

From: [John Bradley](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] On the Sale of the DeKalb Country Nursing Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 2:33:28 PM

Dear State of Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board,

The sale of the DeKalb County Nursing Home feels as if the State of Illinois wants to unload it as fast as possible without regard for the current residents of DeKalb County, or the state.

I say this for several reasons. Why is a meeting on the sale of a DeKalb County building and property held in another town, in another county? Why is the sale going to a corporate health company with such a poor record? And why is the nursing home to be sold for \$8.3 million after the recent \$13 million dollar addition, and the \$13 million dollar renovation in 2018?

I hope you will show the residents of DeKalb as well as the state of Illinois that you are acting in the best interests of all involved, and not making a hasty decision that we will all regret in the coming years. At the very least, there should be a public referendum on the fate of the nursing home. That would be the fairest and the most democratic solution.

Best wishes,

John Bradley

From: [Terri Chriss](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Save DCRNC
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 4:29:54 PM

Mr. Constantino,

I was employed at DCRNC for nearly 20 years. I started when I was 19 as a receptionist going through college. I stayed on as an RN for 17/18 more years. I have also worked in corporate run facilities. I have seen the differences between the two and I know how important it is to keep this facility owned by the County.

Why is it so important to keep DCRNC a county facility? It provides many affordable care, whereas privatization would result in putting needed care out of reach for many citizens. Someday it could be you or a loved one needing around the clock nursing care, and how will you afford quality care? We have paid taxes our entire lives and yet we won't have access to quality affordable care here in DeKalb County if this sale goes through. While I realize our property taxes do not directly go to DCRNC, much of our tax money stays here in our community. The community needs to continue to provide for our elderly.

As I mentioned to one of our board members last fall, thd County needs to be creative and keep this facility.

Marketing the rehab unit would be a great way to bring in more reimbursement to help offset the expenditures. It would be a good investment to build a relationship with Marion Joy, Kindred, etc. to keep them aware of the services DCRNC can offer. DCRNC would be a great "step down unit" for patients to transfer to after leaving acute rehab prior to returning home. Several rooms could be made into small apartments for patients to use before transitioning back to home. Back when I worked there, we had top notch therapists and had waiting lists to get in.

As elected officials, you need to make this right and not just sweep it under the rug. Go after this previous management company and keep the County home! Our taxpayer money founded MPA \$65,000 x 24 years!!! For what? Ask yourselves, what did MPA do, and what did our previous County Board members do to oversee them?

It is clearly MPA's fault and the fault of 24 years worth of Dekalb County Board Members who failed to hold MPA accountable. MPA ran the facility into the ground right before the County Boards eyes. I'm still not quite sure how they got in debt over \$7 million before that came out. \$7 million - how? I'm at a total loss as to how long this was going on without anyone in the County being aware.

The States Attorney should be investigating this matter! MPA should be responsible for this loss. Isn't their expertise in running nursing homes? They clearly failed and now their mistakes are being taken out on the residents and employees by having to sell our facility to corporate America. It's not a win win situation if that occurs. The residents loose out more then anyone.

We need to recoup the losses sustained from the mismanagement of MPA and keep our nursing home a County facility

Please do what's right for our elderly and compromised residents who need an affordable place to live. At the very least, put it out there for the voters to decide.

Theresa Chriss
Scott Chriss

Sent from my iPhone to you from Terri Chriss. :0)

From: [Peg Rozhon](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Please Dent the Sale of the Dekalb County Nursing Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:03:27 PM

Dear Mr. Constantino:

I am a Dekalb County, Illinois resident who strongly objects to the sale of the Dekalb County Nursing Home. The quality of care at this facility is outstanding, and I believe that this is due to the fact that the nursing home is owned by the county and under the supervision of the county board. The operations of the facility are not for corporate benefit and as such the primary focus of the facility is patient care, not corporate profit.

I have supported and will continue to support all efforts to pass referenda to maintain the facility.

