

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

October 18, 2017

OCT 19 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Arden Shore Child & Family Services for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





Board of Directors

Dorothy Rzeszutko
Board Chair
President,
Concept Foods

Dora E. Maya, Ph.D.
President and CEO
Arden Shore Child and
Family Services

David Audley, Atty.
Partner, Chapman &
Cutler, LLP

Christine Chybik
Associate Partner
AON Hewitt

Mari Loustaunau
Owner,
Café Pyrenees
Restaurant

Dixie Malek, Atty.
Partner,
Malek and Associates

Barbara Martin

Hon. Michael Nerhelm
Lake County
States Attorney

Faisal Pandit,
President,
Panasonic Factory
Solutions Company

Nicholas Riewer
Atty, Partner,
Riewer and Collins, LLC

Suzanne Willett,
Lawyer, States
Attorney's Office

Scott Yelvington,
President,
NorState Bank

Ryan Zizzo,
Sr. Capital Analyst
Discover Financial
Services

October 17, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide.

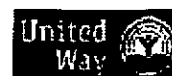
I am supporting this application because HealthVest's services are aligned with the needs identified in the LCHD/CHC 2014 Assessing Barriers to Healthcare Access in Northern Lake County that reported (based on the 2012 Illinois Hospital Discharge Survey) the highest rates of visits to Lake County hospital emergency departments for mental health and substance abuse problems were in the central east and central west parts of the county; persons 15-24 years old were 14 percent of the population but 30 percent of emergency visits, and tragically 42 percent of suicide and self-inflicted injury; persons aged 25-34 years were overrepresented in the emergency department data for anxiety disorder and substance related disorders; and elderly persons were a high percentage of emergency visits for delirium and dementia.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,


Dora E. Maya, PhD
President and CEO



FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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OCT 25 2017

HAND DELIVERED

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 25, 2017

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

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Michael G. Nerheim, State's Attorney, Lake County for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





OFFICE OF THE
STATE'S ATTORNEY

LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

MICHAEL G. NERHEIM

STATE'S ATTORNEY

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services which US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because access to mental health treatment remains one of our top issues in Lake County. As Lake County's Chief Law Enforcement official, I see first-hand how many people with mental illness end up in the criminal justice system due to a lack of mental health treatment facilities in our community. We currently have several different initiatives underway to address this pressing issue. The success of these programs hinges on access to care. Lake County also has a robust Specialty Court program which includes a Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Veteran's Court. We have had to go out of county for placement due to a shortage of psychiatric beds here. Another major issue in Lake County is transportation. Many of the mental health services are located in the Southeastern corner of our community, while much need exists in the Central and Northern portions of our county. Having these services in Waukegan, the largest city in Lake County, will substantially improve this problem.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. NERHEIM
STATE'S ATTORNEY

**Lake County
Building**
18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3000
Fax (847) 360-1538

Child Support

18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3131
Fax (847) 360-1097

**Children's Advocacy
Center**

123 N. O'Plaine Rd.
Gurnee, IL 60031
(847) 377-3155
Fax (847) 360-6850

Civil Division

18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3050
Fax (847) 360-0661

**Felony Division
Drug Division
Cyber Division
Special Investigations**

18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3000
Fax (847) 360-1538

Felony Review Division
Robert H. Babcox
Justice Center

20 S. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3025
Fax (847) 263-6179

Juvenile Trial Division
Robert W. Depke
Juvenile Justice Complex

24647 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Vernon Hills, IL 60061
(847) 377-7850
Fax (847) 634-8831

**Misdemeanor Division
Traffic Division**

18 N. County St.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 377-3000
Fax (847) 625-7129

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

October 26, 2017

RECEIVED

OCT 27 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

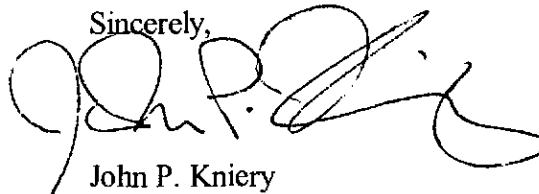
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Paul Safyan for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure



RECEIVED

OCT 27 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Paul S. Safyan
300 Linden Lane
Wheeling, IL 60090
safyone@gmail.com

October 25, 2017

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761
RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing the letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 146-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of the City of Waukegan and other residents throughout Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services which US HealthVest can provide. Currently, there is a severe shortage of psychiatric beds in the service area. Lake County has only 6 beds / 100,000 people compared to the national average of 30 beds / 100,000 people. Many patients are forced to travel outside of the area for psychiatric care, if they receive it at all.

I am a former clinical social worker, and I am a participant in the mental health committee of Lake County United, a grassroots community group. I am acutely aware of not only the shortage of psychiatric beds in Lake County, but also of the lack of availability for police and other first responders to be able to divert potential patients from incarceration or outright abandonment.

I urge you and your colleagues to support the approval of the certificate of need application for US HealthVest, so that they can provide better access to care in Lake County.

Thank you sincerely,

Paul S. Safyan

Paul S. Safyan M.S.C.M.H., MSC

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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October 26, 2017

OCT 27 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

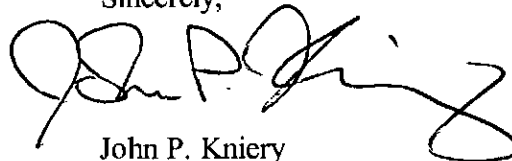
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from the Administrative Office of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, Division of Psychological Services for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



Division of Psychological Services

Lake County, Illinois

DENA TRAYLOR, PSY.D.
Director of Psychological Services
215 West Water Street
Waukegan, IL 60085-5533
TDD: 847.625-2783
Fax: 847.625.5109
Phone: 847.377-3675

JORGE L. ORTIZ
Chief Judge

DANNY DAVIS
Executive Director

RECEIVED

OCT 27 2017

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because Lake County residents have limited access to psychiatric inpatient treatment that is of reasonable distance for both adult patients and minor children. Minor children are often psychiatrically hospitalized in Cook County hospitals that make it extremely difficult for parents, often of limited means, to adequately participate in their child's treatment. In particular, youth involved in the juvenile justice system who have complicating mental health issues are best served within the Lake County community where they reside. This would enable parents and supportive community professionals to be actively involved in the treatment process. Direct linkage to aftercare services is imperative to reduce the risk of deterioration and continued behavior that result in further delinquency. Adult clients involved in the criminal justice system often have limited familial and financial resources. A mental health hospital that is accessible and that provides linkage to community based supportive services is needed in Lake County. This valuable addition to Lake County's health care system would reduce the burden of chronic relapse resulting in a safer community.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services and we would welcome this expanded hospital service in our community.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Dena Traylor, Psy.D.
Director of the Division of Psychological Services
Administrative Office of the 19th Judicial Circuit

James Edwards
Director of Juvenile Probation/Detention Services
Administrative Office of the 19th Judicial Circuit

