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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

August 08, 2014

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

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

Dear Ms. Olson,

This letter is in support of Chicago Behavioral Health Hospital's Application for Certificate of Exemption for the Change of Ownership for Maryville Behavioral Health Hospital.

A great need continues for specialized inpatient acute care for children and adolescents. A need also exists for the adult and seniors population. Currently, it is a challenge to find an appropriate bed when a patient is in crisis resulting in patients being held in emergency departments, traveling long distances, and being separated from their family support systems while in crisis. Having a resource available to them in the time of crisis is crucial for the well-being of the populations who utilize acute care services. With such a limited availability of child beds in the area it is important to continue the services this hospital provides.

The parent company of Chicago Behavioral Health 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 Health 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 who need inpatient psychiatric care.

Sincerely,

Edgar Ramos, PsyD
Director of Clinical Services
Center for Behavioral Health Services