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FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

January 26, 2019

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Brenda Allen and I am an Inpatient Clinical Care Coordinator for Blessing Health System, specifically working with the psychiatric population. I have been an employee of Blessing Health System for almost 2 years and have seen the positive impact this facility has for the people in the area with a mental health crisis. While I am in favor of facilities progressing, I do oppose CON 18-042 due to the negative impact that will be infringed on the mental health population if and when funding is not provided due to the unnecessary expansion of the Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center and the cuts that will have to be instituted by Blessing Health System.

My objections to this project are duplication, damage to the safety net and community benefit programs and services, and job loss within the community that is already floundering.

Duplication: The duplication of services, already provided by an arrangement with QMG and Blessing outpatient surgery center, does not show a demand for another outpatient surgery center as the current location does not even run at 50% occupancy.

Damage to the Safety Net and Community Benefit programs and services: Much of the revenue Blessing generates from outpatient surgery is used to fulfill its not-for-profit mission of providing Safety Net services to the region. These Safety Net services include behavioral health care and trauma care. The Institute of Medicine defines the health care safety net as those providers who organize and deliver a significant level of health care and other related services to uninsured, Medicaid, and other vulnerable populations. The health care safety net is vital to the health of our communities and Blessing is the only provider in the region who offers these critical services. Insurance reimbursement does not provide adequate support for the delivery of inpatient behavioral medicine and trauma care. Opening a second surgery center would result in a loss to the current surgery center of nearly 12,000 cases and revenue of \$25-\$41 million. A significant portion of that revenue is needed by the community to keep Safety Net services operational.

Additionally, as a non-profit healthcare provider, Blessing provides financial support to the education of healthcare professionals (Blessing-Rieman College of Nursing & Health Sciences and the SIU Family Medicine Residency Program, an award-winning program that provides specialty training to new family physicians); and charity care to those in need of healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay. While these are not Safety Net services, these are important community benefit investments, programs that cannot

sustain themselves financially and rely on Blessing's support. The loss of outpatient surgery revenue threatens these and other community benefit programs.

UnityPoint, Quincy Medical Group's Des Moines, Iowa-based business partner, would be a 40 percent owner of the proposed surgery center. Therefore, a portion of the profits from the proposed center will leave the Quincy area.

As I currently am attending graduate school to become a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, my thoughts are "what if the safety net and community benefit programs are decreased or even closed?" Where would the mental health population get inpatient acute care in a crisis? The closest facility is in St. Louis and only houses 36 beds, while our facility houses 41 beds.

Job loss: Opening of a second surgery center would cost jobs. Blessing could lose approximately 400 jobs – 12 percent of the employee body - through the loss of a significant portion of its outpatient surgery business.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board **deny CON application 18-042** due to the above reasons with the biggest negative impact being the mental health population. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Allen" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brenda Allen RN, BSN
Inpatient Clinical Care Coordinator
Blessing Health System

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FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

1/25/2019

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Mollie Sanchez and I am a Registered Nurse working on the Adult Psychiatric Unit in inpatient Behavioral Health at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL. I strongly oppose the CON 18-042 proposal that has come to your attention. Most of my 7 years of nursing experience has been in the inpatient psychiatric units. Not only is this "home" to me in my career aspect, but it is a "home away from home" to many of my patients as well. There are already more mental health patients than services that can be offered, and if the Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center proposal were to move forward, there is a great chance that these services will be affected. Not only does this have the potential to affect me, my livelihood, my family, my coworkers and their families, but most importantly, it has the potential to affect our patients and their access to undoubtedly needed care. What could be more important in the world of healthcare?

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042 (Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mollie Sanchez

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January 25, 2019

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, IL

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Lacey Davis and I am currently an employee of Blessing Hospital. My role is that of secretary of the Cardiothoracic Department. I oppose the proposed Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center.

The proposed surgery center states that it would have a cardiac catheterization lab ("cath lab") on site. Cardiac catheterization is not without risk and our cardiothoracic surgeon has been emergently called to Blessing Hospital's cath lab on multiple occasions. If QMG opens a cath lab, there will be no cardiothoracic surgeon on call for emergency situations. Patients would have to be transported by ambulance to Blessing Hospital, which would increase the timeframe for an emergent procedure, and could contribute to higher permanent injury or mortality rates. Currently, QMG and Blessing providers work in conjunction with each other in Blessing Hospital's cath lab, which allows all area patients' access to an on-call cardiothoracic surgeon, if needed. I do not believe it is in the best interest or safety of our patients to allow the proposed surgery center to move forward. I believe that the current sharing procedures with QMG and Blessing are in the best interest of our area patients.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny the proposed Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

Lacey N. Davis

January 28, 2019

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

RE: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

I Kelly Koch am a Registered Mammography Technologist with the Blessing Health System. I oppose CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group surgery center. I believe this would hurt our community versus nurture our community.

