

150 N. Riverside Plaza, Suite 3000, Chicago, IL 60606-1599 • 312.819.1900

March 18, 2021

Anne M. Cooper (312) 873-3606 (312) 276-4317 Direct Fax acooper@polsinelli.com

Via Federal Express Via E-Mail

Ms. Courtney Avery Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor Springfield, Illinois 62761

> Re: Kindred Chicago Central Hospital (Proj. No. 21-005) Request for Expedited Review

Dear Ms. Avery:

On behalf of Kindred Healthcare, LLC and Kindred THC Northshore, LLC. (collectively "Kindred"), we respectfully request the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board ("State Board") grant expedited review of the above-referenced Kindred Chicago Central Hospital application for certificate of need permit (the "CON Application") and consider the CON Application at the May 4, 2021 State Board meeting. This project proposes the discontinuation of a 95-bed long-term acute care hospital located at 4058 West Melrose Street, Chicago, Illinois 60641 (the "Hospital").

As noted in the CON Application, Kindred leases the building housing the Hospital from a third party landlord. The lease expires on December 31, 2021 with no further renewal options available. On March 11, 2021, Kindred announced to the staff the Hospital would be closing on or around June 10, 2021. Retaining staff for more than six months while the CON Application is pending will be extremely difficult, particularly in light of nursing shortages that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. To assure the Hospital discontinuation is performed in an orderly and timely manner, Kindred respectfully requests the CON Application be considered at the May 4, 2021 State Board meeting.



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Thank you for your time and consideration of Kindred's request for expedited review of the Kindred Chicago Central Hospital CON Application. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Anne M. Cooper