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JUL 28 2014

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Mental Health and Deafness Resources Inc:

1941 Unit A Rohlwing Rd.
Rolling Meadows Illinois 60008

E-016-14

July 24, 2014

Kathryn J. Olson, Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Application for Chicago Behavioral Hospital - Certificate of Exemption for the Change of Ownership for Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital in Des Plaines, Illinois

My name is Dr. Patricia Scherer and I am the founder and President of Mental Health and Deafness Resources Inc. This organization currently provides children and adolescents with hearing loss a JCAHO approved psychiatric treatment unit currently located in the Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital. We have been a part of this hospital since 1980 when it was known as Forest Hospital. Our unit was one of the first in the country to be established to treat children with hearing loss who experienced behavioral and psychiatric disorders. We are well known internationally for the work we have done in saving children and making them productive and fulfilled. When we received the notification from Sister Cathy of her intent to close the hospital I requested a meeting and as a result Sister indicated that she would allow us to stay until it was determined if the hospital would be sold. As soon as it was feasible we requested a meeting with the potential new owners and found out as much as we could about them. Much to our delight both in what we read and in our meetings together we found them very interesting, innovative and anxious to return the hospital to its previous status as one of the best in the entire area. Therefore we are most interested in having their application approved and look forward to working with them to expand our program so it includes children, adolescents and adults with various disorders and special needs. This would be the only hospital in Illinois with that mission and currently is the only facility in a ten state area. It is critical that Illinois' population of special needs individuals have a place where they can receive treatment that is given by individuals who are experienced and trained and understand the pressures under which these individuals live. Such a unit would bring credit to the entire state of Illinois and would make an invaluable contribution to the growth and reputation of the Chicago Behavioral Hospital.

The parent company of Chicago Behavioral Hospital, US HealthVest, has substantial experience in operating behavioral health hospitals and will continue serving the behavioral health needs of the community with a special emphasis on children and adolescents.

I urge you to support the approval of Chicago Behavioral Hospital application for the Change of Ownership for Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital and thank you for your assistance in allowing us to continue to provide access to care for children and adolescents with special needs who are in need of quality in-patient psychiatric services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Scherer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Patricia Scherer Ph.D.
President and Founder
Mental Health and Deafness Resources Inc.
International Center on Deafness and the Arts

July 15, 2014

Mr. Dale Galassie
Chairman
Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital

Dear Mr. Galassie,

This letter is to express LifeSynch's consideration of a contracting agreement with Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital (MBHH) in Des Plaines, Illinois. Our intention is to pursue a contract, contingent upon the negotiation of mutually agreeable rates, for Acute Inpatient care, Partial Hospitalization (PHP), and Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) services during the fall of 2014.

Within our communities, there is a need for increased access to programs and services for individuals experiencing the debilitating effects of mental illness, especially access to treatments focusing on children and adolescents. Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital specializes in Child and Adolescent services, ensuring young people and their families reach clinicians and programs which are specifically tailored to meet the unique needs of the youth population. Failure to treat children and adolescents with quality programs will not meet the long term needs of the community, prevent patient and family hardships, and/or emergency department boarding of youth with mental illness diagnoses. In addition, the ability of MBHH to provide a full spectrum of services, both high and low levels of care, will allow step-down opportunities and continuity of care that many individuals experiencing chronic mental illness need to maintain long term stability and life success.

We look forward to the pursuit of long term relationship with Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Best Regards,



Shena Ashmore

Hospital Contracting Executive

LifeSynch, a Humana company

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