Holly Hinton, Psy.D.
Assistant Director of the Division of Psychological Services
Administrative Office of the 19th Judicial Circuit

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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October 31, 2017

OCT 31 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

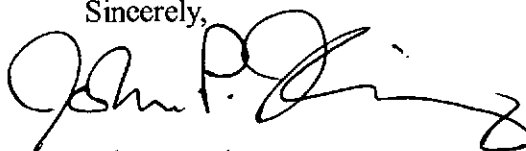
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed three (3) support letters from Vista Home Health and Hospice, Arbor Counseling Center, Ltd., and National Alliance on Mental Illness, Metro Suburban for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





September 7, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because of the growing need for psychiatric care in this community and Lake County. Currently, many family members are forced to travel great distances for such care. In many instances, financial restrictions make that virtually impossible. At a time that their loved one truly needs them, that level of support is hampered by travel. Additionally, follow-up appointments suffer the same hardships. Lake County is a vibrant area and well-supported by the medical community with hospitals, numerous Skilled Nursing and Assisted Living Facilities, and many home care and hospice agencies. Support for a behavioral hospital by US HealthVest is a natural to enhance the quality and level of care that provides the specialty needed by Lake County residents.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Lithgow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Lithgow
Administrator
Vista Hospice

ARBOR

Counseling Center, Ltd.

August 1, 2017

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

RE: US HealthVest's Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of US Healthvest's Certificate of Need application to expand behavioral health beds at Vista Medical Center West in Waukegan, IL.

As a psychotherapist located in Gurnee at Arbor Counseling Center, my patients have experienced frequent delays in accessing inpatient psychiatric care mainly due to bed shortages. There have been many times patients have had to wait to access care.

A local solution to this mental health care barrier in Lake County would be essential.

The information I have included has not been used to support another pending or approved CON application for a behavioral hospital.

I urge you to support the approval of certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. Approval of the application will increase access to these important services in our area.

If you have any additional questions, I can be reached at 847-625-9004 ext. 129.

Respectfully

Scott Stolarick, LCPC
Program Director
Arbor Counseling Center, Ltd

Buffalo Grove • Hoffman Estates • Crystal Lake • Gurnee
Administrative Office: 1401 McHenry Road, Suite 122, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
Telephone: (847) 913-0393, Fax (847) 913-9630
www.arborcounselingcenter.com



NAMI

National Alliance on Mental Illness

Metro Suburban

Serving Chicago's near west suburbs

August 2nd, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because patients waiting for a psychiatric bed in hospital emergency departments has been a significant issue brought to our attention by our membership.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Knake
Executive Director
NAMI Metro Suburban

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 2, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 02 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

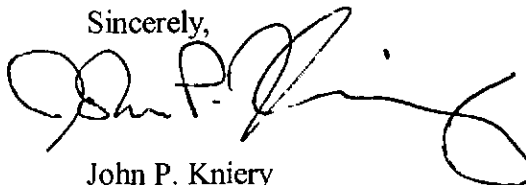
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed three (3) support letters from National Alliance on Mental Illness – Lake County, St. Joseph Catholic Church, and Agata Marcinkowska & Artur Partyka for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures



NAMI | Lake County

National Alliance on Mental Illness

August 25, 2017

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

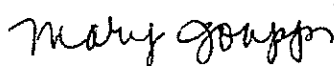
RE: Vista Medical Center West Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am the President of the National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) in Lake County. Our board voted to support the expansion of psychiatric beds at VISTA Medical Center West. As a nonprofit and a representative of the mental health community, the number of adult beds in Lake County does not provide the care that is needed. NAMI National states that approximately "1 in 25 adults in the U.S. experiences a mental illness in a given year that interferes with or limits one or more major life activities." Lake County currently has a total of 26 adult inpatient psychiatric beds. Many of the family members that we speak to in our support groups and classes, travel to another county to obtain inpatient mental health care and mental health services. This impacts the involvement of the family and those that require hospitalization due to a severe mental illness. To date this year, we have completed more than 20 family support groups and 41 support groups for those with a mental illness, not including participating in multiple community presentations and health and wellness fairs.

The information I have included has not been used to support another pending or approved CON application for a behavioral hospital.

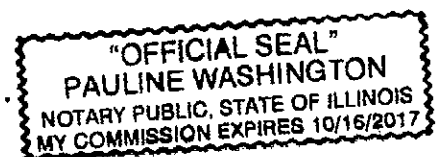
NAMI Lake County thanks you for approving this application.



Mary Jouppe, MS, LPC
President

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Lake County
State of Illinois
County of Lake

This instrument was acknowledged before me on August 25, 2017.


Notary Public



August 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

I am supporting this application because I see critical needs for psychiatric care and substance abuse services. Our community of St Joseph Catholic Church in Libertyville has over 4,000 families and I have personally seen the unmet need for specialized psychiatric services. I see this need when I visit our PADs homeless shelter and even closer to home when I minister to individuals and families within our parish.

Additionally, we have hundreds of parishioners engaged in justice and service ministries in our community and our surrounding community who share my advocacy for an expansion of mental health services and an increase in the number of inpatient beds for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West.

Sincerely,

Father John Trout
Pastor

JT/mw

**AGATA MARCINKOWSKA
ARTUR PARTYKA
592 Muskegan Ct. Vernon Hills, IL 60061**

August 21, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because last year we personally experience problems with finding a right medical facility close home for our son who was diagnosed with a bi-polar disorder.

Condell Hospital in Libertyville could not find any psychiatric hospital for him in Lake County. He had to be placed in Elk Grove Village for the remaining treatment. We, the parents, had big problems to travel such a great distance from Vernon Hills to be involved in his therapy and for visitations.

With his driving restrictions, due to his illness, he was very reluctant to seek any psychiatric help after his release from Elk Grove Village, because there was no good place to turn into in Lake County.

We all are really looking forward to having a good professional behavioral health facility in our county.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Agata Marcinkowska
Artur Partyka
592 Muskegan Ct.
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 3, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 03 2017

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

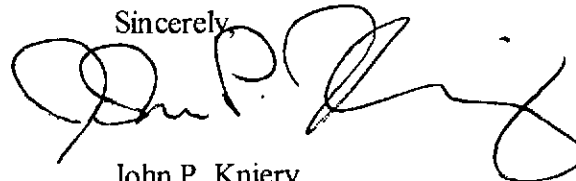
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from the Lake County Board of Health President for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





LakeCounty

Health Department and
Community Health Center

Mark A. Pfister, MSES, LEHP
Executive Director

3010 Grand Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone 847 377 8000

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral health hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services in Lake County and US HealthVest has been one of our partners that we refer our patients to for care.

On September 25, 2017, the Lake County Board of Health voted unanimously to support this application and our staff, in a separate letter to you dated September 12, 2017, provided specific psychiatric hospitalization data to support the need.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the Lake County area to expand behavioral health services and by approving this application it will directly benefit our patients and their families as well as the residents of Waukegan and Lake County.

