

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 3:33:20 PM

Name: Nancy Felde
Represented Entity: Blessing Hospital
Phone Number: 217-224-9010
Email Address: nancyfelde@gmail.com

Message:

REF: QMG Hospital Project 20-044

I am writing to oppose the above-reference project. 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. 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.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 4:47:48 PM

Name: Mike Brewer
Represented Entity: Self
Phone Number: 217-480-6737
Email Address: 1smallfarm@gmail.com

Message:
QMG Hospital Project 20-044.

Dear Chairperson Debra Savage,

I respectfully request you table or deny the application for building a new QMG Hospital in Quincy Illinois. I have family in the community and have heard of the many efforts in Quincy to improve the community with perception that people are leaving for more opportunity in larger communities or in different states.

I request the application to build another hospital in Quincy be denied. It is counterproductive toward supporting the health and care needs of Quincy and the surrounding area. There does not seem to be the census base to have 2 full service hospitals or a full service hospital and a small format hospital. Competition is good in the marketplace in optional or deferrable services that are in the out-patient market. But traumatic, urgent and severe medical care patient cases need to have sophisticated and well trained teams with well maintained facilities. It is analogous to have the right number and size of fire stations to combat a disaster. The new hospital will not add any higher quality of care to the community. As you know, the more routine lower risk patients who have the means to pay for their care provide the cash flow for a hospital to provide care to the high risk, emergent and less wealthy patients. Until the population of Quincy grows significantly there does not seem to be the population base to fund the proposed small format hospital without undermining the full care hospital ability to serve the full community.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 1:34:35 PM

Name: Arlis Dittmer
Represented Entity: Myself, healthcare consumer
Phone Number: 217-653-2782
Email Address: arlisdittmer@gmail.com

Message:

I wish to comment on Project 20-004, QMG Hospital. I live in the country 35 miles from Blessing Hospital, which I would use and have used as needed. If I wanted to use a smaller hospital, I would use Carthage Memorial Hospital which is only 12 miles. I see no logical reason for QMG to build another small hospital in Quincy. It is not needed. My other concern is that all the hospitals in our area are not-for-profit. QMG is a for profit entity, not locally owned. I sense that the only reason for the QMG Hospital is to take healthcare dollars from Blessing for their own use. It is a shame that QMG is choosing to split the community for personal profit. Thank you, Arlis Dittmer

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Board Matters, Policies, Membership
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 12:12:21 PM

Name: Garin Egbers
Represented Entity: Blessing Health Systems
Phone Number:
Email Address: garin.egbers@blessinghealth.org

Message:

I am writing in opposition the the proposed QMG Hospital Project 20-044. This is due to various reasons including the fact that QMG is no longer the locally owned physician group the community has 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, and would take away from the community rather than benefit it. I hope this message reaches the board. Thank you

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 12:06:44 PM

Name: Rev. Marlin Rempfer
Represented Entity: St. James Lutheran Church
Phone Number: 217-685-3315
Email Address: revremp@yahoo.com

Message:

Letter in opposition to QMG Hospital Project 20-044

Chairperson Debra Savage and members of the Illinois Health Facility Planning Board

First, thank you for your service.

Second, let me say that I think there are marvelous doctors at both Blessing and QMG.

I am opposed to this hospital project because I think it will hurt both the care and our community. Competition may, and I say may, help prices but in competition someone always loses, it might be Blessing. It might be QMG. It might be both. And it might be the community.

Quincy was much better off when Blessing built a cancer center and it was staffed with QMG doctors.

We previously had two hospitals in town and it didn't work. I don't think we need two hospitals roughly two miles apart. As I said earlier when two entities compete someone always loses.

I'm not sure how it will effect caring for the low income individuals in our community. Will both hospitals be required to care for them. will both hospitals be reimbursed?

A town of 40,000 doesn't seem to me to need another hospital..

Again I thank you for your willingness to serve and to review this proposal.

