



THE ANTIOCH GROUP^{INC.}

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February 27, 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 Health Hospital, Project 23-008, Meadowview Hospital, Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Kniery:

My name is Maggie Classen, and I am a LCSW working at The Antioch Group in Peoria, Illinois. This is a private outpatient counseling facility serving adults and children in the central Illinois area.

I want to state my support of the application / proposal to establish Meadowview Behavioral Hospital, a 100 bed Acute Mental Illness hospital in Peoria as a joint venture of US HealthVest and OSF Healthcare System.

I have worked with children and adolescents struggling with mental health issues for twenty years and there has often been a shortage of available psychiatric beds. This is despite having an inpatient psychiatric hospital in the area. I have had to send clients to Springfield, Champaign and Chicago for inpatient treatment. Additional services in this area would be of great benefit for those who do not have the resources to be placed far from home.

It is my clinical belief that having a resource such as this will impact the community by allowing less wait time for a bed, and less recidivism, as treatment will be more assessable. it will allow for more family involvement, which is critical for patient recovery.

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,


Maggie Classen, LCSW

Child & Adolescent Therapist