

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Courtney Avery, Administrator
2nd Floor
525 W. Jefferson Street
Springfield, IL 62761

September 2, 2015

Dear Courtney Avery:

E-007-15
E-008-15
E-009-15

This is a formal request for a public hearing regarding the impending merger of Kishwaukee Health Systems with Northwestern Memorial Health Care. I called your office today and Bonnie told me a written request must reach your office by deadline, which is Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015 according to the article in today's DeKalb Daily Chronicle.

I am part of the DeKalb County Citizens for Better Mental Health Care, an ad hoc group formed in 2009 to oppose the closure of the Center for Behavioral Health unit at Kishwaukee Hospital. Since that closure, mental health care in this county has continued to deteriorate and the hospital has been shipping mental health patients elsewhere out of the county for inpatient treatment. We want to express our concerns with this proposed merger to gain assurance Northwestern will improve mental health care as well as other medical services for the citizenry of our county.

Please consider holding the public hearing in DeKalb County. In 2009 your hearing officer held the public hearing on the Kishwaukee CBH closure at the DeKalb City Council chambers, which should be a good location again for a hearing. I would be glad to assist you in securing that location this time.

Sincerely,



Barry Schrader
P.O. Box 851
511 Roberts Lane
DeKalb, IL. 60115
Phone 815-758-5424
Email: barry815@sbcglobal.net

RECEIVED

SEP 03 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Copy to: Deanna Cada, DeKalb County 708 Mental Health Board