Thank you for your assistance in providing improved access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

T.E. Sashko
President
Lake County Board of Health

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

NOV 06 2017

November 6, 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

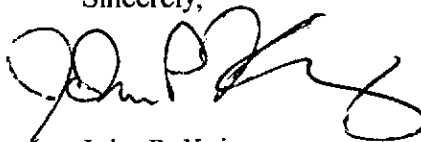
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed two (2) support letters from Lake County Chiefs of Police Association and Gurnee Chief of Police & Fire Chief for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





PO Box 472
Mundelein, IL 60060

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital.

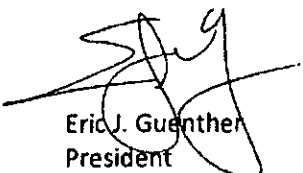
The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide.

Law Enforcement across the country has experienced vast increases in contacts with those suffering from mental health and addiction issues. The lack of immediately available services to assist these individuals results in a large portion being released within hours from emergency rooms. This leads to an unusually high rate of recidivism, not to mention frustration from patients, families, and law enforcement. Lake County desperately needs access to a professional inpatient psychiatric care facility that understands and is equipped to handle the growing mental health crisis we are all experiencing.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,



Eric J. Guenther
President

Lake County Chiefs of Police Association



Kristina M. Kovarik, Mayor

www.gurnee.il.us

October 26, 2017

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

RE: Vista Medical Center West Certificate of Need Application

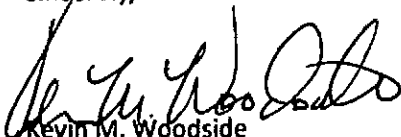
Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is in support of the application from US HealthVest to expand psychiatric beds in Lake County and to renovate the property located at Vista Medical Center West, previously Provena Saint Therese Medical Center, for behavioral health services in Waukegan.

Law enforcement officers and firemedics across the country have experienced vast increases in contacts with those suffering from mental health and addiction issues. The lack of immediately available services to assist these individuals results in many being released within hours from emergency rooms and leads to an high rate of recidivism, not to mention frustration from patients, families, and law enforcement. Lake County desperately needs access to a professional inpatient psychiatric care facility that understands and is equipped to handle the growing mental health crisis we are all experiencing. US HealthVest's proposed facility will certainly increase access to these important services.

I urge you to support the approval of the special use permit application for a behavioral hospital in Waukegan by US HealthVest, LLC. As a neighboring community to Waukegan, IL, we thank you for approving this application as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Kevin M. Woodside
Chief of Police


John Kavanagh
Fire Chief

KMW/sc

NOTARY PUBLIC:

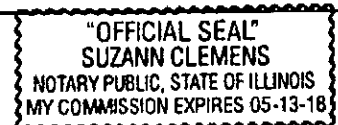
STATE OF: Illinois

COUNTY OF: Lake

This document was subscribed to and sworn to before me on the 26th day of October 2017.

Suzann Clemens
(Printed Name of Notary Public)

Suzann Clemens
(Signature of Notary Public)



325 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee, Illinois 60031-2636
Administration 847-599-7500
Building & Engineering 847-599-7550
Fax 847-623-9475

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

November 7, 2017

NOV 07 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

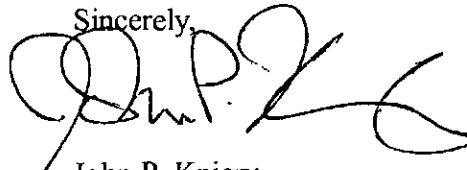
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from IKOR for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





November 5, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus.

There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services that is resulting in patients being deferred or denied treatment. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in Waukegan, Lake County and beyond. According to the latest Lake County Community Health Assessment Report, mental health issues affect 23% of adults in Lake County with suicide being the 10th leading cause of death in Lake County. Mental health was the highest priority when identifying and building system capacity.

I am supporting this application because in my company, our RN's not only support people with mental illnesses but also help to place them as needs arise. Presently, it is very difficult to find adequate locations that can appropriately assist my clients. My company, IKOR (www.ikorglobal.com), specializes with seniors and individuals with disabilities. We are located in Northern Lake County and the need for a behavioral health center is imperative.

If there is anything I can do to help move this initiative forward, please let me know.

(Ironically, my father was a physician at Saint Therese back in 60's & 70's prior to moving and becoming Chief of Staff at Good Shepherd in Barrington. He passed away in 2000).

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Steiner".

Mike Steiner
Managing Director
IKOR

142 Hawley St. Suite 6
Grayslake, IL 60030
T. 847-984-9778 F. 847-984-9336
E. mike.steiner@ikorglobal.com
<http://ikorglobal.com/>

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

NOV 08 2017

November 8, 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

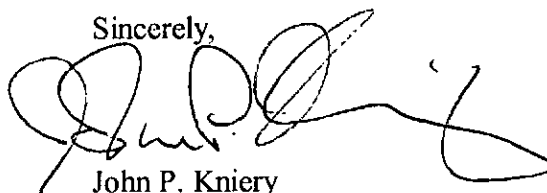
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Office of the Sheriff, Lake County for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

Lake County, Illinois

MARK C. CURRAN, JR.

SHERIFF

25 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Phone: (847) 377-4000

Fax: (847) 360-5796

November 7, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus.

There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services that is resulting in patients being deferred or denied treatment. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in Waukegan, Lake County and beyond. According to the latest Lake County Community Health Assessment Report, mental health issues affect 23% of adults in Lake County with suicide being the 10th leading cause of death in Lake County. Mental health was the highest priority when identifying and building system capacity.

The Sheriff's Office invested in Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for our first responders, so they are better able to identify residents afflicted with mental health or substance abuse disorders and link them to the services they need. In addition, the Sheriff's Office participates in other diversion initiatives including "A Way Out" and the Veterans Ambassador Program. Both initiatives address core issues and divert entry into the criminal justice system. The success of these initiatives requires the expansion of beds to address the county's increased behavioral health needs.

US HealthVest is making a significant investment in the renovation of the facility that will revitalize the campus. The new hospital will not only bring more qualified health professionals to Waukegan, but will offer new programs – much needed programs for patients and their family members and more inpatient beds than are currently available.

Please help our community and approve the application to expand behavioral health services at Vista Medical Center West.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Mark C. Curran, Jr." The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "C" and "J".

Mark C. Curran, Jr.
Sheriff

MCC:pp

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

NOV 09 2017

November 9, 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

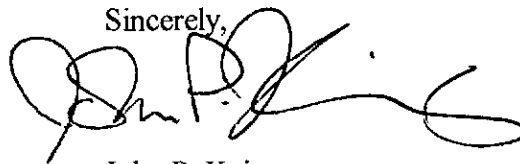
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Youth & Family Counseling for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





**Youth & Family
Counseling**

Healthy individuals, strong families, thriving communities

1113 S. Milwaukee Avenue, #104
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 367-5991
www.CounselingForAll.org

November 7, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus.

The lack of psychiatric services in this area is cause for significant concern. Families in our community experiencing mental health crises have difficulty getting the help they need. Local treatment is too often deferred or denied, or families must travel outside of Lake County to access care. This makes it difficult to achieve optimal treatment outcomes.

In addition, the existing network of behavioral healthcare is not equipped to meet the current need for services. There are not enough psychiatric beds in our community and outpatient counseling centers, like YFC, are not able to meet the needs of patients who require a higher level of care.

Approval of US HealthVest's application will increase access to important services and help facilitate family involvement and the continuation/coordination of care, improving the likelihood of treatment success.

I fully support the efforts of US HealthVest, LLC, to expand behavioral health services in our community and urge you to support the approval of their certificate of need.

Sincerely,


Janelle Miller Moravek
Executive Director
Youth & Family Counseling

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 9, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 09 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

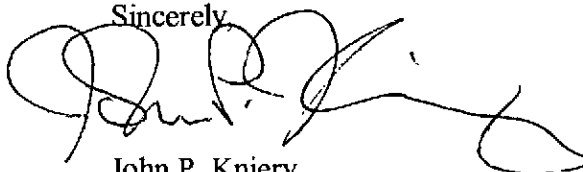
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Nicasa Behavioral Health Services for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures





Board of Directors

Javier Alonso
William Biong
LaTonya Burton
Ellen Correll
Stephen Down
Valery Gallagher

Janice Kapinos
David Kimes
Senator Terry Link
Ray Millington
Beverly Mull
Michael Nerheim

Ali O'Brien
Scott Roe
Ray Rose
Kim Smith
Jim Snow
Michael J. Waller

Jennifer Witherspoon
Roycealee Wood
Jan Zobus

November 7, 2017

Chief Executive Officer: Bruce N. Johnson

Chief Operating Officer: Linda Snellen

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus.

There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services that is resulting in patients being deferred or denied treatment. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in Waukegan, Lake County and beyond. According to the latest Lake County Community Health Assessment Report, mental health issues affect 23% of adults in Lake County with suicide being the 10th leading cause of death in Lake County. Mental health was the highest priority when identifying and building system capacity.

In my capacity as Chief Executive Officer of Nicasa Behavioral Health Services, I am well-aware of how much this expansion is needed in Lake County. We have been offering outpatient and intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment services for many years and began offering mental health services to youth and adults in 2013. It is so frustrating for my counselors who know that their clients need in-patient behavioral health care, but they can find no available beds. When options are found, they are often too far away – making it impossible for families to participate in treatment.

US HealthVest is making a significant investment in the renovation of the facility that will revitalize the campus. The new hospital will not only bring more qualified health professionals to Waukegan, but will offer new programs – much needed programs for patients and their family members and more inpatient beds than are currently available.

Please help our community and approve the application to expand behavioral health services at Vista Medical Center West. If you need any further information from me regarding this, I can be reached at 847-201-7009 or bjohnson@nicasa.org.

Sincerely,

Bruce N. Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

31979 N. Fish Lake Rd.
Round Lake, IL 60073
847-546-6450

2900 Main St.
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
(847) 634-6422

1724 1st Street
Highland Park, IL 60035
(847) 433-1303

J. H. Fried Center
2031 Dugdale Rd.
North Chicago, IL 60064
(847) 785-8660

1113 Greenwood Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087
(847) 244-4434

Bridge House
3016 Grand Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 662-4124

1632 23rd St.
Zion, IL 60099
(847) 872-2830



www.nicasa.org

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

November 13, 2017

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

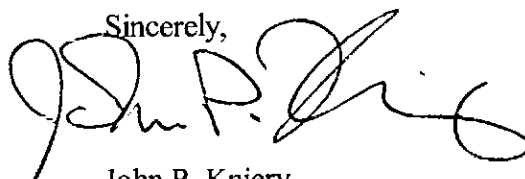
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letters from Libertyville Elementary Schools, District 70 and Dimensions Home Health Care for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures

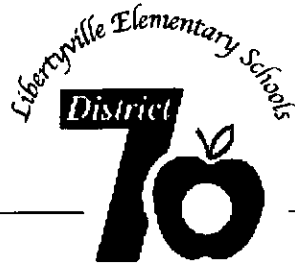


Office: 217/544-1551

Health Care Consulting
133 South Fourth Street, Suite 200 • Springfield, IL 62701
foley@foleyandassociates.com

Fax: 217/544-3615

Christian Otto, Ph.D.
Director of Special Services



Department of Special Education

Learning for all, no matter what it takes!

847-247-2694

cotto@d70schools.org

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing in support of US HealthVest's Certificate of Need to expand and enhance behavioral health services on the Vista Medical Center West campus.

There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services that is resulting in patients being deferred or denied treatment. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in Waukegan, Lake County and beyond. According to the latest Lake County Community Health Assessment Report, mental health issues affect 23% of adults in Lake County with suicide being the 10th leading cause of death in Lake County. Mental health was the highest priority when identifying and building system capacity.

Just this afternoon I was in a meeting with Lake County Special Education Directors, representing school districts throughout the county. Our group universally identifies mental health needs as a growing concern in the county.

Recently I worked with the family of a child who waited in the ER for over a week to find a hospital bed for their child. Meanwhile, these parents were required to take time off of work and arrange substitute childcare for their other children at home. Sadly this is a common occurrence for families within our community. Even in the best-case scenarios, families are required to drive 30 miles outside of Lake County in order to find inpatient services. Traveling these distances for aftercare services dramatically reduces compliance with prescribed aftercare services, even for the most well intended families.

US HealthVest is making a significant investment in the renovation of the facility that will revitalize the campus. The new hospital will not only bring more qualified health professionals to Waukegan, but will offer new programs – much needed programs for patients and their family members and more inpatient beds than are currently available.

Please help our community and approve the application to expand behavioral health services at Vista Medical Center West.

Sincerely,


Christian Otto, Ph.D.

202 South Greenleaf Street, Suite C
Gurnee, IL 60031
847.360.7660 (office)
847.360.8411 (fax)



November 8, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 146-bed behavioral hospital. The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide.

As a home health care agency serving the Medicare population, we at Dimensions often come across patients with behavioral health needs, and there is a woeful lack of access to any of these services in Lake County. Additionally, the senior population (60 and over) needs a different approach when it comes to their behavioral health needs. The reality is that when nursing homes or assisted living facilities cannot handle a resident's behavior, they call the police. This means that elderly patients with dementia are often being handcuffed after their caregivers call police. In some cases, they are even spending the night in jail -- waiting for the paperwork to get sorted. Handcuffs are for punishing people, or for people who have done something wrong and you can't trust them. They're not for dad who is having a medical issue. With the expansion of the Vista West site, we can do away with the handcuffs. It is the goal of US HealthVest to utilize a portion of the hospital specifically as a geriatric psychiatric unit.

In Lake County alone, seniors age 65 and older number 73,093, or 10.4% of residents according to the 2010 Census. The Alzheimer's Association found that 1 in 9 people over the age of 65 has Alzheimer's disease. That means that we have 8,121 Lake County residents with Alzheimer's disease. Lake County currently has no emergency services tailored to meet the specific needs of this population when crisis occurs. But allowing US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West will provide that much needed resource to allow for an individual to be stabilized, appropriately medically treated, and time for the resources within the community or outside of the community to be identified and established to prevent another crisis episode. This will provide families with a resource to help appropriately treat and care for their loved one who is experiencing the fear and disorder of a psychotic episode that frequently occurs with individuals afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias but aren't able to receive the care and treatment that they need.

I ask you to please support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West to expand behavioral health services, and thank you in advance for your assistance in providing access to behavioral healthcare in Lake County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katie Monahan".

Katie Monahan
Director of Marketing
Dimensions Home Health Care

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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NOV 13 2017

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

November 10, 2017

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

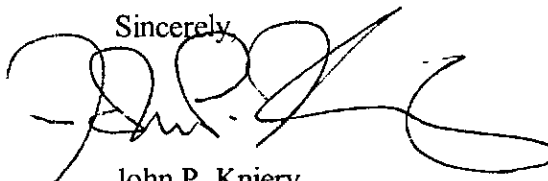
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed revised support letter from the Lake County Board of Health President for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





Health Department and
Community Health Center

Mark A. Pfister, MSES, LEHP
Executive Director

3010 Grand Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone 847 377 8000

October 25, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 146-bed behavioral health hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services in Lake County and US HealthVest has been one of our partners that we refer our patients to for care.

On September 25, 2017, the Lake County Board of Health voted unanimously to support this application and our staff, in a separate letter to you dated September 12, 2017, provided specific psychiatric hospitalization data to support the need.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the Lake County area to expand behavioral health services and by approving this application it will directly benefit our patients and their families as well as the residents of Waukegan and Lake County.

Thank you for your assistance in providing improved access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

T.E. Sashko
President
Lake County Board of Health

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

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NOV 13 2017

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

November 13, 2017

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

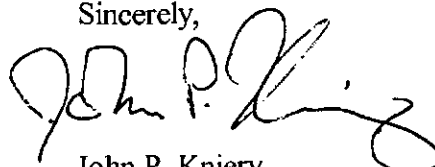
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed four (4) pages of signatures of Lake County residents in support of the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION FOR VISTA MEDICAL CENTER WEST

USHealthVest has decided to purchase the VISTA Medical Center West Hospital in Waukegan. They will convert it into a behavioral hospital. The Waukegan location will offer more mental health services than at the proposed Vernon Hills site. After a meeting at Saint Mary of Vernon between Lake County United and USHealthVest, SMV supports the new site.

The following signatures testify support for the Certificate of Need for the Vista Medical Center

Name	phone#	email
Dave Mulligan	847-507-0709	dave.mulligan84@gmail.com
Barbara Gosh	847 587 1621	BGosh9876@aol.com
Sh. Rita Stoeber, DPM	847-816-0546	
Miriam Reuss	224-628-1181	Miriam4066@att.net
Erwin Schmid	847-302-3115	eschmid@att.net
Renee Preston Knkl	847-816-3491	Rprestonknkl@comcast.net
Bruce E. Doe	312 317 8257	BOLSON30629@aol.com
Joyce Farley	312 933 3848	JoyceFarley@msn.com
Judy Gossman	847-566-7383	itsjudyg@yahoo.com
Mary Anne Litgen		mlitgen@yahoo.com
Mary Ann Fisher		
Darrell Clifford	224 522 9593	
Paul L. Gock	847-837-9035	
Paul L. Gock	847 837 1466	
Aime Marie Sullivan	847-680-9230	amsullivan8584@comcast.net
Martha Ramuta	847-276-4271	ramuta7@att.net
Deacon Dan Moore	847-204-9167	dptmoore@gmail.com
Jim Gossman	312 337 0961	J Goss
Jarah Newell	224 475-0520	Jarahnewell116@yahoo.com
Jessie Gossman	847 404 7899	jessie142@gmail.com

CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION FOR VISTA MEDICAL CENTER WEST

USHealthVest has decided to purchase the VISTA Medical Center West Hospital in Waukegan. They will convert it into a behavioral hospital. The Waukegan location will offer more mental health services than at the proposed Vernon Hills site. After a meeting at Saint Mary of Vernon between Lake County United and USHealthVest, SMV supports the new site.

The following signatures testify support for the Certificate of Need for the Vista Medical Center

Name

phone#

email

Mary B. Barrett	847-913-0203	
Virginia Dunn-Mulligan	847-347-8472	ginnymulligan3@gmail.com
Marion T. Biestek	847-816-1508	mtbiestek@HOTMAIL.COM
Jim Wollner	847.494.4565	
Marissa H. Olson	847-367-4538	
Mary Stuedi-Wesson	847-837-1466	
Nancy Pagnotta	847-234-4518	nancy.pag@comcast.net
John P. Pagnotta	847-572-0648	daup10@comcast
John P. Pagnotta	847-949-4437	jsoundwave@rockbank-lap.com
Christine A. Heady	847-767-5214	
Christine A. Heady	847-816-4793	caheady@sbcglobal.net
Christine A. Heady	847-816-4793	caheady@sbcglobal.net
AGATA MUSIAL	847-883-0292	amusal@hotmail.com
Mary Scardino	847-986-4491	Anglofmusic1@aol.com
Michael Farmer	847-566-6071	mfarmer@maryofvernon.org
John P. Pagnotta	847-276-4271	RAMUTA7@ATT.NET
Diane C. Zirkus	847-566-2177	diane.zirkus@att.net
Jane F. Rodell	847-367-5676	
Laura Lantom	847 540 8684	
Christine Piechota	847-910-1995	
Christine Piechota	312-505-4044	Cgougler@yahoo.com

USHealthVest has decided to purchase the VISTA Medical Center West Hospital in Waukegan. They will convert it into a behavioral hospital. The Waukegan location will offer more mental health services than at the proposed Vernon Hills site. After a meeting at Saint Mary of Vernon between Lake County United and USHealthVest, SMV supports the new site.

