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28 February 2023

John P. Kniery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System Adult Behavioral Hospital, to be named Meadowview Behavioral Hospital, Project: 23-008 Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Kniery and Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

On behalf of US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System, this letter is in support of the proposed 100-bed adult behavioral health hospital in Peoria, Illinois through the joint venture between US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System.

There is an unmet need in the surrounding area for adult psychiatric services that is resulting in patients being deferred or denied treatment. Approval of this application will increase access to these important services in our community and help provide relief from the following current situations:

- Patients waiting for psychiatric beds in hospital emergency departments
- Patients in need of psychiatric services and unable to find treatment close to their communities
- Health care professionals unable to find patients beds at existing facilities
- Local psychiatric recidivism due to lack of aftercare services near patients' homes
- Lack of family involvement during inpatient treatment due to distance or travel time

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

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Cunningham, MA, LCPC
Owner/Therapist | Caim Counseling, LLC