



August 31, 2020

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board members,

I am writing in support of the newly proposed Sarah Bush Lincoln Bonutti Clinic (Effingham Medical Office Building #20-030).

I am a physical therapist by training and now manage our busy rehabilitation services located in Mattoon, Arthur, Sullivan, Casey and Effingham. Rehabilitation can be a stressful and rewarding time for our patients. They come in with decreased mobility and pain due to an illness or surgery and trust our experts to guide their recovery.

The stretches and strengthening can be difficult and challenging. While everyone is fully clothed and our gym is an open area, there are components of therapy treatment requiring privacy. There are times we need to pull a curtain around a table. More than 10,000 square feet of the new building is designated for rehab services. The size is based on historical volume and projected future demand. It includes 10 treatment rooms, a therapy gym, a work hardening room and an in-ground rehab pool with a treadmill in it to help people move and stretch in a non-weight-bearing environment. We find this particularly beneficial for people with severe injuries and nerve damage. Additionally, there are a few offices and support areas.

We have found it helpful to have our rehab space adjacent to the orthopedic office so we can consult with them and make recommendations in a timely manner.

Lastly, the current rehab area is crowded and presents social distancing challenges. There is no comfortable and separate reception area for patients to wait for care or a ride after their treatment. Patient privacy is difficult to maintain in the current location due to space constraints. The new space also accommodates social distancing standards. We also struggle to maintain a comfortable climate due to the ongoing HVAC issues with the current building.

Please accept this letter as an indication of my full support of Effingham Medical Office Building #20-030. I look forward to an approved Certificate of Need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Dyer PT".

Karen Dyer

Director, Rehabilitation Services, Sarah Bush Lincoln

**Physical & Occupational Therapy**

Prairie Pavilion 2 • 1004 Health Center Drive

217-258-2530 • fax 217-258-4176 • [www.sarahbush.org](http://www.sarahbush.org)