

From: [Jody Perrecone](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)
Subject: [External] Javan Bea Hospital - Rockford, IL
Date: Thursday, February 3, 2022 6:58:27 PM

Dear Mr. Costantino,

I am writing in opposition of Jovan Bea MercyHealth Hospital at 2400 N. Rockton Avenue, Rockford, IL discontinuing inpatient and surgical services.

This is the latest of discontinued services. In a letter addressed to Courtney Avery, Administrator at Illinois Health Facilities and Review Board and Services dated September 3, 2020, Congresswoman Cheri Bustos asked that the hospital not discontinue inpatient mental health treatment. She indicated mental health service needs were rising in Rockford, and Swedish American Hospital did not have the capacity to take on the additional patients. Jovan Bea MercyHealth discontinued these services despite the need.

MercyHealth discontinued taking certain Medicaid patients, again putting additional burden on Swedish American Hospital as well as OSF St. Anthony Hospital in Rockford. The Emergency Department at Jovan Bea MercyHealth on Rockton Avenue has converted its emergency room to an immediate care center with a nursing staff and physician that is on call. Again, additional burden placed on our other hospitals in town.

As a not for profit hospital, they are required to provide community benefits to receive their tax exempt status. When a hospital cherry picks the services they provide by choosing to provide the services most profitable and at the same time eliminates services for certain Medicaid patients, it is not carrying out its duty to provide community benefits for all. PICU and NICU are no longer available at its Rockton Avenue campus and have moved to the new Jovan Beau MercyHealth \$505 million hospital 10 miles further east on E. Riverside Boulevard in Rockford.

Jovan Bea MercyHealth Rockton Avenue needs to resume at the least inpatient and surgical services at its N. Rockton Avenue facility which is located in an area of Rockford where many health services are no longer readily available.

Sincerely,
Jody Perrecone
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