

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:29:36 AM

Name: Janet Miller
Represented Entity: Blessing Health System
Phone Number: 573-231-3196
Email Address: Janet.Miller@hannibalclinic.com

Message:

This is in reference to QMG Hospital project 20-044. This seems to be pointless and a waste of funds for the community.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Board Matters, Policies, Membership
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:32:53 AM

Name: Kelli Riggs
Represented Entity:
Phone Number: 217-257-1121
Email Address: marty_riggs_945@comcast.net

Message:

This email is a letter of OPPOSITION to the Quincy Medical Group Hospital.

Here are the reasons I oppose this QMG small format hospital:

Our reasons for opposing this project remain the same:

- This proposed hospital is less than two miles away from Blessing Hospital and will weaken our community healthcare system by adding unneeded beds and services.
- Adams County residents rely on safety net services provided by Blessing, and those services are made possible by millions of dollars of federal funding, which Blessing will lose if another hospital opens in the area. Loss of sole community hospital status.
- Quincy was not able to sustain two hospitals in the past and our population is declining, so we have even less need for more hospital beds
- The proposed small format hospital will not be available to many of our most vulnerable friends, and neighbors including those in need of mental health treatment, high risk mothers and babies, trauma and critical care.

QMG has had a long history in our community as being a locally owned physician group for over 85 years. QMG is now controlled by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment. This change wasn't publicly announced to our community and totally changes the aspect of QMG and the services it provides.

QMG does not accept many patients who are not covered by insurance. They consistently deny and/or purposely delay care to those on Medicaid, etc. and have special scheduling processes for those individuals (e.g. putting them on a list and only 2 people on Medicaid can be seen per month; making people with severe, life threatening conditions wait for care).

Blessing Hospital on the other hand, provides our community with many resources for anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. Their focus remains on providing accessible and high quality care for patients and our community, which they have been doing for the past 145 years.

I believe this will divide our community even more instead of pulling us together as a community.

Thank you for your time.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:33:31 AM

Name: Liz Hoffman
Represented Entity: QMG Hospital Project 20-044
Phone Number: 217-316-3296
Email Address: qtownliz@gmail.com

Message:

I OPPOSE the QMG Small Format Hospital 20-044.

The proposed hospital is less than two miles away from Blessing Hospital and will cause more harm than good to our great community. Our community is shrinking in size, and even at its height of population, was unable to support two hospitals. This plan will weaken our community healthcare system by adding unneeded beds and services. Not to mention, Blessing will lose the "sole community hospital" status, resulting in a loss of funding for safety net services our county residents rely on heavily. As a small format hospital, it won't even be an available option for those in need of mental health treatment, high-risk mothers and babies, trauma, and critical care. Lastly, it was recently made public to the community that QMG is no longer the locally-owned physician group we have known for 85 years. They are now controlled by a for-profit Chicago-based company with substantial private equity investment. Please, let's make the best decision for our community and not let this project move forward.

Thank you!
Liz Hoffman
Quincy, IL resident

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:34:52 AM

Name: Whitney Whitley
Represented Entity: Blessing Health System
Phone Number: 573-231-3176
Email Address: whitney.whitley@hannibalclinic.com

Message:

This is in reference to QMG Hospital Project 20-044. I feel like this proposal for QMG's small hospital is not necessary and a waste of funds for the community. The main things people need care for (mental health, trauma/critical care, and high risk mothers/babies) will not be able to be taken care of at this small hospital. I really just feel like since QMG is owned now by a very large Chicago based company they are not thinking about the community and not doing what is best for the people of the community. Thank you.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:37:10 AM

Name: Michael S Walker
Represented Entity: Personal community member
Phone Number: 2172281028
Email Address: walkercrw99@gmail.com

Message:

To-Chairperson Debra Savage-
QMG Hospital Project 20-044

I am a community member of Quincy, Illinois and continue to be disappointed and discouraged by the quest for QMG to negatively impact our local community hospital for their greed. QMG has continually had past opportunities to collaborate with Blessing Hospital. Now QMG and their physician-led business (which is an absolute conflict of interest) wants to duplicate services. I find it absurd that this is even under consideration since the state of Illinois and federally need to prevent duplication of services. Our healthcare system is upside down and not improving. This is another example of why. Quincy had 2 hospitals before 1993, not since. There is NO NEED! Our population in Quincy is decreasing annually. Our county relies on Blessing Hospital and safety net services. If QMG gets their hospital, Blessing will lose it's status as sole community hospital and will negatively effect safety net services to our beloved community. QMG has no longer a locally-owned physician group. They are controlled by a for-profit-Chicago-based company with significant private equity investments. I strongly disagree with this proposal. Please consider that QMG's proposal is more about making profit, not providing new or needed services in our area. PLEASE decline this proposal and make the correct decision for our community, not for physician wealth.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Michael Walker

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:44:47 AM

Name: Wendy Walker
Represented Entity: Quincy community
Phone Number: 217-577-4148
Email Address: wendl22@live.com

Message:

Chairperson-Debra Savage
QMG Hospital Project 20-044

Dear Mrs. Savage,

Please decline proposal for QMG hospital proposal in Quincy Illinois. This is duplicating services that already exist at our hospital. We need new services in Quincy, like dermatology. I had to travel out of town a few years ago to get diagnosed with melanoma. Had we had a local dermatologist that I could get into, I would have had service sooner and a better prognosis.

QMG has changed hands several times over the 20+ years I have been in Quincy. Now they are owned by a private equity company that is out to make more money, rather than add new services.

Quincy does not need 2 hospitals. Our younger population leaves town and does not return. We need new opportunities, not duplication. We have several friends who are leaving QUINCY and the state due to higher taxes and cost of living. This does not make it logical to add another hospital!

Our community is very under-served for a variety of healthcare needs. I could understand QMG if they were adding new services. But this is a blatant money grab and duplication of services we already have.

Please decline the QMG hospital proposal.

Sincerely,
Wendy Walker

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:58:59 AM

Name: Yvonne Goellner
Represented Entity: Blessing Heath System
Phone Number: (573)248 -5975
Email Address: yvonne.goellner@blessinghealth.org

Message:

Reference - QMG Hospital Project 20-044

Attn: Chairperson Debra Savage

I oppose the C.O.N for the proposed QMG hospital for the following reasons:

- I have seen firsthand the community can NOT support 2 hospitals. The community had 2 hospitals in the past with St. Mary's unable to sustain its business resulting in selling to Blessing Hospital .The population in Quincy is declining, not expanding.
- Due to national , regional and local nursing shortage, it is challenging in current state to find the workforce/Registered nurses for one hospital, let alone supporting a second one.
- Blessing health system uses the dollars provided by federal funding to support the safety net services in the area. One of the areas who benefit from this is the Behavioral Health . Blessing is one of the few organizations in the tri-state area who are able to provide this high demand service. Losing the "sole community hospital status" could result closure of these services . We know the demand is higher than current capacity , closure or removal would mean even more persons not being able to receive the needed treatment.
- As the proposed , this "new hospital" would not be serving the needs of the community of mental health , high risk mothers and babies , trauma or critical care since being for profit only . Instead would be taking the resources and dollars which currently help support these services currently at Blessing Hospital .
- QMG is no longer locally owned , in the past 4 years I believe they have changed ownership/Partnership several times, and within the last 2 years changed 3 times resulting in being owned by a CHICAGO FOR PROFIT based company . The fact ownership/partnership changes frequently causes me to have concern over the financial stability of QMG .
- I believe in the last CON , several QMG providers talked about how QMG would use this "base hospital" for a Hospital At Home program and shared need for this service in the community . One of the previous "partners/owners of QMG" had procession of a small community hospital in Keokuk, however that "partner" traded ownership to

Blessing . QMG had the opportunity to spearhead a Hospital at home program from that location during their 'ownership' and did not.

