

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

Mail to By July 12

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &
Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

Dear Chairwoman:

I am writing to you in opposition of OSF's plans to discontinue services at St. Elizabeth Medical Center ("SEMC") in Ottawa, and in opposition of OSF's plans to demolish the hospital and build a newer, smaller facility that greatly reduces access to inpatient hospital services.

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It is our hope that OSF takes the time to make a better plan for our hospital, one that is right-sized for our community's needs and honors the spirit of the partnership we entered into with their system and our local hospital.

Thank you,

Name (Signature): Sandra Loza

Name (Printed): Sandra Loza

Address: 1018 Polk St

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Kim Bernabei

Name (Printed):

Kim Bernabei

Address:

1120 Briarcrest Dr.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Erika Mucci

Name (Printed):

Erika Mucci

Address:

1409 Lawrence Ct

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Vicki Stanford

Name (Printed): Vicki Stanford

Address: 1002 Lincoln Avenue

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

July 8, 2024

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Just a short note to provide my personal wishes on keeping
HEALTH CARE UP TO EVEN 'ACCEPTABLE' LEVELS IN OUR
AREA.

I am a retired RN whom worked almost 20 years at CHO in ICU and occasionally would be 'pulled' to the ER for extra care, or prepping patients for transfers to bigger establishments either by ambulance (yes I did many) or by Air. My time at CHO was even a lot of time before we had the Air capabilities. YES! Much different times. After my time there, I worked ten years for a GI group home base in Bureau Co, but with offices and care in Lasalle County also a total of 3 offices. Going w/ the GI Doctor to each hospital to assist DR w/ procedures. Getting to know the hospitals, area wide patients and staff at all. Understanding the distance and the different facilities. Respected them all. EACH had their own special circumstances/facilities. TIMES HAVE CHANGED... I'm well aware!! And appreciated then and now the opportunity OSF facilities have helped many people, Including my spouse, and my Son in URGENT/EMERGENT times. With all due respect to times past and current, with the population as it currently is, and the needs of a huge RURAL area, AND THE FINANCIAL CRUNCH of health care in these days, we STILL NEED BETTER COVERAGE THAN OSF'S NEW PLAN. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE CONSIDER OUR NEEDS, OSF's coverage with 'good care' not just their need

for Financial gain and concerns. Bottom line, PEOPLE's lives could be at risk with the OSF NEW plan... transferring, finding enuf beds.. the travel is scary. I live in the country and need to travel for my personal health care, that is a given (one of the benefits of country living!) But also know all too well the current traffic information of Rt 80 and Rt 6 between Ottawa, Lasalle-Peru-Spring Valley, Mendota, and Princeton. I drive it! AND also have ridden w/ Critical Patients! JUST to take from one local facility to another to have a bed available or 'other care' not offered at Ottawa will indeed put a life in jeopardy. EVEN ONE!! LIFE IS TOO MANY...

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ OUR LETTERS BEING SENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE HUGE CHANGE OF ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE TO OUR AREA.

Sincerely,

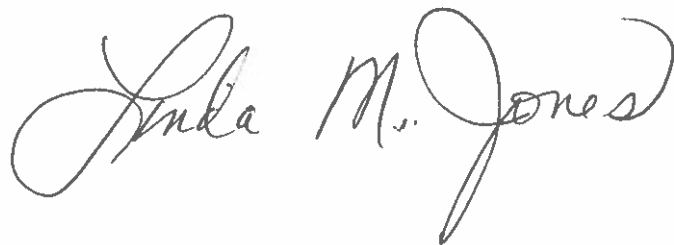
Linda M Jones, Retired RN of over 30+ years locally.

3078 E. 10th Rd

Utica, Ill 61373

815-712-7204

Lmj7252@yahoo.com

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda M. Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed contact information.

Date: July 8, 2024

Please
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JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Linda M Jones
Linda M. Jones, RN - Retired
3078 E 10th Rd
Utica IL 61373

June 13, 2024

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Mailed to By July 12

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Alan Burr

Name (Printed): Alan Burr

Address: 2056 Northlake Dr

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

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Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Kathleen Jenkins
Kathleen Jenkins
1948 N 21st St
Ottawa, IL 61350

July 8, 2024

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition to OSF St. Elizabeth's Replacement and Discontinuation (CON Projects #24-011 & #24-013)

Dear Chairwoman,

I write to you with deep concern regarding OSF's proposal to discontinue services at OSF St. Elizabeth's in Ottawa and replace it with a smaller facility. This plan is more than just a misstep; it is a profound injustice to the people of our community.

Ottawa is a community of hardworking families, and they deserve better. Our town is growing, and with that growth comes the need for robust healthcare services. OSF's proposal to eliminate critical services, such as the ICU and OB units, threatens to undermine the very fabric of our community. This is not just a healthcare issue; it's a moral issue.

Relocating primary services further from Chicago is not a solution; it's a new problem. Increased travel times for patients and healthcare professionals will only diminish the quality of care. This decision overlooks the real needs of our community for the sake of corporate convenience.

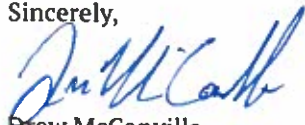
One thing I can agree with OSF on is the challenges they face in recruiting quality people – especially at the top. OSF's leadership has demonstrated an alarming level of incompetence at every turn, whether the substance of their plan, how it was communicated, and especially the contempt many have shown to our citizens. They were completely unprepared and overwhelmed by the community's response because they only know Ottawa as a dot on a map and numbers on a spreadsheet. This proposal is a clear reflection of their ignorance and disregard for the real needs of our community.

OSF talks about the challenges of rural healthcare, but their actions speak louder than words. If they truly want to address these challenges, they need to invest in their workers, pay fair wages, and support our healthcare infrastructure. