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December 19, 2017

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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 Donald C. Pierson 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)

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December 19, 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,

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

I met with the CEO of the new Lake Forest Hospital and was told there will be no accommodation for psychiatric crisis cases other than the emergency room, which is not equipped to handle such cases. At a subsequent Lake Forest town meeting, it was revealed that 3,069 residents of Lake Forest live with mental illness, 621 with "serious" mental illness. I also met with Lake Forest police officers who expressed dismay in finding a suitable location for treatment of such patients.

Thank you for approval of this application; it is crucial to the health of our community.

Sincerely,



Don Pierson
Mental Health Team Lake County United

1549 Telegraph Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045 pierson33@aol.com