Even more concerning is the record of the corporation that has offered to purchase the facility. It has a 1 star rating for the 11 other Illinois nursing homes it operates. The corporation has accumulated 170 violations totaling several million dollars in fines. These violations are of the Type A and Type AA category that documents incidents for “a substantial probability” to have of caused both “death and serious harm to residents”.

The price offered to purchase the facility is very low compared to its value. The cost of recent renovations the nursing home exceeds the purchase price. The land upon which it is situated is valuable. This appears to be evidence of a for profit investment.

Please deny this sale.

Respectfully,

Margaret Rozhon

24935 McQueen Rd Malta, IL 60150

From: [Ian Wagener](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Do not sell the county nursing home.
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:17:54 PM

You are betraying every voter in the county by selling this without a referendum. Every other decision about the home has been done by referendum in the past and this should be no exception. Hold a vote, then sell if that's why we decide. This is a pathetic attempt by the board to wash their hands at bad management and will do nothing to actually alleviate the bad management when every potential buyer has an even worse management track record than the county. You should feel shame for cheating the constituents, and call off the sale until a referendum for the sale has been passed. Pathetic.

Sincerely,

Ian Wagener

A life long dekalb county resident.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Brenda Jones](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Sale of DeKalb County County Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:16:54 PM

Dear Mr. Constantino,

I am a DeKalb County taxpayer, and life long resident of DeKalb County. My great grandmother, grandfather, aunt, and countless friends have lived out their final days in the DeKalb County County Home. This institution means a lot to me and my family. As a Girl Scout leader and religious education leader I have brought many children to the county home over the years to engage with the residents. I have also visited other nursing homes in the area over the years, but this one, by far, is the best one in the area.

In my opinion, the one attribute that has remained constant over all these years is the level of quality care given to the residents. The staff is attentive to the needs of the residents, and the facilities are CLEAN. The place feels like a home, not an institution where old folks go to die. In researching the potential buyer(s) of the county home, I fear that these residents could quite possibly suffer greatly from the sale of the county home. My parents are both getting up there in age; and, while it's not a given at this point, they could quite possibly need nursing home care at some point in their lives. This fact has been in the back of my mind for many years, and I've always felt that the county home would be the place of choice if and when the time comes.

I don't understand how a state health agency can approve this purchase by a lesser quality company. Shouldn't a buyer be expected to maintain or rise above the current owner's ratings? This is upsetting to me that the track record of the buyer isn't taken into consideration. Does the state board not take into consideration the current quality of care given to these residents when making their decision?

Additionally, how can you approve a sale that is a LOSS to the seller? In 2018, a \$13M addition was added to the property. How can you approve of a \$5M loss? With beds available to be filled, has the county (aka owner) even tried to reduce the losses created by the management company they had hired to operate the home. I believe the financial situation has improved post-COVID, but that isn't being shared publicly. Shouldn't that effort be required before being allowed to just sell the home?

Finally, the county home has been and is currently owned by the citizens of DeKalb County, not the county board members, and therefore, we citizens should be given the right AND PRIVILEGE of deciding the future of this institution, and that has not happened.

Thank you for your time, it is hard to put all my feelings about this into a short email. I urge you and your fellow members to please vote NO to the sale of OUR county home.

Brenda Jones
Sycamore, Illinois

From: [Jenny Ruff](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] DeKalb County Nursing Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:21:52 PM

Dear Mr Constantino,

I worked at the DeKalb County Nursing Home while in high school from 1984-1986 and hold fond memories of the residents and my fellow coworkers. I still reside in DeKalb County. My grandmother in law and my father both lived there several years ago. I believe this long time fixture of our community should remain in community hands and I oppose its sale to outside interests.

Regards,

Jennifer Ruff
15137 Whipple Rd
Sycamore IL 60178
815-793-2055

From: [Lisa Wikinson](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] DeKalb county home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:22:19 PM

I am opposed to the sale of the county home to a private entity. Please help stop this sale from going through!

