

KIRBY MEDICAL CENTER

August 5, 2014

stenhouse@kirbyhealth.org

RECEIVED

AUG 06 2014

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Kathryn Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Carle Foundation Hospital, HFSRB# 14-015

Dear Ms. Olson:

In support of Carle Foundation Hospital's request to add beds within Carle Tower, I am writing to re-emphasize the important role Carle Foundation Hospital has played as a tertiary facility in the extended central Illinois community for decades; a role only it fills at this time.

By collaborating with Carle, patients of Kirby Medical Center are able to receive expert care one would expect to receive in a larger metropolitan area. We are a designated critical access hospital providing inpatient care, ancillary services and primary care clinics to residents of a rural area outside of Champaign County. For Illinois residents who live in rural areas, rural community hospitals are a key delivery resource for health care in our State; however, the ability to refer more complex patients on to a larger tertiary care hospital, such as Carle, is equally important. The need for these additional beds at Carle goes beyond just Champaign County. Available space and access at Carle is relied upon by the entire region, especially those in rural communities. Our patients require care at Carle for advanced cancer, cardiovascular, perinatal, neuroscience and trauma care, among others. These types of services are not otherwise available without traveling outside the region.

As risk and value-based care models move forward, it is essential to ensure that services are provided in the right location and with the most efficient care team. Carle has supported Kirby Medical Center and our community to help ensure continuity of care for our patients who receive the majority of their ongoing care in the immediate community with our providers.

We strongly support expanding patient care space within Carle Tower at Carle Foundation Hospital and urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to reconsider the initial intent to deny and approve the proposal. I remain,

Very truly yours,



Steven D. Tenhouse, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

HOOPESTON AREA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #11

Cheneyville

East Lynn

Hoopeston

Rankin

Wellington

Hank Hornbeck, Superintendent

615 East Orange
Hoopeston, IL 60942
(217) 283-6668
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August 5, 2014

Ms. Kathryn Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

On behalf of Hoopeston Area CUSD #11, I write to advocate on behalf of patients in Vermilion County and throughout the region and voice strong support for Carle Foundation Hospital's proposal, 14-015, to build out the ninth floor of Carle Tower with more beds to ensure continuing access for patients who are in urgent need of advanced specialty care.

I have seen our local hospital, Hoopeston Regional Health Center, work closely with Carle Foundation Hospital for several years. The hospitals share specialty providers, and as a Critical Access Hospital, Hoopeston Regional Health Center has Carle as its tertiary care resource. Beyond this tertiary care access, the two hospitals have developed care protocols together to enhance local services. Also, Hoopeston-based physicians have immediate access to their patients' electronic health record for services received from Carle and Carle physicians regardless of the location.

The Carle affiliation allows Hoopeston to provide health care locally consistent with maintaining quality and efficiency and referrals of patients for care to Carle are made based on the best interests of the patient and with the goal to achieve the best clinical outcomes.

Hoopeston Area CUSD #11 supports the Carle proposal which is essential to the hospital's commitment to excellent coordinated regional health. With increasing demand for care and without any additional capacity at Carle, members of our community will be required to be hospitalized in St. Louis or Indianapolis. That is why I highly recommend that the Board approves Carle Foundation Hospital's proposal so patients can access the advanced specialty care they need.

Sincerely,



Hank Hornbeck, Superintendent



Sandra Kinnaird
219 E. Penn
Hoopeston, IL 60942

August 4, 2014

Ms. Kathryn Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St.
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Carle Foundation Hospital Project No. 14-015

Dear Ms. Olson,

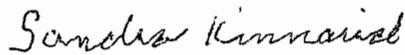
I am writing to share my experience receiving care at Carle Foundation Hospital and to explain why patients deserve to have additional access to the high level of treatment available there. On July 11, while working in Hoopeston I developed an excruciating headache and then my right arm and side of my face went numb. My coworkers rushed me to Hoopeston Regional Health Center where the doctors and nurses moved quickly to perform an exam and MRI that confirmed what I suspected – I had a stroke.

I am a relatively young person and while I'd had a previous circulatory issue with my leg, I would not have imagined needing this type of care. I'm fortunate that the hospital in Hoopeston is affiliated with Carle, a primary stroke center with a high-skilled neuro-interventional team that is always available. My care continued during transport, and I was hospitalized at Carle where the neurosurgeons, radiologists, nurses and team members used advanced technology and skills to address my needs. They also identified that I had a blocked carotid artery and I am now recovering from successful surgery.

While I am very happy with the care I received, what sticks in my mind is that after surgery I had to wait for a few hours in recovery because there were no beds available in the hospital. That meant we had to wait for other patients to go home before I could move into a room. That is why it's important your board approves Carle's request to add beds and improve access to services because when it comes to advanced treatments, patients like me rely upon Carle to receive lifesaving care. I want to be assured that in the future if I need similar advanced care it will be available to me without delay.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for this important project.

Sincerely,


Sandra Kinnaird