I feel the proposal would not be beneficial in a number of ways. 1) This would be a duplication of services. Blessing and QMG already offer an outpatient surgery center on the QMG campus, which is a successful collaboration of both entities. A second outpatient surgery center is not needed in our community. 2) Along with the duplication of services this proposal would take away from the financial support Blessing provides to the education of healthcare professionals and charity care to those in need of healthcare in the Quincy community. These are programs that cannot sustain themselves financially without Blessing's support. The loss of outpatient surgery revenue threatens these and other community benefit programs. If QMG would be granted this proposal profits would be diverted from the Quincy community to Iowa. 3) Job loss would be a certainty within the Blessing Health System. This would not create jobs for the Quincy community but only transfer personnel from Blessing to QMG. And finally the Quincy community deserves cooperation from both Blessing and QMG working together to provide care, not be put in a position to work against each other.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042/Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kelly L. Koch BS RT (R)(M)

1/29/2019

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

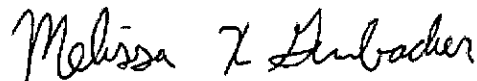
Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Melissa Genenbacher. I am a Pharmacist at Blessing Hospital. I have worked at Blessing Hospital for almost 10 years. I oppose the CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group surgery center in Quincy, IL.

An additional surgery center in Quincy, IL is a duplication of resources. Blessing Health System currently works with Quincy Medical Group physicians at a surgery center on Hampshire Street in Quincy, IL. The current surgery center is not operating at full capacity, so adding an additional surgery center does not seem to be needed. Additionally the proposed site for the surgery center is farther away from the hospital in the case when emergency medical services beyond the capabilities of the surgery center are needed. Hundreds of jobs could be lost at Blessing Hospital by adding another surgery center and would be a detriment to our community.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely



Dr. Melissa Genenbacher, PharmD, BCPS

1-29-19

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Jill Friye and I work at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois. I oppose to the CON 18-042, Quincy medical Group Surgery Center for Quincy, Illinois.

I currently work in one day surgery at Blessing Hospital. I have lived in and around Quincy area my entire life. To add another surgery center to Quincy is not feasible. The population of Quincy has not grown in over 20 years. If this goes through things will dramatically change for Blessing in multiple ways. Jobs will be lost due to this. I used to work in behavioral health at Blessing before taking the current position I am in. If this goes through it is possible the behavioral health center will go away. That is disheartening considering how far we have come with mental health and how far we still need to go. If it closes down people in our area will have to travel hundreds of miles to get their mental health needs met. Blessing is a not-for-profit organization and donates a lot of money to organizations and puts money into Quincy. Quincy Medical Group is a for-profit organization that is affiliated with Unity Point. If this goes through 40% of their profits will go to Unity point instead and taking it away from our community.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Friye". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" written in a large, looping script and the last name "Friye" written in a more compact, cursive style.

Jill Friye

January 25, 2019

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

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Donna Mortimore. I am a Registered Nurse and I work at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL. I am opposed to Quincy Medical Group opening a surgery center in Quincy, IL.

I feel it would be a duplication of services. I also feel it would damage the Safety Net and Community benefit programs and services. Since much of the revenue Blessing generates from outpatient surgery is used to fulfill its not-for-profit mission of providing Safety Net services to the region. These Safety Net services include behavioral health care and trauma care. Blessing is the only provider in the region who offers these critical services. I also assume that Unity Point, Quincy Medical Group's Des Moines, Iowa-based business partner, would be a part owner of the proposed surgery center. Which would mean a portion of the profits from the proposed center would leave the Quincy area. Also the opening of a second surgery center would cost jobs, Blessing could lose approximately 400 jobs. I also feel that just like the federal government, Blessing and Quincy Medical Group need to learn to work together in the delivery of outpatient surgery and cancer care.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042, made by Quincy Medical Group for a Surgery center. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Donna Mortimore

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Kayla Workman, I work in adult psych services in blessing hospital. I am against this new QMG project, due to the negative impact it would have on the community and the services provided to our patients. I also feel it is completely unnecessary as we already have a surgery center that is only operating at under 50%. There is plenty of room to expand and book more surgeries. Blessing and QMG can work together to deliver key health services to the community and find new ways to meet community needs.

