

ST. BERNARD HOSPITAL AND HEALTH CARE CENTER

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June 20, 2018

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

RECEIVED

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Dear Ms. Avery and Members of the Review Board:

Re: Support for project 17-068, DaVita Oak Meadows Dialysis

I am writing to support the Certificate of Need for the Davita Oak Meadows facility. At St. Bernard, we are a Roman Catholic hospital, and we aspire to live the healing mission of Christ within the South Side community of Chicago. The mission calls us to care for the sick and promote the health of the residents in the community while witnessing the Christian values of respect, dignity, caring and compassion for all persons.

In all matters, St. Bernard Hospital and Health Care Center will show a special sensitivity to the culture of the people we serve and the special needs of the poor and powerless. We work to ensure access to medical care that is responsive to ever-changing conditions in the community's health care needs. We believe DaVita values the same.

The number of people diagnosed with kidney disease has doubled during each of the last two decades. Although it can occur at any age, older Americans are at higher risk. Since people are not just surviving to retirement but living much longer lives, the prevalence of kidney diseases is expected to skyrocket over the next decade despite level incidence rates.

Please issue the Certificate of Need to DaVita Oak Meadows, which will increase access to life-sustaining dialysis for people living on the South Side.

Sincerely,



Charles Holland
President/CEO
St. Bernard Hospital and Health Care Center