Sincerely,
Marlin R. Rempfer
Pastor, St. James Lutheran Church, Quincy, Illinois

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 12:00:41 PM

Name: Chelsea Maples
Represented Entity: Blessing Health Systems
Phone Number: 660-341-5682
Email Address: chelsea.maples@blessinghealth.org

Message:

I am writing in regards to QMG Hospital Project 20-044. I would like to share why I am opposed to the QMG small hospital format that will undermine healthcare services in the Quincy, IL and surrounding area communities. With Quincy, IL only have a population of roughly 40,000 people it is not going to be feasible to sustain two hospitals that are only located two miles apart from each other. This has been proven in the past that Quincy has not been able to support two different hospital with the closing of St. Mary's Hospital. QMG is no longer the locally owned medical group Quincy has known for the past 85 years, but is now controlled by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment. This leads me to believe that QMG will no longer have what is for the best interest of Quincy and the community in mind when making decisions on providing top notch health care and instead be influenced by outside stakeholders. The proposed QMG hospital will not provide services for some of the most vulnerable patients that need services such as: mental health, high risk OB cases, trauma, critical care, etc. This is why I am in opposition of the proposed QMG hospital being passed in Quincy, IL.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 11:27:39 AM

Name: Greg and Connie Scott
Represented Entity: Quincy, IL Community
Phone Number: 2173161094
Email Address: gcscott262@comcast.net

Message:

Chairperson Debra Savage
Illinois Health Facility Planning Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
REFERENCE - QMG Hospital Project 20-044

Dear Chairperson Savage,

My husband and I are writing this letter to encourage you to deny the CON for Quincy Medical Group to build a second hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

I am a retired registered nurse with over 45 years of nursing experience in the Quincy community. I've been serving the Quincy community my entire career. The first 20 years of my career, I was at St. Mary Hospital and the last 25 years at Blessing Hospital.

In 1993 the community boards of both Blessing and St. Mary Hospital came together and made the decision that the community could only support one hospital. We understood that if we wanted to keep up with advances in medicine and to bring nonavailable services to Quincy we would need to consolidate to one hospital. We did this to save patients from driving 2-3 hours. We knew that we needed to bring critical cancer and heart care close to home, both are leading health issues in our community. We did this to bring the best care.

Our population is basically declining since the 1990's, so we do not understand how Quincy Medical Group believes the community can support two hospitals? This issue has already been addressed once.

In the past as Quincy Medical Group has duplicated services already provided at the hospital I have questioned their "cherry picking" of patients. Where the existing Blessing Hospital has continued to provide standard level of care 24/7 to everyone regardless of their ability to pay. Blessing doesn't turn anyone away. Blessing needs the federal funding that comes from being a sole community provider, because they will be caring for the most vulnerable of our community.

My husband spent 30 years in law enforcement in Quincy, IL and frequently was involved in assisting health care professionals in trauma care, cardiac care, and overdoses among other emergencies. Is the 25 bed hospital going to be able to provide the same level of care or will they be diverting patients to the larger Blessing Hospital? Will there be wasted minutes if someone shows up with a heart attack or stroke and needing emergent cardiac catheterization, heart surgery or emergent neurosurgery requiring transfer to Blessing Hospital if the services are not available at

the 25 bed hospital? To us safe, quality care is of high importance to our community. There proposed hospital would only be 2 miles from Blessing Hospital.

Before I retired in 2018 I remember seeing state reports that indicated west central Illinois already had more than enough hospital beds for the population served. I do not think this data would have changed significantly in the past three years.

My husband and I volunteer over 800 hours (even more during the Covid-19 pandemic) per year in the community at various agencies such as United Way, Open Hands Food Bank, Kiwanis Sewing Masks for public schools, Blessing Hospital, Quincy Hospitality House, and the COVID-19 vaccination center among others. We know how important it is for the community to come together to meet the needs of people living in our community and to listen to the voices of those people. Therefore, we support the initiatives most organizations in our community take in having community members on their boards. At last check Blessing Hospital has community members on their board, but the proposed Quincy Medical Group hospital does not have any community board members. When researching the Quincy Medical Group website I find nothing that says they are now no longer the locally owned physician group we have known for 85 years, but are now controlled by a for-profit Chicago based company with substantial private equity investment, whose corporate headquarters are 290 miles away.

We encourage you to deny Quincy Medical Group's application. We would welcome talking in person with members of this board if requested.

Sincerely,

Connie and Greg Scott
3610 Mill Creek Valley Road
Quincy, IL 62305

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 10:21:48 AM

Name: RONALD H UPPER
Represented Entity: None
Phone Number: (217) 224-1824
Email Address: ronaldupper@gmail.com

Message:

I just wanted to make my position clear concerning Quincy's QMG Hospital Project 20-044. First, I don't believe Quincy truly needs another hospital less than 2 miles from the one we have. Blessing has continued to add beds to their facility as they felt a need to do so and additional beds aren't needed. The recent Covid issues proved that. I don't think QMG's claim about our paying more for services is fair in that they compare prices in major market areas. Losing the Federal Funding now available for sole community hospitals will severely affect the full line of service Blessing has and the QMG small format hospital will not have. I believe the way Medicare treats different hospitals is the main reason their costs may be marginally higher. Also, the several recent changes in QMG's financial position and ownership and their reluctance to be up front about them truly concerns me. I hope your Board will continue to agree that this additional small format hospital is not needed in Quincy, Illinois. Thank you for your consideration. - Ronald H. Upper

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Board Matters, Policies, Membership
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 9:51:22 AM

Name: Rebekah Brewer
Represented Entity:
Phone Number: 217-494-2954
Email Address: blondemomint@yahoo.com

Message:

I am a mother of 3 girls in Quincy, IL and am writing in opposition to the new hospital development by Quincy Medical Group here in Adams County. I am opposed for 3 reasons.

According to local data, there is no shortage of available inpatient beds at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, and the local community is not experiencing growth, the population is not rising.

Second, QMG was formerly a local physician owned group but has been recently acquired by outside investment through a non-local group Duly Health, which is heavily influenced by for-profit private equity. This is in contrast with the public benefit non-for-profit that Blessing continues to be, writing off a greater percentage of free care and safety net services than QMG has ever done.

The plans do not focus on necessary or safety net services like inpatient psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, high risk OB, NICU, or trauma services.

At similar population levels, Quincy was unable to sustain two hospitals in the past (St. Marys), and it was not a financially viable situation, with unnecessary duplication of some services.

While I greatly appreciate the contributions of QMG staff in our community, the new direction and influence of Duly Health private equity is NOT leading to more safety net services and community benefit. I strongly oppose this project.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Other
Date: Saturday, April 2, 2022 9:41:38 AM

Name: Matthew Brewer
Represented Entity:
Phone Number: 2178713000
Email Address: mattbrewermd@gmail.com

Message:

As a physician who works very closely with BOTH blessing and QMG physicians in Quincy, IL, I am very much opposed to new hospital development by Quincy Medical Group here in Adams County.

Aside from the brief covid-related nationwide nursing shortage, there has been no lack of available inpatient beds at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, and the county is not experiencing any population growth in recent decades.

Unnecessary duplication of some services while mainly focused on the insured population (as an investor owned for profit entity) with further harm the overall care in the community and detrimentally affect the safety net provided by Blessing, a nonprofit public benefit organization.

A small format QMG "boutique" hospital lacking safety net services such as trauma, critical care, mental health and other costly necessary services, does not serve the overall health needs of the community in an equitable format, and would add additional burden to the community by having anyone who present with safety net needs, to be transferred to another facility.

In summary, I do not feel the QMG small format hospital is necessary, does not fit any unmet needs, will only add to costs of healthcare in the community, and is aimed at featuring profitable lines of service not safety net services. I strongly oppose this project.

From: [SecureData](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#); [Simmons, April R.](#)
Subject: Feedback from website: Certificate of Need Rules, Applications, Procedures
Date: Friday, April 1, 2022 6:47:06 PM

Name: Vieve Veith
Represented Entity: Blessing Hospital
Phone Number: 2176530244
Email Address: vveith01@comcast.net

Message:

I am strongly opposed to QMG's hospital!
QMG has been shady with all their facts and figures from the start!
Now they are not even owned locally and have joined a profit based company from Chicago!
Please turn this request DOWN!
QMG has had many opportunities to work WITH Blessing but continues to fight them.
Quincy could not support 2 hospitals before and the one QMG proposes would be nothing but harmful for our community.
Thank you for your time.