

Madelyn J. Nelson

I am a 40 year resident of DeKalb.

I have during that time heard many positive comments about the DeKalb County Nursing Home & Rehab Center. Residents have expressed how happy they are to have such a good place to recover from surgery or to place their parent.

No wonder, DeKalb is a CARING county. We have a 169 YEAR history of caring for our residents from the original poor farm in the 1850's to the present County Nursing Home. I am sure that during that time there were hard times, rough times, health emergencies, and economic stress, but during those times DeKalb recognized the need for a safe place for the ill and elderly.

This is not the time to step away from that centuries old commitment. It is true that the County Home has had financial difficulties because of the Pandemic. It also appears to be true that there were a number of errors and decisions on the part of our county board that failed to either redeem, alleviate or repair the situation. Indeed, County residents, the ill, recovering and elderly will be the ones to pay a high price, both and physically if the home is sold to a for profit company and for far less than it's value

If our entire county and its finances cannot support the County Home a non-profit, then where is the profit coming from for a FOR PROFIT COMPANY. Will it come from cutbacks in staffing, quality of care or food to maintain profitability, if so who will suffer – DeKalb residents taxpayers who expect.ed care after a lifetime of paying this county for the privilege of living here who now in their time of need are being forgotten.

I call on the IDPH to recommend against this sale and for the County County Board to revisit it's commitment to our elderly, who deserve the be treated with dignity in their later years at a quality and caring nursing home. Would you want your parent in this situation. If not please say no to this sale because we have been and are a caring County and we want our Nursing Home.

Public Hearing July 11, 2023

SABA has developed a diagram of mismanagement for nursing homes. It seems to have been constructed that way on purpose. Illinois Department of Public Health made recommendations to assist SABA to correct problems and those problems were solved. But only temporarily! Clearly, they have continued to manage their properties in the exact same way, so they continue to reoccur.

Some of the problems that have been addressed in the surveys are likely to appear at DeKalb County Rehab and Nursing Center if SABA purchases the property.

Residents are aware of SABA's reputation of owning many 1-star facilities. This has created a great deal of anxiety because residents are afraid that the nursing home will become so unlivable that they will suffer under SABA's management. There is no indication that your management style will change.