Name _____

phone#

email

Mary Phelps	847 641 7220	MSPH1420@aol.com
Ann Heady	847 323-5928	amheady24@yahoo.com
Zeny Cadavida	847 970 1202	cadavidazenaida@yahoo.com
Maria Katz	847 362-1250	Mmofbus525@aol.com
KATHY RYG	847-707-4728	rygkathy@yahoo.com
Dave Carroll	224-210-2059	maureenandavecarroll@aol.com
Maureen Carroll	" " "	" "
Kris RISSOIA	773 240 8027	KRISOIA2@YAHOO.COM
Patty Hurley	847 566 1525	hurleys@yahoo.com
C. RICHTEFORT	847 362 5613	CERICHTEFORT@YAHOO.COM
Jim Richtfort	847 362 5613	JRICHTEFORT@YAHOO.COM
Gary Chiappacase	847-362-9364	g56reader@aol.com

USHealthVest has decided to purchase the VISTA Medical Center West Hospital in Waukegan. They will convert it into a behavioral hospital. The Waukegan location will offer more mental health services than at the proposed Vernon Hills site. After a meeting at Saint Mary of Vernon between Lake County United and USHealthVest, SMV supports the new site.

Name	phone#	email
------	--------	-------

Edwin Rodriguez	847 276 0550	cadd-operations@aol.com
Carrie Benito	847-247-9280	carrie.benito@aol.com
Christine Juris		
Luisa Carrecho	(244) 539-6162	glulisaCarrecho@aol.com
Stephen Hurley	847 566 1525	stephenhurley@gmail.com
Gosia Bylinska	847-340-6555	mbylinska@comcast.net
Tom Gumbatz	(847) 949-5869	notedward@aol.com
MARILYN DOUGAL	847- 849 -4102	MARAND@AOL.com
JOHN NIDENTHAL	847-566-1809	
BOB FROST	847-949-4102	
Joe Curtis	847-362-1005	JOE.CURTIS@MAYFLOWER.NY.ORG

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

RECEIVED

NOV 13 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

HAND DELIVERED

November 10, 2017

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

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





Health Department and
Community Health Center

Mark A. Pfister, MSES, LEHP
Executive Director

3010 Grand Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone 847 377 8000

October 26, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 146-bed behavioral health hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services in Lake County and US HealthVest has been one of our partners that we refer our patients to for care.

On September 26, 2017, the Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center Governing Council voted unanimously to support this application and our staff, in a separate letter to you dated September 12, 2017, provided specific psychiatric hospitalization data to support the need.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the Lake County area to expand behavioral health services and by approving this application it will directly benefit our patients and their families as well as the residents of Waukegan and Lake County.

Thank you for your assistance in providing improved access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Mallory Bejster
Chair
Governing Council

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

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NOV 15 2017

November 14, 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

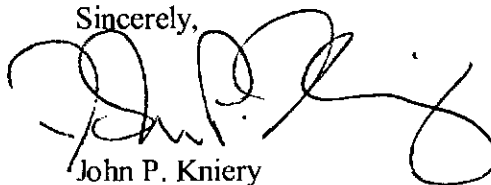
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Northwestern Medicine for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





Thomas J. McAfee
Senior Vice President
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare
President
Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital

847.535.6003
fax 847.535.7846
tmcafee@lfh.org
northwesternmedicine.org

660 North Westmoreland Road
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045

September 11, 2017

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

RE: Vista Medical Center West Certificate of Need Application

Dear Ms. Avery,

I serve at the President of Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital which operates two emergency centers: a full service level II emergency department at Lake Forest Hospital, and a free-standing emergency center located at our Grayslake Outpatient Center.

Convenient access to inpatient mental health care in the region is critically important for the overall health and wellbeing of any community. The provision of accessible inpatient psychiatric inpatient beds in the area is of vital importance, without which would negatively impact the continuity of care patients receive with local healthcare providers and necessitate patients and their families to seek care outside the community or defer receiving critically needed behavioral healthcare altogether.

In the most recent 12-months, 291 emergency cases were referred from Lake Forest Hospital to an inpatient psychiatric facility. Of the 291 patients, 248 of them has a Lake or north Cook county zip code. Please see the attached for patient origin, by Zip Code.

The information I have included has not been used to support another pending or approved CON application for a behavioral hospital. Thank you for your review and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas J. McAfee', written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Thomas J. McAfee

**Northwestern Medicine
Lake Forest Hospital
Behavioral Medicine Referral Summary**

Area	Zip Code	City/Town	Referral from LFH ED to Psychiatric Hospital
Lake County	60002	Antioch	4
	60010	Barrington	
	60011	Barrington	
	60015	Deerfield	1
	60020	Fox Lake	
	60030	Grayslake	31
	60031	Gurnee	12
	60035	Highland Park	1
	60037	Fort Sheridan	
	60040	Highwood	1
	60041	Ingleside	3
	60042	Island Lake	1
	60044	Lake Bluff	8
	60045	Lake Forest	21
	60046	Lake Villa	18
	60047	Lake Zurich	1
	60048	Libertyville	5
	60060	Mundelein	10
	60061	Vernon Hills	7
	60064	North Chicago	6
	60069	Lincolnshire	
	60073	Round Lake	65
	60075	Russell	
	60079	Waukegan	
	60083	Wadsworth	11
	60084	Wauconda	1
	60085	Waukegan	19
	60086	North Chicago	
	60087	Waukegan	4
	60088	Great Lakes	
	60089	Buffalo Grove	
	60096	Winthrop Harbor	
	60099	Zion	5

Northfield	60015	Deerfield	1
	60016	Des Plaines	
	60022	Glencoe	
	60025	Glenview	1
	60026	Glenview	1
	60056	Mt Prospect	
	60062	Northbrook	
	60070	Prospect Heights	2
	60090	Wheeling	
	60091	Wilmette	1
	60093	Winnetka	
			6
Niles			
	60025	Glenview	1
	60029	Golf	
	60053	Morton Grove	
	60076	Skokie	
	60077	Skokie	
	60091	Wilmette	1
	60201	Fox River Grove	2
	60202		
	60203		
	60645		
	60712		
	60714		
			4
New Trier			
	60091		1
	60093		
	60043		
	60022		
			1
Evanston			
	60201		2
	60202		
	60203		
	60204		
	60208		
	60209		
			2

Rogers Park	
60626	
60645	
West Ridge	
60645	
60659	
Other	43
Total	291

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 14, 2017

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NOV 15 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

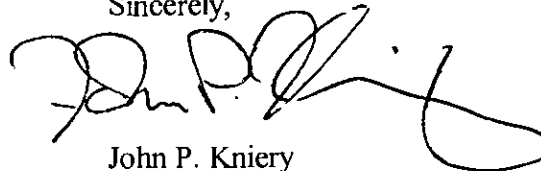
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letters from Patient Centered Care Partners, Inc. and The Sheridan at Green Oaks for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosures



November 11, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

As a resident of Lake County I'm letting you know that I support the expansion of psychiatric beds at Vista Medical Center West.

- Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among residents of Lake County
- While we have a 46-bed psychiatric unit at Vista Medical Center West we cannot provide the crisis stabilization needed to help residents of all ages who live in Lake County
- US HealthVest will expand these critical services in our community
- Patients with mental health problems are a growing and national concern
- It is an additional hardship on patients and families if they have to leave Lake County in order to receive treatment or visit a patient who is receiving such treatment

I am grateful that Medical Center West can be expanded to 146 psychiatric beds and I support the Certificate of Need application which will enable that increase.

