

Axel & Associates, Inc.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

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MAY 03 2010

April 29, 2010

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mr. Michael Constantino
Supervisor, Project Review
Illinois Health Facilities
and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62761

**RE: Projects 010-013 and 010-014
Changes of Ownership of Westlake Hospital
and West Suburban Medical Center**

Dear Mr. Constantino:

Please accept this letter in response to your April 23, 2010 request for additional information related to the charity care provided by Westlake Hospital and West Suburban Medical Center, as well as the benefits anticipated to be realized by Vanguard as a result of the changes of ownership.

The table below provides the charity-related information that you requested.

Westlake Hospital:			
	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009
Net Patient Revenue	\$ 103,772,000	\$ 101,844,649	\$ 96,100,142
Amount of Charity Care	\$ 3,611,075	\$ 2,979,348	\$ 3,026,318
Cost of Charity Care	\$ 1,153,016	\$ 1,308,594	\$ 855,805
West Suburban Medical Center:			
	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009
Net Patient Revenue	\$ 193,524,000	\$ 165,528,177	\$ 164,375,698
Amount of Charity Care	\$ 7,782,159	\$ 7,700,102	\$ 7,284,772
Cost of Charity Care	\$ 2,579,008	\$ 2,268,098	\$ 2,290,447

Vanguard believes that the greatest benefit it will realize from the changes of ownership will be the expanding of its Chicago-area system from two to four hospitals and the inherent benefits associated with a larger critical mass of hospitals and patients. Vanguard views scale as being critical in order for a hospital system to achieve long term sustainability when desiring to provide care to all, and without regard to financial or reimbursement status. With the acquisition of Westlake and West Suburban, three of Vanguard's four Chicago-area hospitals will be located within five miles of one another, allowing for the sharing of overhead services and thereby improving efficiencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Axel', written in a cursive style.

Jacob M. Axel
President

cc T. Pilgrim
J. Frey