Lisa Wilkinson
DeKalb, Il

From: [Marvin Barnes](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Sale of DeKalb County Nursing Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:55:00 PM

Dear Mr. Constantino,

I am asking you with all of my heart to please block the sale of our beloved DeKalb County Nursing Home to a sub-standard buyer with a very poor record and rating along with their recently joined partner with the same reputation.

Over many years, I personally have had family members, close friends, and mentors all stay at this nursing home. It has always been considered a safe-haven for so many with excellent care; especially those who could not afford the fancier, more prestigious nursing homes. Our County Nursing Home has always carried this wonderful reputation and we are in jeopardy of losing it to this sub-standard private party.

I understand and appreciate your position and these difficult decisions you are faced with. But I sincerely hope in this case, you reject this purchase and retain the integrity of our beloved DeKalb County Nursing Home. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marvin & Dianne Barnes
1549 Daniel Court
Sycamore Illinois 60178

From: [Michelle Plagakis](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] DeKalb County Rehab and Nursing Center
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:02:39 PM

Dear Mr. Constantino,

My mother was employed at DeKalb County Rehab and Nursing Center from 1967-2001. She moved from floor nurse all the way up to several years as the Director of Nursing. My husband was employed at DCRNC from 1989-2022. He was a floor nurse and the house night supervisor for the majority of his 33 years. My daughter is employed at DCRNC in the dietary department. After 4 years she has worked up to be a head cook. As you can see, my family has been very vested in this nursing home because of what it stands for and how it has been run. If it is sold to a corporate run facility, it will lose what my family has strived for the nursing home to represent. This facility is HOME to so many county residents. They are a family there. I spoke to the board to try to convey the culture that my mom worked to install there and others have carried on after her retirement.

As elected officials, you need to make sure that nursing home remains a county home. PLEASE do what is right for our county residents. This is not a business, but it is people's lives at stake. DeKalb County deserves the right to keep the nursing home as an affordable and comforting place for their loved ones.

Thank you,
Michelle Plagakis

From: [Faith Whitwell](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Sale of DeKalb County nursing home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:26:18 PM

Dear Mr. Constantino,

I would like to express my opposition, to the sale of the DeKalb County Nursing Home, in DeKalb, IL. From everything I have seen, the company, or should I say companies, since there are really two, are not noted for giving the quality of care that is so important for residents of the facility. Please vote no.

Sincerely,
Faith Whitwell
Sycamore, IL

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Suzanne Coffield](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Deny DeKalb County Nursing Home sale!
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:41:10 PM

Dear Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board,

The summer of 2002 gave me the bittersweet opportunity to find my father the very best care he could receive in the weeks he had left. His wonderful physician, Dharval Thakkar, often chatted with me as we passed each other in the DeKalb County Nursing Home, where Dr. Thakkar visited his patients and I visited Dad. The nurses watched carefully over my father, calling me immediately to come to his side when they recognized he needed me to ease his anxiety. They knew him, albeit for at most a month, and they cared about him.

DeKalb County Nursing Home earned its reputation as the best facility in the area to take care of not only those on a limited budget but those such as my father, who had the means to pay full freight. I couldn't have asked for a better place for him in those last days.

To even consider selling the nursing home to a corporate buyer with an abysmal reputation for patient care flies in the faces of all those professionals who truly cared, in every sense of the word, for our friends and families. Surely our community deserves a better answer and a better future for those we love.

As you carefully review the record of Saba Healthcare, please ask yourselves if you would want your father's care to be overseen by corporate administrators who clearly are incompetent, uncaring, or simply interested only in their profit margin. As you must surely come to this conclusion, you surely will deny the sale.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Coffield

From: [Suzanne Coffield](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Re: Deny DeKalb County Nursing Home sale! Revised last paragraph
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:46:08 PM

From: Suzanne Coffield
Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:40 PM
To: mike.constantino@illinois.gov <mike.constantino@illinois.gov>
Subject: Deny DeKalb County Nursing Home sale!

