

September 2, 2025

Mr. John Kniery

Administrator

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd floor

Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Project 24-018 Support Letter

Dear Mr. Kniery:

I am writing to express Edgewood University's strongest support for Beloit Health System's NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital initiative. Beloit Health System is pursuing this project to establish a Neighborhood Hospital that would further advance healthcare education, clinical training, and professional development in Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.

Beloit Health System has long been an essential partner to Edgewood University and its healthcare educational programs. Most notably, Beloit Health System was integral in bringing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program to Beloit and the greater Rock County area. Their collaboration with Edgewood University, Beloit College, and the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater has expanded accessibility to nursing education for residents of Rock, Jefferson, Green, and Walworth Counties, creating opportunities for students who may otherwise have been unable to pursue this vital career path.

Perhaps the most telling example of Beloit Health System's commitment to addressing the critical workforce shortage in nursing is their sponsorship of Edgewood's partnership with Beloit College to offer our 12-month accelerated BSN program on the Beloit College campus. Beloit Health System leadership and administration not only championed this effort but also played a hands-on role in bringing it to life. They led the development of a nursing skills lab and simulation center by sourcing and donating state-of-the-art equipment from their own system. Equally important, Beloit Health System has served as the first site for clinical rotations, while their experienced nurses have stepped forward as dedicated faculty and mentors for our students.

Beyond nursing, Beloit Health System and Edgewood University continue to explore other programming in allied health fields, such as respiratory therapy, radiologic technology, and health informatics. These initiatives demonstrate Beloit Health System's forward-thinking vision of aligning education with the needs of the community and the healthcare workforce.

The proposed NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital renovation is a natural extension of this vision. Once complete, NorthPointe will not only provide much-needed local access to emergency and inpatient care, but it will also serve as a hub for clinical education and professional training. For our students, this means more opportunities to learn in a state-of-the-art environment, guided by skilled professionals, and in close proximity to the communities they will one day serve. For our region, it means closing critical gaps in healthcare access while simultaneously addressing the shortage of qualified healthcare professionals.

We wholeheartedly support Beloit Health System's initiative to establish the NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital into a modern, patient-centered facility that advances both healthcare delivery and workforce development. This investment will benefit patients, students, and providers alike, ensuring that our communities have access to the high-quality care and the strong healthcare workforce they deserve for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Quinn Mullikin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Quinn Mullikin PhD, DNP, RN

Dean; Henry Predolin College of Health Sciences

Associate Professor; School of Nursing

Edgewood University