-6275
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*Community High School strives to promote and provide growth experiences in
Learning, Leadership and Living.*



metropolitan
family services
DUPAGE

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

February 3, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Project 13-071

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing to support Cadence Health, Central DuPage Hospital, in their application to expand their psychiatric service from 15 beds to 48 beds, as there is a need in our community to increase the inpatient services for those in need of intensive mental health treatment.

Metropolitan Family Services DuPage is a non-profit human service and mental health agency serving residents of DuPage County. Our services range from early intervention and education through intensive intervention and some crisis management services for those facing a serious life issue or a mental health crisis. We refer some of our patients, including those on Medicaid and Medicare, to Central DuPage Hospital when we determine a patient is at risk to him or herself, and needs stabilization and intensive inpatient services. Cadence Health has been a strong partner with Metropolitan and other human service/mental health organizations, looking to be proactive in the treatment of mental illness.

We consider Cadence Health, Central DuPage Hospital, to be one of the better hospitals to send our mental health patients to. We particularly value the willingness and ability of Central DuPage Hospital's staff in coordinating with us the care for the patient. Cadence, Central DuPage Hospital, fills a critical role for patients from all areas of the county, but in particular for those patients in the northeast corner of DuPage County. If Central DuPage Hospital did not have a bed available for one of our patients, this could be very difficult for the families we serve, most of whom receive very low income and lack reliable transportation. Cadence, Central DuPage Hospital, is particularly critical in our ability to meet the mental health needs of those on Medicaid or those who are uninsured and underinsured.

If you need any additional information please do not hesitate to call me at 630-784-4838.

Sincerely,

Theresa C. Nihill
Executive Director

families empowered to learn. to earn. to heal. to thrive.



DUPAGE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday

February 3, 2014

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield IL 62761

RE: Project 13-071

Dear Ms. Avery,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support of Cadence Health CDH's proposal to expand their inpatient psychiatric bed capacity from 15 to 48 beds.

The DuPage County Health Department, Behavioral Health Services Unit, provides an array of services to approximately 7500 adults, children and adolescents annually who are residents of DuPage County. The three broad areas of services are Adult Outpatient Services, Children and Adolescent Services and Crisis Services. The Adult Outpatient Services provides treatment and support to adults ages 18 and older experiencing a wide range of disorders including Serious Mental Illness. Our Children and Adolescent Services provides outpatient behavioral health to children and adolescents between the ages of 3 and 18, and their families, with emotional problems. In addition, our Crisis Services provides response for mental health emergencies for adults, children and adolescents. The Crisis Unit is a National Suicide Lifeline provider, providing screening and assessment services for children and adolescents as well as adults who may need hospitalization. On a monthly basis, we screen and assess 120 children and adolescents and 50-60 adults for hospitalization. The need for inpatient bed capacity is a critical piece in ensuring the appropriate level of care for these individuals who are experiencing an increase in behavioral health symptoms and need inpatient psychiatric hospitalization.

Our agencies have a long history of strategic partnership to more effectively serve the residents of DuPage County. Currently, are partnering with them on two projects, described below.

First, a Demonstration Project, called, "Engage DuPage" started August 1, 2013. This program guides eligible emergency room patients to community-based assistance programs and helps them qualify for healthcare services. Trained specialists from the Health Department work in the Cadence Health Emergency Room to identify patients who are eligible for assistance programs or Medicaid, as well as determine their ongoing healthcare needs and assist them in navigating the safety net system. This

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program is aimed at improving the health status of patients who are uninsured or underinsured and reside in DuPage County.

The second project that we are actively partnering with Cadence Health System is one specifically targeting individuals experiencing depression and suicidal ideation. The DuPage County Health Department received a three year SAMHSA grant through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline in July 2013 and began this partnership with Cadence Health CDH to aid in stabilization of adults presenting in the Emergency Department or inpatient unit. Adults that meet criteria of the program are referred by CDH staff to the grant program, which provides a DCHD-crisis unit clinician response, either in person or via phone, to set up services and provide support and resources to the individual upon discharge from the ED or inpatient unit. The goal of the program is to enhance and expand suicide prevention services in DuPage County by increasing the number of suicidal persons receiving follow up services.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Cadence Health System-CDH as they seek to expand their psychiatric inpatient bed capacity from 15 to 48. This initiative will support the entire community by providing care inpatient behavioral health treatment for the residents of DuPage County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen J. Ayala', written in a cursive style.

Karen J. Ayala, MPH
Executive Director



Family Services

1120 Randall Court · Geneva, IL 60134 · (630) 232-1070 · (630) 232-1471

fax

February 3, 2014

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield IL 62761

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RE: Project 13-071

Dear Ms. Avery:

As the Executive Director of TriCity Family Services (TCFS) in Geneva, IL, it is my pleasure to submit this letter of support on behalf of Cadence Health's application to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board for approval of a Certificate of Need to expand its inpatient psychiatric services at its Central DuPage Hospital (CDH) campus.

TriCity Family Services is a private, not-for-profit human services organization that, since 1967, has been providing a range of family centered counseling/psychotherapy, youth crisis intervention, prevention, early intervention services to residents of the mid-Fox River Valley on a sliding fee scale basis.

Through the years, TCFS therapists have valued the agency's partnership with Cadence's Behavioral Health Services at CDH, referring clients to its adult and adolescent partial hospitalization and intensive out-patient programs, and recommending it as an evaluation and continuing care resource for clients with substance abuse problems. Despite the fact that a high percentage of this agency's clients are high-risk adolescents who occasionally require stabilization on an inpatient psychiatric unit, and the significant shortage of inpatient psychiatric beds geographically accessible to our client families, our utilization of CDH's inpatient psychiatric services has been limited. This has been due to two primary factors: the lack of bed availability when services were needed; and, the fact that we did not consider its mixed age/gender treatment milieu to be the optimum setting for our adolescent clients. Thus, I was very pleased to learn of Cadence/CDH's plan to expand its psychiatric bed capacity from 15 to 48 beds, 16 of which, I understand, will be devoted to adolescents on an age specific unit. Knowing that Cadence/CDH remains committed to accepting referrals of Medicaid-eligible adolescents and will provide these expanded services "close to home," enabling the involvement of families during the period of hospitalization, further enhances the value of the proposed expansion to our therapists and, more importantly, to the low-income families we serve.

I applaud Cadence's vision to continue to grow its behavioral health services in response to community need and urge the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board to approve its Certificate of Need.

Sincerely,





**Family
Services**

1120 Randall Court · Geneva, IL 60134 · (630) 232-1070 · (630) 232-1471

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James R. Otepka, MS, LMFT
Executive Director

