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APR 1 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

April 1, 2019

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

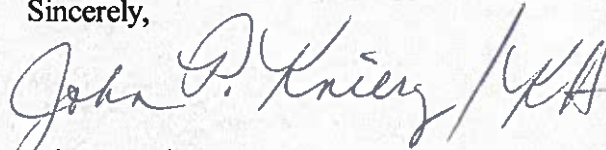
Re: Project No. 19-004, Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed letters of support from Kelly Burke, Illinois State Representative and John Hanlon, MD, MMM, President and CEO, Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers for the above referenced project.

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

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

ENCLOSURES

JPK/kah



DISTRICT OFFICE
5144 W. 95TH STREET
OAK LAWN, IL 60453
708.425.0571
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CAPITOL OFFICE
246 - W STRATTON OFFICE BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
217.782.0515
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KELLY BURKE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
36TH DISTRICT

March 25, 2019

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

RE: Supporting Certificate of Need to Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery and Honorable Members of the Board:

I am writing to request that the Board grant a Certificate of Need to Smith Village so it can make essential improvements to its skilled nursing care wing.

As a member of the House Health Care Licenses Committee, I believe that Smith Village consistently meets and exceeds our State's standards for all levels of care provided by continuing care retirement communities.

Since it opened in 1924, Smith has sustained its reputation as a leader in delivering forward-looking professional services and a pleasing lifestyle to senior citizens with a wide variety of needs. When I visit Smith Village, I am impressed to see how the CCRC maintains its \$68 million investment since it opened in 2008 its all-new independent and assisted living residences united by inviting common areas, ranging from formal and casual dining rooms to a community hall also used by the organizations in our area.

I appreciate the thoughtful study conducted by Smith Village before applying for a CON. Over the last few years, declining occupancy for its skilled nursing care services and, more recently, short-term stay rehab makes it clear Smith Village needs to upgrade its patient experience, much like hospitals have done, to remain competitive.

I applaud Smith Village's approach by starting with focus group meetings for residents and their families as well as staff members. These conversations inform the plan devised by Smith leaders to respond to older adults' expectations of all facets of today's healthcare marketplace.

While Smith Village is not in the 36th District, dozens of older adults who raised their families in our communities now call Smith Village their home. Others have relied on its rehabilitation and skilled nursing care programs to help them return to our communities and continue their lives of independence.

Smith Village is an asset to the southwest sector of metropolitan Chicago, offering a full continuum of options for older adults who want to remain in our region. I enthusiastically support Smith Village's request for a CON so it can renovate and expand its skilled nursing care and short-term stay rehab wing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Burke".

Kelly Burke



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

Re: Smith Village in Chicago

Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is in support of the proposal by Smith Village to perform a major renovation of its current wing for short-term stay rehab and skilled nursing care on its campus at 2320 West 113th Place in Chicago.

The proposal calls for a \$24 million project that will provide for many more private rooms than there are at present, while reducing the total number of licensed beds from 100 to 78. The number of rooms that are private will increase from 18 to 66, even as the total number of beds decreases.

Advances in healthcare allow for shorter in-patient stays, as patients transition from the hospital to home care and, ultimately, to outpatient care. The design of the addition and remodeled space will allow for better services to be delivered more efficiently and in an environment that is more conducive to the healing process.

Smith Village has provided for more than 100 patients discharged from Little Company of Mary over the past 12 months. They offer excellent rehabilitation services in a safe environment close to the homes of the patients they serve. We feel that this project as proposed will be for the good of the patients and the community.

Sincerely,

John Hanlon, MD, MMM
President and CEO
Little Company of Mary Hospital and Health Care Centers
2800 West 95th Street
Evergreen Park, IL 60805