

ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

SECTION I. IDENTIFICATION, GENERAL INFORMATION, AND CERTIFICATION

This Section must be completed for all projects.

Facility/Project Identification

Facility Name: Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn		
Street Address: 4425 Southwest Highway		
City and Zip Code: Oak Lawn 60453		
County: Cook	Health Service Area: 7	Health Planning Area: 7

Applicant(s) [Provide for each applicant (refer to Part 1130.220)]

Exact Legal Name: Meridian Investment Partners, LLC		
Street Address: 15801 S. Bell Road		
City and Zip Code: Homer Glen 60491		
Name of Registered Agent: Salman Azam		
Registered Agent Street Address: 333 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1815		
Registered Agent City and Zip Code: Chicago 60601		
Name of Chief Executive Officer: Morufu O. Alausa, M.D.		
CEO Street Address: 15801 S. Bell Road		
CEO City and Zip Code: Homer Glen 60491		
CEO Telephone Number: 630-697-1414		

Type of Ownership of Applicants

☐ Non-profit Corporation ☐ For-profit Corporation ☒ Limited Liability Company	☐ Partnership ☐ Governmental ☐ Sole Proprietorship	☐ Other
○ Corporations and limited liability companies must provide an Illinois certificate of good standing. ○ Partnerships must provide the name of the state in which they are organized and the name and address of each partner specifying whether each is a general or limited partner.		
APPEND DOCUMENTATION AS <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u>, IN NUMERIC SEQUENTIAL ORDER AFTER THE LAST PAGE OF THE APPLICATION FORM.		

Primary Contact [Person to receive ALL correspondence or inquiries]

Name: Juan Morado, Jr. and Mark J. Silberman
Title: CON Counsel
Company Name: Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff, LLP
Address: 71 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone Number: 312-212-4967 and 312-212-4952
E-mail Address: JMorado@beneschlaw.com and MSilberman@beneschlaw.com
Fax Number: 312-767-9192

Additional Contact [Person who is also authorized to discuss the application for permit]

Name: Babajide A. Salako, M.D.
Title: CEO
Company Name: Dialysis Care Center
Address: 15786 S. Bell Road, Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
Telephone Number: 630-697-1414
E-mail Address: bsalako@dccdialysis.com
Fax Number: 708-645-1001

CERTIFICATION

The Application must be signed by the authorized representatives of the applicant entity. Authorized representatives are:

- in the case of a corporation, any two of its officers or members of its Board of Directors.
- in the case of a limited liability company, any two of its managers or members (or the sole manager or member when two or more managers or members do not exist).
- in the case of a partnership, two of its general partners (or the sole general partner, when two or more general partners do not exist).
- in the case of estates and trusts, two of its beneficiaries (or the sole beneficiary when two or more beneficiaries do not exist); and
- in the case of a sole proprietor, the individual that is the proprietor.

This Application is filed on the behalf of Meridian Investment Partners, LLC * in accordance with the requirements and procedures of the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act. The undersigned certifies that he or she has the authority to execute and file this Application on behalf of the applicant entity. The undersigned further certifies that the data and information provided herein, and appended hereto, are complete and correct to the best of his or her knowledge and belief. The undersigned also certifies that the fee required for this application is sent herewith or will be paid upon request.

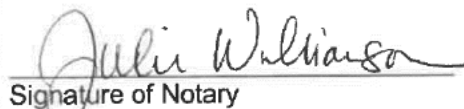


SIGNATURE

Morufu O. Alausa, M.D.
PRINTED NAME

President
PRINTED TITLE

Notarization:
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 18th day of January, 2024


Signature of Notary

Seal



*Insert the EXACT legal name of the applicant



SIGNATURE

Babjide A. Salako, M.D.
PRINTED NAME

Chief Executive Officer
PRINTED TITLE

Notarization:
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 18th day of January, 2024


Signature of Notary

Seal



ATTACHMENT 1

Type of Ownership of Applicant

Included with this attachment are:

1. The Certificate of Good Standing for the Applicant, Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn, LLC.
2. The Certificate of Good Standing for the Applicant, Dialysis Care Center Holdings, LLC.
3. The Certificate of Good Standing for the Applicant, Meridian Investment Partners, LLC.

ATTACHMENT 1
Certificate of Good Standing
Meridian Investment Partners, LLC

File Number

0381617-6



To all to whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

I, Alexi Giannoulas, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, do hereby certify that I am the keeper of the records of the Department of Business Services. I certify that

MERIDIAN INVESTMENT PARTNERS, LLC, HAVING ORGANIZED IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS ON JANUARY 13, 2012, APPEARS TO HAVE COMPLIED WITH ALL PROVISIONS OF THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY ACT OF THIS STATE, AND AS OF THIS DATE IS IN GOOD STANDING AS A DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.