Sincerely,


Patricia Stern, MSW, LCSW, MBA, PMP, CSM
President
Patient Centered Care Partners, Inc.
pstern@patientcenteredcarepartners.com

**THE SHERIDAN
AT GREEN OAKS**
a Senior Lifestyle community

November 9, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

There is a critical need for more psychiatric services in Lake County and I support the application to expand the psychiatric services at Vista Medical Center West.

In my experience...

- There is a huge need for better mental health availability in our community today. Many families are suffering with what to do for their loved ones, especially in Lake County, where there is a lack of facilities to help people with mental health issues.
- I have family members who suffer mentally and wish there were more options and better programming in our Lake County community.
- I talk to many families through my position as a sales counselor at a Senior Living community who could use more mental health services in Lake County.

Thank you for approving this application, it is crucial to the health of our community.

Sincerely,



Kevin Koeneman
Business Development Coordinator
The Sheridan at Green Oaks
29330 North Waukegan
Lake Bluff, IL 60044

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 20, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 20 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from City of Waukegan Chamber of Commerce for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





November 16th, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

As a employee of Lake County I find it of great importance to express my support of the expansion of psychiatric beds at Vista Medical Center West. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among residents of Lake County and while we have a 46-bed psychiatric unit at Vista Medical Center West we cannot seem to provide the crisis stabilization needed to help residents of all ages who live in Lake County.

A lack of access to psychiatric beds can lead to an increase in the amount of patient readmissions and crowded emergency rooms. Patients often end up homeless or incarcerated when they do not have the needed access to inpatient treatment facilities. As someone with close family members, as well as friends, that have required inpatient care, I personally understand the urgency and imperativeness of ample access to psychiatric care.

I am delighted to hear of the expansion of Vista Medical Center West to 146 beds and I support the Certificate of Need application to increase the number of psychiatric beds in our community.

Sincerely,

Dawn Simerly
Executive Director
City of Waukegan Chamber of Commerce

(847) 623-6800 - 214 W Washington St. Waukegan, IL 60085

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 20, 2017

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NOV 20 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Care Navigators, Inc. for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure





CARE NAVIGATORS, INC.

PO Box 7814

Algonquin, IL 60102

YOUR PERSONAL HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE

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

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in support of the certificate of need application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 146-bed behavioral hospital.

The expansion of services in Lake County will address the shortage of inpatient beds to care for the residents of Waukegan and Lake County. There is an unmet need for specialized psychiatric services US HealthVest has proven they can provide. I am supporting this application because the need for mental health services in Lake county is present, but available inpatient care is lacking. I have learned through working with patients of all varieties that mental health is just as vital to treat as physical illnesses.

Patients that need mental health services have no choice but to travel to distant hospitals which only adds financial burdens for medical transportation, stress on family members supporting the patient at a distance, regular physicians not being able to see their patient at such distance, and a lack of familiarity with the area around a hospital which is a known stressor for those with complex mental illnesses.

I urge you to support the approval of this certificate of need application for Vista Medical Center West. There is a great need in the area to expand behavioral health services.

Thank you for your assistance in providing access to care in Lake County.

Sincerely,

Dan Medina BA, NCG, CDP

info@care-navigators.com

P: 847-250-1829

F: 847-919-4432

WWW.CARE-NAVIGATORS.COM

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

November 21, 2017

NOV 21 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

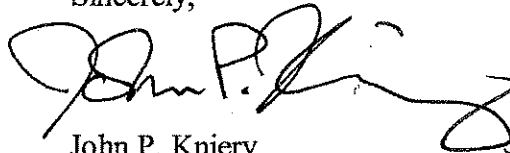
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from The Church of the Holy Spirit for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure



November 18, 2017

Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
325 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

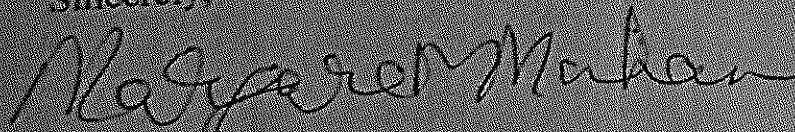
Dear Ms. Avery,

There is a critical need for more psychiatric services in Lake County, and I support the application to expand the psychiatric services at Vista Medical Center West.

I have read that 75 percent of the inmates at Lake County Jail in Waukegan, Illinois, suffer from mental illness. They should be in treatment, not in jail. I have tutored in the jail, and the officers I encountered there seemed focused on the inmates' wellbeing rather than on punishment.

Please approve this application. Expansion of psychiatric services in this county is crucial to the health of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Margaret Mahan".

Margaret Mahan
The Church of the Holy Spirit
Lake Forest, IL 60045

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 21, 2017

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NOV 21 2017

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

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Karilyn Parrott and Marcia Bernstein for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure



November 15, 2017

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

re: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

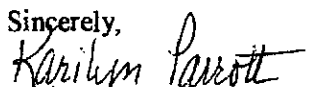
Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing in support of the Need Application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital in Waukegan.

My brother lived with schizophrenia and depression for over 50 years. I have admitted him to hospitals in McHenry, Kane and Lake County. He was brought by ambulance from IMDs and hospitals. In each case, the long hours of waiting in the ER were stressful. By the time he finally got to a room on the behavioral floor, it was night and I was miles from home. Limited visiting hours made it difficult for me to balance work with the necessary travel time. My suicidal brother was abruptly discharged (Fridays or before a holiday) with only a few hours' notice and long before his symptoms had subsided. There was no follow-up. As family and durable power of attorney for health, I was seldom consulted. Phone calls were not returned. The transition back to the IMD was difficult. Sadly, the cycle repeated until he died earlier this year.

I am deeply concerned that all persons with mental illness receive quality care close to home. I toured the Chicago Behavioral Hospital in Des Plaines, managed by USHealthVest. I asked questions. I am satisfied that this organization can provide what our community so urgently needs. Please support the approval of this application process.

Sincerely,


Karilyn Parrott

member of Lake County United and NAMI

November 18, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

As a resident of Lake County it is important that I let you know I support the expansion of psychiatric beds at Vista Medical Center West. For the last three years I have been a community volunteer actively working to divert the mentally ill from the criminal justice system. When law enforcement gets a behavioral health crisis dispatch, officers have nowhere to take the individual other than an emergency room or the jail. Neither of these places is appropriate. What are needed is a crisis stabilization unit as well as in-patient and outpatient services, the whole continuum of care. I have been informed US HealthVest will expand these critical services in our community.

The majority of the Lake County Jail high utilizers have behavioral health diagnoses. Jails are for criminal offenses. They are not intended to be behavioral health treatment facilities. This represents a terrible misuse of taxpayer dollars. There are almost no in-patient psychiatric beds in Lake County, so there is usually no bed available if someone is taken to an ER. After ER intake, the individual is often simply released back to the street.

