



February 17, 2023

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RE: US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System Adult Behavioral Health Hospital  
Project: 23-008 Letter of Support**

Dear Chairwoman Savage and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

This letter is submitted in support of the proposed adult behavioral health hospital in Peoria.

As an Illinois resident, I know firsthand the challenges our community faces with mental and behavioral health. Also, as a real estate agent, I know that relocating families also look for a multitude of services. Some of which include this type of specialization which our area is sorely lacking. While there are many health care needs in Illinois, behavioral health care continuously ranks as one of residents' top concerns.

This proposed 100-bed adult hospital will increase access to behavioral health services throughout downstate Illinois. As the largest facility south of Chicago, it will provide greatly needed inpatient behavioral health resources for some of the most vulnerable individuals and families, regardless of ability to pay.

Furthermore, this facility will help ensure patients are set up for long-term success through aftercare services, and patients and families will benefit from having the services they need available locally – saving both time and money.

I urge you to support the approval of the certificate of need application for US HealthVest and OSF. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in our area.

Sincerely,

Jeff Kolbus  
President

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