- Blessing has since implemented a HOSPITAL FROM HOME program , so this need is already being served in the community being served by Blessing Health in Illinois with plans for expansion to the other states served.. Duplication for a smaller subs population is not beneficial to the community .

In closing, I oppose the certificate of need for another hospital in our community .

Yvonne Goellner, RN MSN
Nursing Operations Project Manager | Performance Excellence
PO Box 7005 | Quincy, IL 62305 | blessinghealth.org
Yvonne.Goellner@blessinghealth.org

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 11:01:54 AM

Name: Dawn Herzog
Represented Entity: Blessing Hospital
Phone Number: 217-242-2128
Email Address: dawn.herzog@ymail.com

Message:

Reference: QMG Hospital Project 20-044

As a citizen of Quincy Illinois for the past 55 years, I would like to express my opposition to the QMG CON for a Hospital. In my opinion, there are several reasons why this certificate of need should not be approved.

1. In a community size like Quincy, there is not a need to support 2 hospitals. This has been proven in the past when we had 2 hospitals and the need didn't financially support both facilities. Our community census has decreased over the past few decades.
2. The limited capacity of service the QMG hospital can provide to the community will lead to confusion. How will someone know if that hospital will have room to provide care for them or if they will have to go to Blessing?
3. Blessing will lose much needed federal funding when they lose the status of sole community hospital. These funds are needed to provide the services that Blessing provides and not reimbursed for such as mental health, trauma, etc.
4. QMG is financially partnering with a non-local group therefore being influenced to make decisions that may not be the best ones for our community and also loss of local dollars that are being filtered outside of our community.

Based on these facts and other personal ones, I do NOT support the QMG Hospital Project.

Thank you
Dawn Herzog

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 10:53:50 AM

Name: Amber Lubbert
Represented Entity: Blessing Hospital/ Blessing Health System
Phone Number:
Email Address: amber.lubbert@blessinghealthsystem.org

Message:

I would like to formally oppose and am asking you to deny Quincy Medical Groups small format hospital. As it will not be beneficial to this community, here are some reasons why:

- This proposed hospital is less than two miles away from Blessing and will weaken our community healthcare system by adding unneeded beds and services
- Adams County residents rely on safety net services provided by Blessing, and those services are made possible by millions of dollars of federal funding, which Blessing will lose if another hospital opens in the area. Loss of sole community hospital status.
- Quincy was not able to sustain two hospitals in the past and our population is declining, so we have even less need for more hospital beds
- QMG is no longer the locally owned physician group we have known for 85 years, but is now controlled by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment
- The proposed small format hospital will not be available to many of our most vulnerable friends, and neighbors including those in need of mental health treatment, high risk mothers and babies, trauma and critical care.

I hope that you take these concerns to heart, our community would hurt if this went through.

Amber

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 11:15:48 AM

Name: Sarah Cantrell
Represented Entity: Self
Phone Number: 2172574745
Email Address: sarahmcantrell@yahoo.com

Message:

I am emailing today in opposition of the Quincy Medical Group application for a secondary hospital in Quincy, IL. I do not believe this project is being proposed to serve our community; I believe it is primarily being proposed as a money-grab opportunity for the sole benefit of QMG stakeholders. Blessing Hospital has met the needs of Quincy sufficiently for over 140 years. QMG has never had to pay for an in-house pharmacy, cleaning staff, dietary staff, etc.- the basic services that every hospital must provide. I, quite frankly, do not know how they will be able to afford hiring additional staff to provide such services. Additionally, Blessing Hospital currently has more than 50 open RN positions, with no local RNs to fill those roles. How would QMG fill necessary RN positions when our market is dry? And what does it say about an organization that would intentionally harm the community's truly non-profit hospital by poaching staff? More importantly, what does it say about an organization that would intentionally only serve the insured population in our community? Their proposal states it would be a non-profit hospital, but with the limited size and offerings, I firmly believe that every Medicaid patient who walks through their doors would be transferred to Blessing Hospital "for a higher level of care," wasting precious moments when a pt. could be receiving treatment. And what about those situations where one needs a higher level of care? Where would the local Air Evac helicopter land at the proposed location in order to safely collect patients and get them to Springfield, Peoria, etc? What happens when a delivery goes wrong in one of the three proposed labor and delivery suites? I am terrified thinking of the possible outcomes for a critically ill newborn or mother who is at a small hospital without the appropriate resources to treat mom or baby. While Blessing Hospital is not perfect, they are well-equipped to handle nearly any situation and to appropriately stabilize and transfer patients who need more specialized services, such as burns or NICU. For myself and my family, the peace of mind in the expertise that exists at Blessing Hospital means more to me than a smaller facility with "more personalized care." What benefit is there in this stand-alone facility? I see none. I am opposed to this hospital and will not use this hospital, should it be approved. I do hope you review the true need in the Quincy area- you will see that Blessing more than meets that need. I urge you to deny the Quincy Medical Group application for a small-format hospital.

Sarah M. Cantrell
926 Adams
Quincy, IL 62301

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 11:32:32 AM

Name: Ellen Halfpap
Represented Entity:
Phone Number: 217 885 3397
Email Address: Ellen.halfpap@blessinghealth.org

Message:

QMG in Quincy has applied for small format hospital. I am opposed to this request. Quincy has a population of 37,000. Several years ago we had a population of over 40,000. At that time we were not able to sustain 2 hospitals. If we are going to be able to provide high quality health care in the community an addition of a 2nd hospital will dilute the resources needed.

Additional rationales to deny the request are:

- This proposed hospital is less than two miles away from Blessing and will weaken our community healthcare system by adding unneeded beds and services
- Adams County residents rely on safety net services provided by Blessing, and those services are made possible by millions of dollars of federal funding, which Blessing will lose if another hospital opens in the area. Loss of sole community hospital status.
- Quincy was not able to sustain two hospitals in the past and our population is declining, so we have even less need for more hospital beds
- QMG is no longer the locally owned physician group we have known for 85 years, but is now controlled by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment
- The proposed small format hospital will not be available to many of our most vulnerable friends, and neighbors including those in need of mental health treatment, high risk mothers and babies, trauma and critical care.

Please deny their application!

Thank you,
Ellen Halfpap

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: General Information including Meeting Schedules
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 1:08:53 PM

Name: Melissa Damon
Represented Entity: Blessing Health System- Illini Community Hospital
Phone Number: (217) 242-6689
Email Address: melissa.damon@blessinghealth.org

Message:

I am writing to you to oppose QMG small format hospital. Our community and even surrounding counties rely on the services of Blessing hospital. These services are made possible by millions of dollars of federal funding. If another hospital opens, Blessing will lose this federal funding, loss of sole community hospital status. In addition, this proposed hospital is less than 2 miles from Blessing and will weaken our community healthcare system by adding unneeded beds and services. We have a community with a declining population that cannot support 2 hospitals. QMG is no longer owned by local providers, but by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment! We already have a problem with QMG not caring for underinsured or Medicaid patients, I cannot imagine what this new hospital will do to that balance. The proposed small format hospital will not be available to many of our most vulnerable friends, and neighbors including those in need of mental health treatment, high risk mothers and babies, trauma and critical care. This could be detrimental to our organization. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 1:26:34 PM

Name: Julie Shepard
Represented Entity:
Phone Number: 217.440.8081
Email Address: Julie.shepard3@icloud.com

Message:

QMG Hospital Project 20-044

Dear Chairperson Debra Savage: I am a resident of Quincy, Illinois. I am writing to oppose the QMG Hospital Project. I do not feel that Quincy needs another hospital, especially one that is less than two miles away from an existing hospital that very effectively meets community needs. It will result in unneeded beds and expenses to the community. I feel that it will be confusing for patients and that they will not be able to receive the same level of care at both hospitals and will not know where they should go. This small format hospital will not serve all residents and that is a disservice to the residents of Adams County. I do not feel Quincy can sustain two hospitals and it will put the full service hospital at risk.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns. Sincerely, Julie Shepard

