



May 3, 2023

VIA EMAIL DELIVERY and U.S. Mail

Mr. Mike Constantino
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street – 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

**Re: HSHS St. Mary's Hospital, Decatur
Update on Temporary Suspension of AMI Services**

Dear Mr. Constantino:

This letter is to provide an update on the temporary suspension of services at St. Mary's Hospital. Earlier this year we temporarily suspended the Adolescent Acute Mental Illness service due to lack of sufficient staffing, low volumes and financial conditions. Our Adult Acute Mental Illness ("AMI") service, which includes geriatric patients, is experiencing similar conditions and we anticipate the need to temporarily suspend that service in the near future.

In January of this year, we notified the public and our colleagues of our intention to permanently discontinue inpatient psychiatric services (and other services) with an application to discontinue with the Review Board. We committed to our patients and to our staff to maintain Adult AMI services through May 9, 2023, the scheduled hearing date for our application. At the same time, we were making transition plans with our staff so that those working in service lines to be discontinued would be placed at other facilities within the HSHS system. With respect to AMI staff, we offered hourly retention incentives and have held open positions elsewhere within HSHS. Despite these efforts, several colleagues have already resigned and accepted positions outside of HSHS. The remaining colleagues have been collaborating with us to continue the services but need to transition to other departments in HSHS by May 12, 2023 to maintain adequate staffing at those facilities.

The remaining staff have covered minimum staffing, but we have had to reduce the volumes in order to safely care for patients. Our commitment with the transition was to accept patients that we could care for and not require transfer during their acute stay.

As of today's date, we have two geriatric AMI patients with a plan of care that will facilitate discharge no later than May 12, 2023. The adult unit has eleven other patients with plans of care that facilitate discharge no later than May 12, 2023. We stopped accepting admissions based on average length of stay and anticipate our last patient will be discharged on or before May 12, 2023. We will then be required to temporarily suspend the Adult AMI service at that time.



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We continue to collaborate with members of our community to support outpatient services for behavioral health services and will continue to provide emergency services for our community.

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital will keep you informed of the status of the service as required. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Paige Toth at 217-814-8467.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Theresa J. Rutherford". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Theresa J. Rutherford
President & CEO
HSHS St. Mary's Hospital

cc: karen.senger@illinois.gov