JOHN M. HAUSMANN
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
316 DIXIE HIGHWAY
CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60411
(708) 755-3505
FAX (708) 755-3516

March 1, 2016

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Service Review Board
525 W. Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Franciscan St. James Health – Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health – Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is submitted in support of the Franciscan St. James Health applications.

I have owned and operated a business in Chicago Heights for the past thirty six years. Additionally, I have served on multiple charitable boards in the Southland area. I have also previously served as Treasurer of the Village of Olympia Fields for 22 years. I am deeply committed to and involved in the Southland area. That being said, my family has had many opportunities to use the St. James facilities over the years, from the birth of my children to multiple surgical procedures. We are very excited about the proposed improvements to the Olympia Fields facility. A state of the art facility will be welcomed and is much needed in the South Suburban area.

As difficult as it is to see the Chicago Heights campus changes, I completely understand the reasoning behind such a difficult decision. The much needed cost saves from the consolidation from two to one campus, along with the savings of the upkeep of a building over 100 years old, is completely understood. The Southland area will not only benefit from an investment of $137 million in our community, but long term will enjoy the benefits of having a world class hospital in their immediate area.

My family and I are proud to fully support this proposed project and look forward to using both of the resulting facilities.

Sincerely,

John M Hausmann, CPA

Ms. Susan Linn
9035 Pebble Beach Lane
Orland Park, Il 60462
March 2, 2016

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

Re: Franciscan St. James Health - Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health - Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:
I am a life-long resident of the Chicago Southland, and I have depended on St. James Hospital to get me through two life-threatening situations.

In the early 1980's, my husband and I were living in Richton Park: about 10 miles west of St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights. I had been experiencing abdominal pain that became so bad that my husband drove me to the emergency room at St. James late on a Saturday night. It turned out that I had a ruptured appendix. The staff members at St. James who treated me were efficient, effective and supportive. I had a long hospital stay, and I can honestly say that the quality of the care I received was excellent. St. James saved my life, and I was grateful.

Ten years later, after moving to Orland Park, I had occasion to be admitted to St. James again. This time I had a life-threatening asthma attack at my doctor's office in Chicago Heights. I dreaded the thought of being admitted to the hospital because the wait can be long, and it gets harder breathe. Once again, the St. James medical staff was there for me. They responded with lightning speed, and the outcome was terrific. St. James saved my life a second time.

I am aware of the controversy caused by the proposed consolidation. That is why I feel compelled to share my story. On the two occasions I had to travel to Chicago Heights, I thought it was worth it. The outcomes speak for themselves. I am grateful that St. James was and continues to be there for me.

I tell you this because I am concerned that if the Certificate of Need is denied, the quality of health care I rely on will be greatly diminished. I don't think anyone believes that a hospital can thrive when forced to duplicate very costly services like surgical units and emergency departments.

I implore you to approve the Certificate of Need so that St. James can redirect the resources currently being used for duplicative services toward primary care and community services designed to keep all of us healthy and out of the hospital.

Sincerely,

Susan Linn

Susan Linn

JAMES M. GARDINER
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

TODD R. VILLA
Recording Secretary

CRAIG A. SATALIC
President/Business Manager

PATRICK J. QUIGLEY
Vice-President

JOHN F. GARDINER, Business Agent

MATTHEW S. AUSTIN, Business Agent

KENNETH DAVIS, Business Agent

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Forest Park Phone (708) 366-6695
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www.iwlocal1.com

March 1, 2016

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

Re: Franciscan St. James Health - Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health - Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

This letter is in support of the above-listed Franciscan St. James Health applications recently submitted to your agency.

I am a Business Manager of Local 1 of the Iron Workers Local #1 union. I believe this is a good project and I am glad that Franciscan St. James plans to use union workers to complete the work. It is important to our membership for building and construction to continue in this area, where things have not been so good. Our industry has been hit hard by the uncertain political climate and construction jobs lost to other states. We need this project to provide a much needed shot in the arm for our union and my fellow tradespeople.

I ask you to approve the application that will allow St. James for keeping their operations here and better our community.

Sincerely,

Craig Satalic
President/Business Manager

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Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73
4550 ROOSEVELT ROAD
HILLSIDE, IL 60162-2053
708.449.0073
FAX 708.449.7337
www.smw73.org

RAYMOND SUGGS
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

ROCCO TERRANOVA
President and Business Manager

MICHAEL A. VITTORIO
Recording Secretary

March 2, 2016

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

Re: Franciscan St. James Health - Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health - Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

This letter is in support of the above-listed Franciscan St. James Health applications recently submitted to your agency.

I am a member of Local 73 of the Sheet Metal Workers' Union. It is so important to have projects like this in the area. My family, as well as many others in my union, are struggling with the downturn in the economy and the uncertainty of building projects. Franciscan St. James is really helping the local economy and our local union by deciding to spend $137 million dollars on the two hospitals.

I ask you to approve the application that will allow St. James to provide much needed work in the Southland.

Sincerely,

Rocco Terranova

TRUE VINE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

600 South Harrison Ave.
Kankakee, IL
60901

February 14 , 2016

Pastoral Administrator - Michael Taylor

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

As we review the plans regarding Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16 and, Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005, it is our view that the only way to ensure affordable, quality health care and retain jobs that are sorely needed, the plan must be approved. As we consider the alternative of broken buildings, poor finances and potential closings of this great health care institution, it become clear that we must support this plan. I and my staff have attended many of the meetings and have listened to many sides of the issue.

Failure to approve the plan could prove detrimental to the future of health care in the region. We know the health care needs of the area and how Franciscan has for more than 100 years, served that need. That is a commitment that could be duplicated and ensure that poor people and others continue to receive quality health care for decades to come.

Please approve this plan.

Respectfully Submitted

Shield of Faith Church

1633 Wilson Ave.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411

February 19 , 2016

Dr. Shonda Evans

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

This letter of support is in reference to Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16 and Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005. In this request to you they have spelled out their plan to ensure continued health care to the regions they serve. It is clear that health care needs and delivery of health care continues to change. Increased out patient care, has lead to empty beds in our hospital which in turn continues to lead to losses in revenue that could be better used to serve patients under the new plan. We believe that the trends suggest that if St. James is to survive in its mission to provide health care to the people of the region as well as retain the hundreds of jobs in Chicago Heights specifically, then we must support and do support this plan.

It is our hope that the board sees circumstances that health care providers are facing as well as patients who cannot afford to be with out health care options in poor areas due to the failure of the approval by the board for this plan. We urge you as clergy representing hundreds, that you approve this plan.

Respectfully Submitted

Precision Property Holdings, LLC

13913 Lincoln Ave., Dolton, IL 60419
708-487-9288

February 28, 2016

Minister Derron Travis

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a member of the Church Community and of the area served by the hospitals referenced in the project names above, I am very concerned about the future of health care in our region. I am aware that health care delivery is consistently changing and the need for in-patient beds are declining. St. James is a classic example of this trend. Under utilized beds must always be ready to accept patients and used or not they cost money. Cost that are undoubtedly passed on to consumers. That is just one issue to consider. There are many. I have attended the meetings and talked to members of the community and it is clear that despite the emotional attachment that many have to St. James, and the rhetoric provided against the plan, it is my sincere hope that your board recognizes the weight of providing health care to a region so diverse economically and otherwise, is a daunting task under today's guidelines and stipulations. It is my hope that you trust in the 100 plus year committment of St. James and approve this plan.

Respectfully Submitted

February 18, 2016

Pastor Dewayne Evans
1633 Wilson Ave.
Chicago Heights, IL 6
60411

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

As a member of this community, and having had family be born and pass on at St. James Hospital, I am deeply moved by the events surrounding the changes that must be made to keep it viable as a deliverer of sound, quality, consistent medical care for the are that it serves.

As a Pastor, I have ministered there over the years to those recovering there, and have had the pleasure of watching the compassionate care that is given to all that come there for services. It is my hope that the hospitals can continue to provide this kind of care. I am aware of the issues surrounding the above referenced applications before you. However, I urge you to approve the request. It is my thought, that this plan assures continued health care options through out the southland for decades to come.

Respectfully Submitted

Pastor Dewayne Evans

Liberty Covenant Church

18668 Highway Drive
Homewood, IL 60430

February 3 , 2016

Pastor - Jonathan Jordan

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept this letter of support for Franciscan St. James Health's plans to continue to provide sound health care opportunities for the people of the southland area. It is our belief that the plans being discussed as they pertain to the Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16 and Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005 are in the best interest of the citizens in the service area of both hospitals. It is our belief that the changes are needed to ensure high quality and affordable health care is available to all in the region.

