

Axel & Associates, Inc.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

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SEP 10 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

September 8, 2015

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

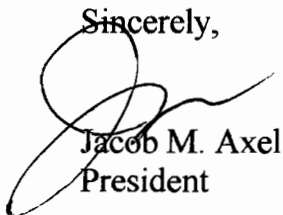
RE: MercyRockford Health System
Projects 15-038, 15-039, and 15-040

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please post the enclosed letter as a letter of support for the three above-referenced projects.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jacob M. Axel
President

enclosure



August 28, 2015

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

Re: Support for MercyRockford Health System -- Project Numbers: 15-038, 15-039, 15-040

Dear Ms. Avery:

Healing Pathways is an independent, not-for-profit organization committed to offering supportive services at no cost to those touched by cancer. We offer a wide range of programming and services for cancer patients, their families and caregivers. In 2015, we estimate that we will see nearly 2,000 encounters and we have increased our regional reach to serve guests from the Byron, Freeport, Dixon, Janesville and Schaumburg areas.

We work closely with the cancer programs in the area and applaud MercyRockford Health System for its commitment to excellence in cancer care. Earlier this year, the health system completed a \$7 million project on its N. Rockton Avenue campus to provide a state-of-the-art radiation therapy treatment of cancer patients. The project included constructing an addition to the hospital and the installation of a TruBeam linear accelerator. We appreciate that significant investment in cancer treatment and in serving cancer patients at the west-side campus. We support MercyRockford's plans for "one hospital on two campuses" and its commitment to maintaining a robust campus in its current location, particularly the plans to maintain its excellent cancer treatment program there.

Healing Pathways is strongly supportive of initiatives, like the MercyRockford projects, that will help insure access to care for the residents of our community, particularly those who depend on the care provided on Rockford Memorial Hospital's existing campus. Many of these residents rely on Medicaid to support their care and the elimination of necessary services at the Rockton Avenue campus could result in a diminishment of those services. We are grateful that MercyRockford's new plan insures the continued vitality of the Rockton Avenue campus and its cancer-treatment programs. We look forward to our continuing partnership with the MercyRockford Cancer Center as we provide supportive services to families fighting cancer in our community and the surrounding region.

Thank you for your consideration of our support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Melody M. Roccaforte".

Melody M Roccaforte
Executive Director
Healing Pathways Cancer Resource Center

3921 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108
815-977-4123

www.healingpathwayscsrc.org

Healing Pathways-Cancer Resource Center is a 501c3 Corporation.