



SEIU Healthcare®

United for Quality Care

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

14-032

Keith Kelleher
President

April Verrett
Executive Vice-President

Myra Glassman
Secretary-Treasurer

Vice Presidents:

Jaquie Algee
Erica Bland
Felecia Bryant
Anthony Guest
Alex Han
Terri Harkin
Greg Kelley
Maggie Laslo
Paula Richard
Brynn Seibert

Board Chair:
Flora Johnson

Vice-Chairs:
Faith Arnold
Bernita Drayton
Francine Rico
Alberta Walker

Illinois
2229 S. Halsted St.
Chicago, IL 60608
Phone: 312.980.9000
Fax: 312.939.8256

Indiana
1800 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: 317.927.9691

www.seiuhhealthcareill.in.org

September 16, 2014

Dear Ms. Avery,

SEIU Healthcare Illinois is a union of 90,000 members committed to expanding access to care and reducing healthcare inequities in underserved communities. We represent workers on the frontlines of healthcare, including those who work at St. Bernard Hospital, as well as many thousands more who live in nearby communities. We understand the importance of St. Bernard Hospital's plan to build an ambulatory care center and medical office building because it will not only expand access to much needed health services but also create new jobs in the economically disadvantaged Englewood community. To that end, SEIU Healthcare Illinois supports the hospital's proposal. Our support is conditional upon ensuring that this project also brings good jobs and a voice for healthcare workers.

In the interest of combating poverty, a key social determinant of health, we believe it essential that the jobs created by this project provide good wages and affordable benefits akin to those enjoyed by our union members. SEIU members at St. Bernard work diligently each day to ensure that the patients they care for achieve the best possible health outcomes. In return they receive fair compensation negotiated guaranteed by a collective bargaining agreement. The union also enables members to have a voice in the care delivery process and to share their unique insights and perspectives as frontline caregivers. We contend that future ambulatory care center/medical office building employees deserve nothing less than our members at St. Bernard Hospital.

The Englewood community currently lacks adequate access to good jobs and affordable health services. The proposed ambulatory care center/medical office building can potentially address both deficiencies. We believe it will be most effective when workers are organized and are able to participate in the decisions meant to improve healthcare delivery and health outcomes. With our stipulations noted, we ask that you approve the St. Bernard CON.

Sincerely,

Jennie Busch

Director, Health Systems
SEIU Healthcare Illinois