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Board Matters, Policies, Membership
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 1:57:24 PM

Name: Cathy Hilgenbrinck
Represented Entity: Blessing Health System
Phone Number: 217-440-4881
Email Address: cghilg2001@yahoo.com

Message:

Letter of opposition

Re: QMG Hospital Project 20-044

To whom it may concern,

This project has been brought for consideration to the Planning Board and the following concerns are being voiced and are needing to be strongly considered.

1. QMG is misrepresenting itself as a locally owned physician group. Since its original application QMG is now been acquired by DuPage Medical Group as a part of a series of strategic investments the for-profit Chicago based company has been making in the last few months.
2. The distance between Blessing Health and the proposed hospital is less than 2 miles therefore the QMG hospital does not impact access to healthcare in a rural community.
3. Sustainability. Current population and trends suggest the area is unable to financially support two hospitals. Population demonstrates a decline from 40,428 in 2018 to 39,652 in 2022. The average decline per year has been .25%. The local area surrounding Quincy is also showing a decline in population of .34% annually. 16% of the population mentioned is considered at or below poverty level and would not be eligible for services at the QMG hospital. 6,344 people (16%) do not financially qualify to be served at this facility.
4. Past history has proven the community has been unable to financially sustain two hospitals.
5. Critical staffing need for RNs, CNAs in our community. This facility will add an additional strain on the available workforce to healthcare facilities that are already established and serving our community.
6. This facility will impact the availability of federal funds that help support safety net services provided by Blessing Health System. The costs could be millions of dollars lost due to approval of a facility that will not be nor ever will provide any of those services.

Blessing Health System has improved and supported efforts of improving access to healthcare in our rural community. Blessing has partnered with struggling rural access hospitals to help keep access points open that would have been financially forced to close without Blessing providing the needed support and resources. As a non-profit organization Blessing meets the needs and takes on the financial risks associated with meeting the needs of our most vulnerable population. Blessing Health System provides, Mental Health services, trauma, critical care, high risk maternal and infant care just to name a few of the services offered

Finally, this proposed hospital is a threat to the existing and established health

system in our community. QMG and their new DuPage owners are focused on providing services that have the most positive financial gain for themselves. This project has nothing to do with serving our community. In fact the very proposal is a disservice. If approved QMG will strip away profitable services from an existing health system, thus reducing Blessing's ability to offset the costs of providing services that the community needs but are not profitable. Eventually forcing the reduction of those services.

It is easy to see that this project is about profit to be made and does not improve access or improve healthcare in our community. In the long term the approval of this facility will be detrimental too services that are able to be provided to our community. Please take my concerns into consideration as you make your decision and vote NO.

Sincerely,
Cathy Hilgenbrinck
6516 N. Stone ridge Drive
Quincy, IL 62305

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 2:04:00 PM

Name: Todd Haverstock
Represented Entity: Blessing Health System
Phone Number: 2172231200
Email Address: todd.haverstock@blessinghealth.org

Message:

REFERENCE - QMG Hospital Project 20-044 attn: Chairperson Debra Savage

I am writing to you today in OPPOSITION of the Quincy Medical Group (QMG) hospital proposed for Quincy Illinois. When our population was higher 25 years ago, we were not able to support two hospitals and one closed. QMG is no longer locally owned and its owners are not acting in the best interests of the local community by persisting to build this hospital. I am all for competition and lower prices but I see this causing more harm than good which is why we have a CON process in Illinois to stop inappropriate use of valuable medical resources. I see where this will adversely impact Blessing Hospital which is a non profit providing safety-net services for the community unlike Quincy Medical Group. The QMG hospital will simply not be available to a good part of the Quincy-area population due to socio-economic and insurance status. I urge you to not approve the QMG hospital proposal and thank you for your consideration.