

August 20, 2020

Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities & Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761  
[courtney.avery@illinois.gov](mailto:courtney.avery@illinois.gov)

**RECEIVED**

AUG 26 2020

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to Project #20-30 – Effingham Medical Office Building

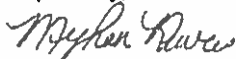
Dear Ms. Avery:

On behalf of Crisis Nursery of Effingham County, and as a long-time Effingham-area resident, I urge the Review Board to deny this CON application as originally submitted. I would not object to a revised CON for a replacement medical office building that does not duplicate the services of HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital.

As proposed, CON application #20-30 would redirect patient volume and revenue away from St. Anthony, a Sole Community Hospital, and cause job losses and service cuts at the hospital. The resulting financial losses at St. Anthony's will jeopardize its continued partnership with Crisis Nursery of Effingham County (CNEC), which provides protection from and prevention of childhood trauma, abuse, and neglect through 24-hour emergency shelter care to children birth through six. At CNEC, there are no income or demographic guidelines, and our services are free and open to any family or child in need. Anyone with children ages birth through six may use our services. Over the last 3 years, through our partnership with St. Anthony's, Crisis Nursery has served more than 500 children with more than 20,000 hours of emergency childcare services. It would be a great loss for our community if this vital resource downsizes or ceases to exist due to the financial hardship on St. Anthony's that would be caused by this proposed project.

Especially when the COVID-19 pandemic has already put hospitals in great financial strain, it makes no sense to unnecessarily take services and revenues away from a Sole Community Hospital like St. Anthony's. Please deny this CON application as originally proposed.

Respectfully,



Meghan Rewers  
Executive Director  
924 N Merchant St.  
Effingham, IL 62401

Cc: Mike Constantino  
Project Reviewer  
Illinois Health Facilities & Review Board  
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