If this project is to pass blessing would potentially lose trauma services, psych services, do great damage to the safety net, community programs and services, as well as 400 jobs throughout the health care system. This would profoundly impact our local community, having to travel hours away for care, or simply no longer being able to receive any at all. We are talking about the loss of not only jobs but lives. Blessing donates millions back to the community, mostly in waving fees for people who are unable to pay for their vital health care. I greatly wish for blessing and QMG to be able to continue to work together, and to avoid the loss of lives.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18- Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely/Very truly yours/Respectfully,



Kayla workman

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

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FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Christian Bridgewater and I am a Tech in Adult Psychiatric Services at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois. I am a recent hire with Blessing Health Systems and moved to Quincy for the opportunity to work in this great community. As a recent graduate from Western Illinois University, I feel it is crucial to gain experience in a field I love. However, with this new proposition, I fear the budget and position cuts would affect my opportunity to succeed in my field here.

As I have lived here prior (10 years ago). I remember the prior attempt to use competition for the greater good of the community. Also, I remember that this competition failed incredibly. Since Blessing and Quincy Medical Group have agreed to work together to meet our communities' needs. Since we are a non-profit organization, Blessing tends to our patients needs with the money we take in. This is significant since some patients are unable to have housing, money for transportation, or other shortcomings in their ability to get to the care they require. I have seen our staff go above and beyond to help these patients and unfortunately taking away money from our organization with duplicate services would do more harm than good for the community.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042 (Quincy Medical Group's Surgery Center) and sincerely thank you for your consideration of our community in this matter.

Sincerely,

Christian Bridgewater

01/24/19 *Christian Bridgewater*

1/28/19

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FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

Hello my name is Jacob Benz. I am an employee with Blessing Health System. After carefully reviewing the facts I am against CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois.

After reviewing the proposition made by Quincy Medical Group and the data presented by both Quincy Medical Group and Blessing Health System it would seem that the proposed Surgery Center would do more harm than good to my community. I am conceded that in our small town this project will take jobs and revenue away from our community. Working at Blessing I get the privilege of seeing a non-for-profit give back to the community. It worries me that with this new center being owned by a for-profit organization that is ran far from our community these funds will be stripped from those in need here in Quincy. I am a believer in healthy competition but this community does not have the demand for a second surgery center.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042 Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Jacob Benz

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January 25, 2019

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Mary McGrath, a lifelong resident of Quincy, IL and 25 year employee of Blessing Health System.

I oppose the QMG certificate of need for the ASC for the following reasons:

- 1) The negative effects of the approval of this CON would far outweigh the positive effects.
- 2) Loss of jobs for BHS employees, creating hardship on fellow employees
- 3) Loss of revenue for BHS
- 4) Duplicate of services – not cost effective
- 5) Competition is good but will only create a wedge between the two parties.
- 6) Blessing Hospital needs physicians, physicians need Blessing Hospital and the local community is reliant on both.
- 7) Creating a local joint venture would be the solution and would benefit the community as well as both parties.

Sincerely,



Mary McGrath
4124 Coachlight Court
Quincy IL 62305

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

January 25, 2019

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

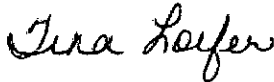
Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Tina Loefer and I am an Administrative Assistant at Blessing Hospital. I am new to Blessing Hospital, however, I have lived in Quincy, Illinois, for 30 years. I oppose the above-referenced CON project.

The Quincy Medical Group proposal is a duplication of medical services. The two entities already offer an outpatient surgery center on the QMG campus. Blessing owns the service and QMG manages it. This has been successful for more than 10 years. I strongly feel that a second outpatient surgery center is not needed, and that QMG and Blessing need to continue to work together as a team to best service this community.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny the Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Tina Loefer

01/24/2019

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FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney R. Avery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy,
Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Emily Heming, a Blessing employee, and I am writing you in regards to the CON project. I am a wife, student, and worker who loves this community. I personally oppose this movement, as this will have a personal impact on my job and the community in which I want to raise my children.

With this movement, close to 300 jobs at Blessing Hospital will be lost due to adding an additional center that we already have, taking away our providers and workers. This will also have an impact on the community, as this is not a stable movement to be making considering both times QMG has sold the business investments they have made. I feel that we should function as a whole, coming together to do what is best for those who are in need of healthcare instead of working as separate organizations. Lastly, I feel that this is extremely unsanitary, as this location would be in our Quincy Mall, where children run around on the play area, food is made and given out in unsanitary conditions, and hundreds of people come in and out of this shopping center.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Emily Heming

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FEB 05 2019

January 25, 2019

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

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Taylor Janus. I currently serve as the Provider Recruitment Specialist for Blessing Health System. I am a part of the team that recruits Physicians and Nurse Practitioners to the Quincy area to work for Blessing. A competing Surgery Center in our community would not only affect the financial health of our not-for-profit Health System, but it would also make recruiting new providers to the community extremely difficult. I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board Deny CON application 18-042.

I oppose the idea of having another surgery center built in our community. As I am sure you are aware, we currently have the Surgery Center of Quincy. While Blessing Health System owns the Surgery Center, it is managed by Quincy Medical Group. For years, we have been able to work together to keep the Surgery Center profitable for both groups while providing needed medical care for our community. The Surgery Center of Quincy operates at approximately 50% capacity. As of today, the Surgery Center Board nor the Blessing Board have been asked to increase the times and availability of the Surgery Center. With an opportunity available to almost double the amount of business the Surgery Center currently does, there does not seem to be a community need for a second Surgery Center.

I would also like to point out the divide a second Surgery Center would cause in our community as well as with our Providers. I have always enjoyed my position with the Health System because of the comradery and care our Providers show in their drive to take care of the patient, regardless of who they work for. Drawing such a line in the sand between the two medical groups shows a divide in leadership as well as teamwork between physicians. I have yet to have a recruit that wants to work for a Health System who has so much animosity for other providers and health systems in their area. Displaying such an ugly relationship between the two local groups will cause challenges for both groups to bring needed Specialist to our community.

I urge you to request Blessing Health System and Quincy Medical Group to work together for the betterment of community, family, and friends in the Quincy area. I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Taylor Janus

1.25.2019

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Angie Loos and I work for Blessing Hospital in the Educational Services Department. I am opposed to the CON 18-42, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, IL.

While, I feel that QMG and Blessing Hospital should work together to deliver the best care to our community, I am opposed to this particular CON. The current outpatient surgery center, that Blessing and QMG work together to provide services has been successful.

It is important to support this community, the money that Blessing generates from the current surgery center is used for the not-for-profit status. This money is utilized to help those uninsured community members. Blessing provides much revenue to support this mission. If a second surgery center is opened it would decrease the revenue to Blessing up to 41 million dollars. This revenue is needed in order to help support the vulnerable in our community. Blessing also contributes to the education of healthcare professionals. It is very important to continue to support those who want a career in healthcare so our community has quality medical care. A portion of the income from the proposed QMG surgery center would not stay in the community due to the affiliation of QMG with Unity Point located in Iowa.

Loss of jobs would also be a direct effect of this CON being approved. Up to 400 jobs could be lost with the duplication of another surgery center.

The community would benefit from an agreeable solution between Blessing and QMG to provide care to the community. The approval of the CON will further divide and weaken our community medical services instead of strengthening them.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, IL for the good of the community here in Quincy, IL. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely



Angela Loos

January 28, 2019

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

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

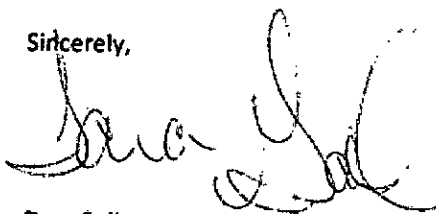
Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Tara Gail and I have been an Administrative Assistant for Blessing Corporate Services for the past four years. Prior to that, I worked at Memorial Medical Center, in Springfield, Illinois, for seven years, as the Supervisor of the Release of Information Department. I moved to Quincy four years ago and I absolutely fell in love with the community. I was very fortunate to have found employment at Blessing Health System, an organization that seeks to provide the best care, services and programs possible for the community and to exceed expectations for those it serves.

Over the past few years, Behavioral Health services across our country have been negatively impacted due to budget cuts, which makes seeking care more difficult. Whether this be through decreases in available services, or lack of providers, it means that those who need services the most are often those left without proper care. That is why I am opposed to the CON, as it will impact the safety net services of Behavioral Health services provided to our community, therefore, Blessing Health System would not be able to provide the best care, services and programs to our community, especially those who suffer from behavioral health issues. Members of our community will then be forced to travel hours/miles to receive care which could also be a financial burden on them. We would be causing more harm than good. The best thing for our community would be for Blessing Health System and Quincy Medical Group to continue to cooperate and work together to improve the health of our community and provide excellent care to all that we serve and love.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny the CON application 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois.

