

From: [Trina Hunt](#)
To: [Kniery, John P.](#)
Cc: adejoseph@ushealthvest.com
Subject: [External] Letter of Support
Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023 9:30:57 AM

Dear Mr. Kniery,

It was recently brought to my attention there is the possibility of building a 100 bed adult behavioral health hospital in Peoria.

I am a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor practicing with the group Chapin & Russell in Peoria, IL. I have been practicing in the Peoria area for over 30 years and have witnessed a steady decline in mental health services, especially in the area of inpatient availability. It is now to the point where a person has to be suicidal to even be admitted to the hospital, and are oftentimes sent out of town for services.

One should not have to meet the criteria of suicidal to have access to inpatient psychiatric care and I am hopeful that this joint venture between OSF and US Health Vest can move forward.

Sincerely,

Trina K. Hunt, Ph.D., LCPC