It is our hope that the board recognizes the unique circumstances that health care providers are facing through out the state and nation as we do. As caregivers in our own right, we recognize the struggles of the people we serve. We feel that the 100 plus year commitment of Franciscan St. James lends its self to the confidence that we have in these community health care providers to continue on that mission.

We have attended several meetings hosted by St. James Hospital regarding the plans and have drawn our conclusions from this base of knowledge and engagement.

Respectfully Submitted

Dr. Jonathan Jordan

Boys Enrichment and Mentoring Ministries
Minister Hafisia Lane
600 South Harrison Ave. Suite 202
Kankakee, IL 60901

February 22, 2016

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

RE: Franciscan St. James Health-Chicago Heights COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health- Olympia Fields CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery:

There is much to consider, I'm sure, as it relates to the plans regarding the above referenced applications before your board. However, it is the belief of those we serve, that St. James has proven its commitment to the region and has demonstrated sound decision making. As national trends to health care change, they recognize that to keep health care affordable and consistent with trends, things must change to fit the need to continue adequate and quality delivery of services to the region.

After attending several of the meetings, and listening to the political slants and the like, it is my conclusion that despite some discord from area leaders in Chicago Heights, this is a regional issue and all parties involved will benefit or lose as it pertains to the outcome of these applications. We believe that the right decision is to approve the plan. That is a win for continued health care in the areas served.

Respectfully Submitted

BESCH
DESIGN
CONCEPTS, LTD.

March 1, 2016

Ms. Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Service Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Franciscan St. James Health – Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health – Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is in support of the Franciscan St. James Health Systems' applications recently submitted to your agency.

I own a small interior design business in Chicago, however, I was a long-time resident of Chicago Heights and was born at St. James Hospital. Most of my family members, neighbors and friends were born there and continued to use this facility as their main source of health care system. I live in Chicago now, however, I have family, friends and clients that I visit frequently in Chicago Heights and surrounding areas. I drive past the hospital frequently and have been talking to residents in the area who currently use this facility. I know it is in dire need of updating and changes or the community would lose this location all together.

I was excited to learn about the proposed Olympia Fields and Chicago Heights location changes. Being from the city with so many great hospital and health care facility options, I was concerned about the quality of the St. James Health System as it stands. I believe this proposal will offer these south suburban communities a new, high level health resources that will be key in the development of this area. I have a lot of clients, contractors, family and friends that will take full advantage of these new reworked facilities. They no longer have to travel downtown to obtain an advanced level of health care. It will also great jobs and revenue to the community. This is a "no brainer" in my book.

Chicago Heights is always home to me and I fully support the proposed the redevelopment of these two health care facilities in order to better the community.

Sincerely,

Susan Besch
President
Besch Design Concepts, Ltd.

4343 west peterson avenue, suite 201, chicago, IL 60646
773 - 736 - 1506

ThrallEnterprises, Inc.

Two Prudential Plaza • 180 N. Stetson Avenue, Suite 4330 • Chicago, IL 60601-6714 • 312-621-8200 • Fax 312-621-4549

March 2, 2016

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

Re: Franciscan St. James Health - Chicago Heights, COE E-08-16
Franciscan St. James Health - Olympia Fields, CON 16-005

I am writing this letter in support of the restructuring and redevelopment plan for Franciscan St. James and the expansion of services at the Olympia Fields campus. I also support the additional investment to keep the Chicago Heights location open.

We are lifelong residents of the South suburbs and our original family business, Thrall Car Manufacturing Corporation, was located in Chicago Heights. We have always relied on St. James as an important healthcare facility and recognize the economic realities of the Chicago Heights facility and the newer Olympia Fields location. While I feel that it is important to keep the Chicago Heights location open, the significant investment in the Olympia Fields facilities will certainly improve the patient and family experience in the hospital and enhance emergency room services.

Additional investment in Franciscan St. James is very important to the community. We must provide modern healthcare facilities and enhanced services to attract businesses and residents to the South Suburbs. I strongly support the Franciscan St. James Redevelopment and Restructuring Plan.

Sincerely,

J. Jeffrey Thrall
President