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HAND DELIVERED

April 4, 2019

RECEIVED

APR 9 2019

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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

Re: Project #: 19-004 Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept the enclosed letter of support from Mr. Andrew Whooley, Regional Manager of the Great Lakes Caring Part of the Elara Caring Network for the above referenced projects.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



John P. Kniery
Health Care Consultant

ENCLOSURE

JPK

c: Kevin McGee, Executive Director
Juan Morado, Jr., Legal Council





Great Lakes Caring Part of the Elara Caring Network

April 2, 2019

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

RE Awarding Certificate of Need to Smith Village

Dear Ms. Avery and Board Members:

Great Lakes Caring has provided private duty, personal care for some residents at Smith Village since 2010. We also serve residents at Smith Crossing, its sister community in Orland Park, who require supplemental assistance. Our company has offices on both campuses.

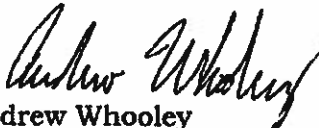
I begin my letter of support with this information to demonstrate that my onsite staff members and I have a first-hand knowledge and appreciation of the exceptional care Smith Village gives each skilled nursing care and rehab resident. Currently, Smith Village's nursing staff and others do so in a facility, primarily with double-occupancy rooms, built in the early 1990s. By today's standards, the skilled nursing care wing at Smith Village has very few physical amenities.

Because our professionals work daily in as many as 15 senior living communities in the southwest sector of metro Chicago, we can state with confidence that Smith Village ranks in the top 10 percent of communities in the region.

Smith Village sustains its 5-star CMS rating because its nursing, therapeutic and support staff members, including Great Lakes professionals, are very competent and thoughtful. More recently, *US News & World Report* ranked Smith Village as one of the top 19 nursing homes in Chicago.

On behalf of Great Lakes Caring Campus Care, I encourage you to award a CON to Smith Village so the skilled nursing care wing on its campus can meet and exceed the needs and expectations of older adults today. This need is becoming even more urgent as Smith Village welcomes residents with more complex medical conditions.

Very truly yours,



Andrew Whooley
Regional Manager