Sincerely,



Tara Gail

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

January 27, 2019

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

Thanks for taking the time to review my concerns regarding above named project. My name is Laura Essington, Informatics Analyst for 17 years @ Blessing Hospital. I have worked in healthcare my entire career, nearly 25 years. This project affects my personal and professional life as I also live in the local community. I am opposed to this project as it is a duplication of services and simply not needed at this time in our community. Our local community will not see all the benefits of this request, many will go to bigger cities and supporting health partners.

There are many reasons to support my objections, first of all this should be all about the patients. Patients are entitled to the best care at the best value. Those seeking care are not leaving the local community for cheaper care, they are leaving because unfortunately, not all types of care are available in our local community. There is a concern for safety of the patients cared for at the proposed center, the distance to the nearest emergency room has increased with this proposed location. How will they staff this new center with qualified staff? There is not an abundance of healthcare professionals awaiting a new place to work, in fact there is quite the shortage of qualified staff locally and nationally to transition to this new facility. Quincy Medical Group and Blessing Health System need to work together to address all of the outstanding concerns that have been presented in this application. The outcome needs to be a collaborative agreement to provide the very best care to the residents of our region. Efforts need to focus on how to best serve the patients and their healthcare needs, without providing duplication of services.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny the CON application for the Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Laura A. Essington
Quincy, Illinois

1/26/2019

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

HEALTH FACILITIES &
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Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

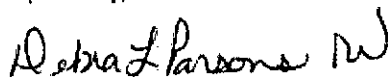
I am a registered nurse who has worked for Blessing Hospital 14 years and as a psychiatric nurse for 4 of those. I am opposed to CON 18-042 for several reasons. I feel this will have a detrimental effect on not only myself but the entire community, particularly the portion of the area population that need mental health services the most. The mental health services provided at Blessing Hospital are greatly needed. Patients who need inpatient treatment will have to travel 100+ miles in order to find a hospital bed.

The addition of a second surgery center in Quincy will cause a duplication of services which are now provided at the current surgery center. Our surgery center is currently not operating at 100% capacity. The new surgery center will pull nearly 12,000 cases which generate a revenue of \$25-\$41 million dollars which would result in a loss of 400 jobs – or 12% of the employee body at Blessing Hospital.

I feel the addition of a second surgery center to our community would be detrimental for everyone. I would like to see QMG and Blessing Hospital work together to provide this service as we have done with the Cancer Center to provide quality care to those in need.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Debra L Parsons RN

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1/26/2019

FEB 05 2019

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am a psychiatric tech at Blessing Health System. I have been employed at Blessing for almost fourteen years. I am opposed to the CON 18-042 for several reasons. One of my main concerns is this proposition will be creating a duplicate service. Our community already has a surgical center that reportedly does not function at more than 50% capacity. For this reason, I do not feel it would be beneficial or necessary to open another surgical center. Additionally, if this center would be approved an estimated 12,000 cases could be diverted from Blessing Health System resulting in a \$25-41 million loss. A financial loss of this magnitude would eventually result in job cuts. Blessing could lose approximately 400 jobs or 12% of the employee body.

A second concern is related to the potential damage of the "safety net" and community benefit programs at Blessing. As you may know, much of the revenue generated from Blessing is used to fulfill its not-for-profit mission. The "safety net" service I am most concerned about is the behavioral health department. If the behavioral health department were affected, patients in our area would have to be referred to other facilities, some of which are 100+ miles away. Relocating to a new area for treatment could pose extra stress on an already unfamiliar situation.

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. It is my hope that Blessing Health System and Quincy Medical Group can continue to work together and not put Blessing Health System in a position to work against Quincy Medical Group in an effort to improve the health of our community. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,



Brooke M. Foose

RECEIVED

FEB 05 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

January 25, 2019

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

Re: Opposition to CON 18-042, Quincy Medical Group Surgery Center in Quincy, Illinois

Dear Ms. Avery:

My name is Nathan Fuqua. I am employed at the Blessing Health System in Quincy, Illinois. I oppose the above-reference CON application.

This project fails to meet any of the five criteria promulgated by the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to justify the establishment of a new Ambulatory Surgical Treatment Center (ASTC).

I respectfully ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board deny CON application 18-042. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Nathan Fuqua