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VNA Health Care

8/24/16

RECEIVED
AUG 2 9 2016
HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Kathy Olson
Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project #16-024, Fresenius Kidney Care East Aurora

Dear Ms. Olson:

I am writing in support of Fresenius Kidney Care's proposed East Aurora dialysis facility to be established at 810 N. Farnsworth Avenue, Aurora. VNA Health Care operates a Federally Qualified Health Center that provides primary health care to approximately 27,000 residents in the Aurora area. Of this population, approximately 65% are Hispanic and 14% African American. One of the VNA health centers is located on the east side of Aurora, close to where the clinic will be located, and we know that this is an area that is medically underserved with a population that has little or no insurance. These individuals face many barriers to care including poverty and lack of transportation, which makes travel outside of the area for medical appointments, such as dialysis, prohibitive.

Fresenius Kidney Care and Dr. Dodhia, Medical Director of the Fresenius Aurora dialysis center on the campus of Presence Hospital, have a long history of serving patients with kidney failure in our area and Dr. Dodhia is a well-respected nephrologist.

Given the fact that the East Aurora facility will serve an underserved area and that the Hispanic and African American population has a higher propensity to be diagnosed with the two leading causes of kidney failure, hypertension and diabetes, I am pleased to share my support for this project.

Sincerely,

Linnea Windel

Linnea Windel
President/CEO