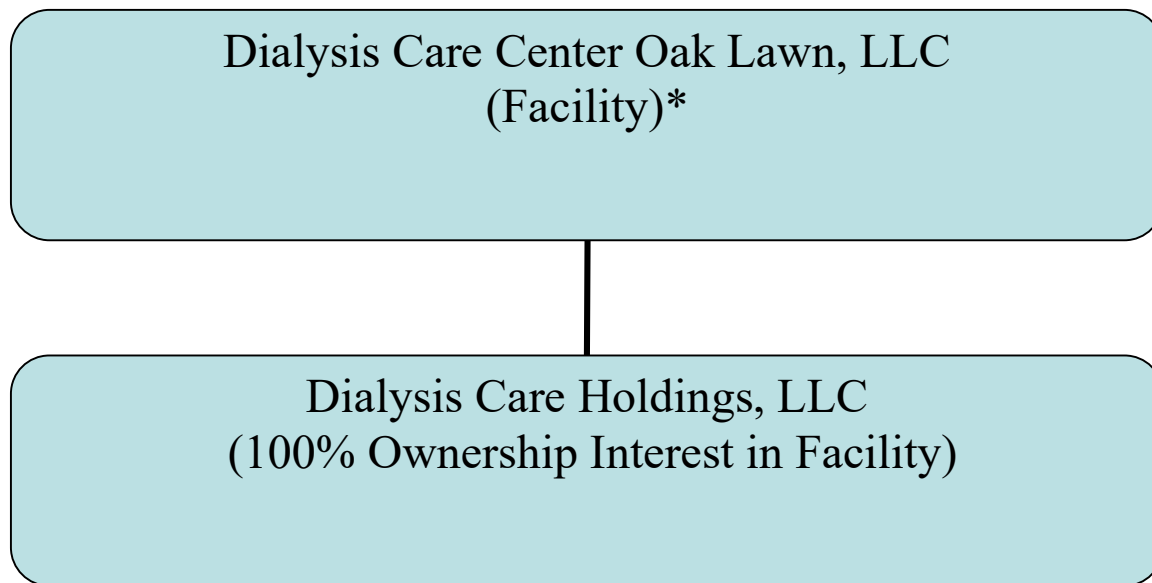
Authentication #: 2403903544 verifiable until 02/08/2025
Authenticate at: <https://www.isos.gov>

In Testimony Whereof, I hereto set
my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of
the State of Illinois, this 8TH
day of FEBRUARY A.D. 2024 .


SECRETARY OF STATE

ATTACHMENT 4

Organizational Chart



*Land where facility is located is owned by Meridian Investment Partners, LLC

ATTACHMENT 11

Background of the Applicants

The following information is provided to illustrate the qualifications, background and character of the Applicant and to assure the Health Facilities and Services Review Board that the proposed in-center hemodialysis, End Stage Renal Dialysis ("ESRD") facility will provide a property standard of health care services for the community.

Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn, LLC

1. The proposed project is brought by Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn, LLC a wholly owned subsidiary of Dialysis Care Center Holdings, LLC. The ownership of Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn, LLC is reflected in Attachment 4.

2. Dialysis Care Center Oak Lawn, LLC does not directly have an ownership interest in any other health care facility. However, Dialysis Care Center Holdings, LLC which is owned 100% by physician owners does maintain ownership in excess of 5% in multiple other healthcare facilities described in the enclosed certification. The Applicant certifies that there have been no adverse actions taken during the three (3) years prior to the filing of this Application. A letter certifying to the above information is included at Attachment 11.

3. We have included a letter authorizing access to the HFSRB and IDPH to verify information about the Applicant at Attachment 11.

Background of Dialysis Care Center Holdings, LLC, Meridian Investment Partners, LLC

Each of the Applicants, by their signatures to the Certification pages of this application, attest that they are fit, willing, able, and have the qualifications, background, and character to adequately provide a proper standard of health service for the community.

Dialysis Care Center Holdings, LLC ("DCC") is a physician owned and operated entity that operates multiple ESRD facilities in the State of Illinois. Drs. Morufu O. Alausa and Sameer M. Shafi equally own the applicant entities. Dr. Alausa is a board certified Nephrologist and published author of multiple articles covering a diverse range of issues relevant to his medical practice. He is widely recognized for his work and has been published in the New England Journal of Medicine. In 2007, he was named one of America's best physicians. Dr. Shafi previously served as Chief Resident at the prestigious Mount Sinai School of Medicine and was key driver behind the launch of the nation's first Staff Enhanced Home Hemodialysis program. He is well known in his field as an expert in treating patients with chronic kidney disease.

Over the years DCC has developed a considerable patient base and provides dialysis services through the multiple ESRD facilities it operates throughout northern Illinois. Their commitment to its growing patient population has provided patients in the region with much needed options for them to obtain dialysis care for their chronic kidney conditions. The overwhelming majority of care available for chronic kidney conditions are provided by one of two global providers. While they are an important component of the healthcare delivery system, so too are independent providers. As an independent operator, DCC is able to work closely with its patients and recognize the unique needs of the community its facilities serve. This has allowed DCC to invest significant time and capital in expanding its operations to areas of the region where there are limited options and an unmet need for their services. In 2017, DCC expended nationally with clinics in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, Georgia, and Tennessee.

ATTACHMENT 11

Background of the Applicants

In 2021, DCC launched its flagship program, DCC Cares. DCC Cares is inspired by the group's motto of Lead with Care. The program serves as a trilogy of care: care for our patients, care for our employees, and care for the communities we serve. It involves employee and patient recognition, team-building opportunities, celebrations and regional events. DCC places a huge emphasis on one-on-one attention. Their education program is known as Staff Enhanced Hemodialysis ("SEH"). DCC facilities are intentionally designed to be smaller and that is because this allows for an environment that allows staff to efficiently monitor patients through the entire hemodialysis treatment process. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS") itself released their ESRD Treatment Choices model to improve the quality of care and reduce Medicare expenditures for patients with chronic kidney disease. CMS has noted that ESRD patients suffer from poor health outcomes and are at increased risk of complications with underlying diseases.

DCC has also taken a holistic approach to improving patient outcomes and works with patients to determine the best modality for their dialysis care. Their roots began with an emphasis on Home Dialysis therapy and in recent years that need has grown. As such, DCC spends significant time on education with clients and this approach is in alignment with CMS who encourages providers to set patients on home dialysis when appropriate.

DCC also utilizes an electronic health record ("EHR") system that was created specifically for dialysis clinics. Their system gives medical staff the ability to maintain real-time communication between physicians and hospitals to ensure patient needs are efficiently addressed. Meridian Investment Partners, LLC is wholly owned by physicians associated with Dialysis Care Holdings, LLC.