

June 26, 2018

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

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Re: Support for Geneva Crossing Dialysis in Carol Stream – Project No. 17-013

Dear Ms. Avery,

I fully support the proposed Geneva Crossing Dialysis clinic in Carol Stream. As a resident of DuPage County, I am familiar with the benefits and challenges we face in the area, and I write to share my thoughts on our community needs – particularly our need for improved access to dialysis services.

Notably, DuPage County has one of the highest concentrations of senior citizens in the seven county Chicago metropolitan area. We are greatly feeling the effects of the effects of the aging baby boomer population and must prepare for their needs as they require increasing access to community and health services in the coming years. As you know, the elderly experience higher rates of chronic disease and organ failure, such as kidney disease and End Stage Renal Failure, and many will require dialysis in the future. I urge you and the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to consider the increasing need for dialysis services as necessary components of any health planning agenda.

In addition to aging, our residents also face issues with obesity and lifestyle choices that all too often lead to chronic disease. Our society has become accustomed to making poor decisions with regard to diet, choosing overconsumption of higher calorie foods in lieu of healthier alternatives, in large part because junk food is easier and cheaper than the alternatives. As you know, obesity puts a person at a much higher risk of developing diabetes and hypertension, two of the underlying causes of kidney failure. I urge the Board to also consider these trends in its health planning efforts.

As it stands, Carol Stream is not currently equipped to handle the rising influx of dialysis patients, both old and young. Residents must currently travel elsewhere for their dialysis treatments as there are no clinics in the village. Because area clinics have limited capacity, there is also limited appointment availability and ability to accept new patients. We have a documented shortage of dialysis services in DuPage County and Carol Stream.

Geneva Crossing Dialysis is necessary to help address the village's existing and projected dialysis needs. It will also help improve dialysis capacity for others in the area. Please approve this proposed dialysis clinic – project number 17-013.

Sincerely,



James Tremmel
5324 Florence Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60515