I am delighted to hear of the expansion of Vista Medical Center West to 146 beds and I support the certificate of need application to increase access to more psychiatric beds in my community.

Sincerely,



Marcia Bernstein
874 Judson Avenue
Highland Park, IL 60035

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 21, 2017

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NOV 21 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Karilyn Parrott and Marcia Bernstein for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

Enclosure



November 15, 2017

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

re: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

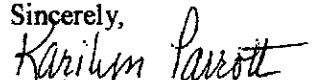
Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing in support of the Need Application by US HealthVest to expand Vista Medical Center West to a 100-bed behavioral hospital in Waukegan.

My brother lived with schizophrenia and depression for over 50 years. I have admitted him to hospitals in McHenry, Kane and Lake County. He was brought by ambulance from IMDs and hospitals. In each case, the long hours of waiting in the ER were stressful. By the time he finally got to a room on the behavioral floor, it was night and I was miles from home. Limited visiting hours made it difficult for me to balance work with the necessary travel time. My suicidal brother was abruptly discharged (Fridays or before a holiday) with only a few hours' notice and long before his symptoms had subsided. There was no follow-up. As family and durable power of attorney for health, I was seldom consulted. Phone calls were not returned. The transition back to the IMD was difficult. Sadly, the cycle repeated until he died earlier this year.

I am deeply concerned that all persons with mental illness receive quality care close to home. I toured the Chicago Behavioral Hospital in Des Plaines, managed by USHealthVest. I asked questions. I am satisfied that this organization can provide what our community so urgently needs. Please support the approval of this application process.

Sincerely,


Karilyn Parrott

member of Lake County United and NAMI

November 18, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

As a resident of Lake County it is important that I let you know I support the expansion of psychiatric beds at Vista Medical Center West. For the last three years I have been a community volunteer actively working to divert the mentally ill from the criminal justice system. When law enforcement gets a behavioral health crisis dispatch, officers have nowhere to take the individual other than an emergency room or the jail. Neither of these places is appropriate. What are needed is a crisis stabilization unit as well as in-patient and outpatient services, the whole continuum of care. I have been informed US HealthVest will expand these critical services in our community.

The majority of the Lake County Jail high utilizers have behavioral health diagnoses. Jails are for criminal offenses. They are not intended to be behavioral health treatment facilities. This represents a terrible misuse of taxpayer dollars. There are almost no in-patient psychiatric beds in Lake County, so there is usually no bed available if someone is taken to an ER. After ER intake, the individual is often simply released back to the street.

I am delighted to hear of the expansion of Vista Medical Center West to 146 beds and I support the certificate of need application to increase access to more psychiatric beds in my community.

Sincerely,



Marcia Bernstein
874 Judson Avenue
Highland Park, IL 60035

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHSA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED

November 28, 2017

NOV 28 2017

HEALTH
SERVICES

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

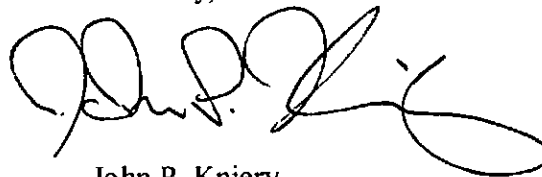
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letter from Leanna Fifhouse for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

ENCLOSURE(s)



Office: 217/544-1551

Health Care Consulting
133 South Fourth Street, Suite 200 • Springfield, IL 62701
foley@foleyandassociates.com

Fax: 217/544-3615

November 21, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

There is a critical need for more psychiatric services in Lake County and I support the application to expand the psychiatric services at Vista Medical Center West.

In my experience, we spent hours waiting in a hospital emergency room for a room to be available for our family member. The choices at that time were Highland Park Hospital or a hospital in the far southwest suburbs. If it had turned out to be the far away hospital, we would have had to take significant time off work, in order, to be involved with the family member's treatment. Since this experience, I have talked with others who have had to juggle work and long trips to see/help a family member due to psychiatric beds not being available close to their community. Also, as a retired teacher from Lake Forest (2016), I am very aware of the rise in need for psychiatric and substance abuse services in Lake County.

Thank you for approving this application, it is crucial to the health of our community.

Sincerely,


Leanna
847-372-1111

FOLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Charles H. Foley, MHA
cfoley@foleyandassociates.com

John P. Kniery
jkniery@foleyandassociates.com

HAND DELIVERED

November 28, 2017

RECEIVED

NOV 28 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

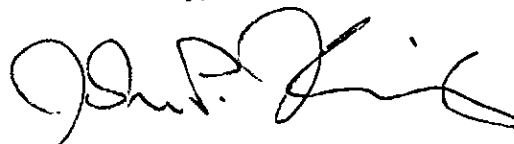
**Re: Project No. 17-048, Lake Behavioral
Hospital**

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed support letters from Tom Gaubatz and Claudia Steinbrecher, LCSW for the above referenced project.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

JPK/kah

ENCLOSURE(s)

Office: 217/544-1551

Health Care Consulting
133 South Fourth Street, Suite 200 • Springfield, IL 62701
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Fax: 217/544-3615

November 20, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

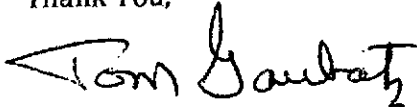
Dear Ms. Avery,

Based on recent research on the situation, I believe that there is a critical need for additional psychiatric services in Lake County. I support the application to expand the psychiatric services at Vista Medical Center West in Waukegan.

As a PADS volunteer, I have seen first hand the need for more effective treatment of persons with mental illness. I have learned about long wait times for patients needing psychiatric beds in hospital emergency rooms. I've also heard from law enforcement personnel about the need for a center to which persons with mental issues can be taken in order to avoid the unjust and costly experience of incarceration.

I urge you to approve the application; it is essential for the needs of those struggling with mental health issues in Lake County.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Gaubatz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "T" and "G".

Tom Gaubatz
616 Blue Spruce Lane
Mundelein, IL 60060

Claudia J. Steinbrecher, L.C.S.W.

2013 Castlewood Rd.

Highland Park, IL 60035

847-579-1225

November 24, 2017

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

RE: Certificate of Need Application for Vista Medical Center West

Dear Ms. Avery,

There is a critical need for more psychiatric services in Lake County and I support the application to expand the psychiatric services at Vista Medical Center West.

As a former psychiatric social worker, I am very aware of the importance of providing timely and high-quality care to individuals who are experiencing psychiatric difficulties. The proposed expansion of services at Vista Medical Center West will be a significant step forward in ensuring that such individuals receive the treatment they need to function well in their community.

Thank you for approving this application - it is crucial to the health and well-being of the people of Lake County.

Sincerely,

Claudia Steinbrecher, LCSW

Claudia Steinbrecher, LCSW