



Melissa Wood DNP, MBA, MBAH, RN
Vice President
Chief Nursing Executive
2701 17th Street
Rock Island, IL 61201
309-779-3961
Fax: 309-779-2399
E-Mail: Melissa.Wood@unitypoint.org

March 5, 2020

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

Re: The Quad Cities Rehabilitation Institute, LLC's Proposal to Establish a 40-bed Comprehensive Physical Rehabilitation Hospital in Rock Island County, HSA10

Dear Ms. Avery,


I am writing to express my support for The Quad Cities Rehabilitation Institute, LLC's Certificate of Need Application to build a Comprehensive Physical Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital in Rock Island County. In my role as Chief Nursing Executive, I am responsible for patient care services at UnityPoint Health - Trinity, inclusive of our Bettendorf, Moline, and Rock Island campuses. I am extremely proud of our nursing services and their commitment to making a difference through compassionate care and improving the health and well-being of the people and communities we serve. In addition, UnityPoint Health – Trinity has been recognized by the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's "Get With The Guidelines" – Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award.

One of the challenges that UnityPoint Health - Trinity encounters is the ability to move patients through the continuum of care timely and ensure the patients receive the appropriate level of care, in the right place at the right time. I am sure you would agree that placing patients in the appropriate level of care after an acute hospital stay is critical to the well-being of the patients and their families. Frequently, our hospital encounters challenges placing patients in the right level of care, including our own inpatient rehab unit, due to limited available beds in a private room. As a health care professional, my goal is to help our patients function at their highest level possible. Our plan and hopes to build a free standing comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation hospital, in partnership with Encompass Health, will help us achieve two goals. First and foremost, is the ability to place rehab appropriate patients in the right setting at the right time because adequate beds will be

available. Secondly, it will allow us to repurpose the vacated space currently occupied by our inpatient rehab unit for modernization and other necessary needs and services in the hospital.

For so many reasons, most importantly meeting the inpatient rehabilitation needs of our patients, I hope you will seriously consider the granting of a Certificate of Need to The Quad Cities Rehabilitation Institute, LLC's application for a comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation hospital in Rock Island County. It would provide a much-needed service to patients like those we see in our hospital, as well as, to the larger community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Wood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melissa" and the last name "Wood" clearly distinguishable.

Melissa Wood DNP, MBA, MBAH, RN

Vice President
Chief Nursing Executive