



611 West Park Street, Urbana, IL 61801-2595

RECEIVED

JUL - 2 2018

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Re: Support for Expansion of Vermilion County Dialysis (18-011)

Dear Ms. Avery,

The Carle Foundation Hospital supports the proposed four-station expansion of Vermillion County Dialysis located at 26 East West Newell Road in Danville. Carle is a non-profit, regional teaching hospital serving residents of East Central Illinois. We are also a safety net hospital for the region and designated as an IDPH Regional Hospital Coordinating Center.

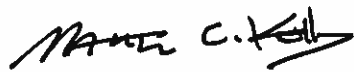
In the course of serving this community, our physicians frequently treat and carefully monitor patients with diabetes, high blood pressure, and heart disease, as well as those who are obese. All of these patients are at increased risk of suffering from chronic kidney disease and, unfortunately, the progression of CKD cannot always be stopped. Lately, we have seen rapid growth in the number of patients who require dialysis, either due to their chronic disease or because they are experiencing age-related kidney failure.

DaVita's Vermillion County Dialysis is a valued provider for the treatment of our patients who require dialysis for their renal replacement and its patient census has risen quickly. The clinic serves patients suffering from ESRD in Vermilion County and collaborates with Carle Physician Group providers as well as Carle Foundation Hospital. Expanding this clinic will ensure adequate access to these services due to rising rates of demand in the area. This expansion will also help address the common problem of Danville and other residents of Eastern Illinois needing to travel more than 30 miles to Urbana or elsewhere to receive their specialty care. We appreciate DaVita's efforts to improve health care access. Carle Foundation Hospital is also working to address this critical access issue with our proposed expansion of surgical services in Danville that will be heard at the July 24th meeting of the Health Facilities and Services Review Board.

DaVita is a leading provider of dialysis services and has received numerous awards for its commitment to quality and care coordination. Through its Kidney Smart, CathAway, Patient Pathways, and IMPACT programs, DaVita undertakes special efforts to empower patients, educate physicians, reduce hospital stays, and encourage AV fistula placement, each of which benefits patients and improves their long-term success.

Carle Foundation Hospital appreciates your attention to the health care needs of Vermilion County and respectfully requests that you approve the proposed expansion of Vermilion County Dialysis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt C. Kolb", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matt Kolb
Senior Vice President, Specialty Care and Regional Health Services