Dear Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board,

The summer of 2002 gave me the bittersweet opportunity to find my father the very best care he could receive in the weeks he had left. His wonderful physician, Dharval Thakkar, often chatted with me as we passed each other in the DeKalb County Nursing Home, where Dr. Thakkar visited his patients and I visited Dad. The nurses watched carefully over my father, calling me immediately to come to his side when they recognized he needed me to ease his anxiety. They knew him, albeit for at most a month, and they cared about him.

DeKalb County Nursing Home earned its reputation as the best facility in the area to take care of not only those on a limited budget but those such as my father, who had the means to pay full freight. I couldn't have asked for a better place for him in those last days.

To even consider selling the nursing home to a corporate buyer with an abysmal reputation for patient care flies in the faces of all those professionals who truly cared, in every sense of the word, for our friends and families. Surely our community deserves a better answer and a better future for those we love.

As you carefully review the record of Saba Healthcare, please ask yourselves if you would want your father's care to be overseen by corporate administrators who clearly are incompetent, uncaring, or simply interested only in their profit margin. As you must surely come to the conclusion that you would not, you surely will deny the sale.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Coffield

From: [Denise Setchell](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] DeKalb County Nursing Home
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 5:49:20 PM

I am a resident of DeKalb County and I am requesting as your constituent to oppose the sale of our County Home. This County Home belongs to the taxpayers of our county and should have been put on a referendum for the public to choose. Unfortunately it was poorly managed but could be turned around with an administrator who would want to work not only with the public but the Townships as well to manage the funding of the facility to keep it for our residents.

Denise E. Setchell
C#: 815-751-4958

Positive people are forward thinkers.

From: [Jvassilogambros](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Deny Sale of DeKalb County Nursing & Rehab Center
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 10:33:56 PM

I am writing today as a concerned citizen of DeKalb, IL . I urge the State of Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board to DENY the proposed sale of the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Facility of DeKalb County, IL.

The proposed buyers have an incredibly terrible track record of keeping their company ratings at acceptable levels. This company has a rating of ONE out of FIVE and has been cited for over 170 violations in which either caused death or severe injury, or could have! They own and operate eleven other Illinois nursing homes. This is definitely not acceptable to myself, nor should it be acceptable to anyone on the Board who will make that decision!

The residents of DeKalb that have been paying taxes in this community to have a Nursing & Rehab facility that will help out the residents of DeKalb County, not harm them!

The current sale price is way out of order compared to the value of the facility. There was a \$13 million dollar addition to the facility recently, and the sale price is no where near that figure..much less the total value of the entire facility along with the land it is on. I believe the people of the county should decide!

Please, DENY this sale!!

Sincerely,

Joan Vassilogambros
Concerned Citizen

From: [Jana Brubaker](#)
To: [Constantino, Mike](#)
Subject: [External] Oppose DeKalb County Nursing Home Sale
Date: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:21:26 PM

Dear Illinois Health Facility and Services Review Board,

During the 32 years that I have lived in DeKalb I have taken pride in the Dekalb County Nursing Home. I knew that a community that was willing to support this fine facility was a community that I could call home.

Now, I understand the DCNH is facing financial difficulties and on the verge of being sold to a company, which has a horrible reputation due to violations that have had a “substantial probability” of causing “death and serious harm to residents.” The 11 nursing homes in Illinois run by this corporate organization have, on average, the lowest rating conferred by the state!

Not only that, but the facility is seriously undervalued with a sale price that reflects about a third of its estimated value.

The citizens of Dekalb County deserve much better than this! At the very least, we deserve a voice in this decision. We have not even been asked if we would be willing to do more to financially support DCNH.

I do not want DeKalb County to become just another community with a lousy nursing home that strikes fear in all who can envision themselves ending up there.

Please don't rush this decision. It's too important.

Sincerely,

Jana Brubaker
149 Buena Vista Drive
DeKalb, IL

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows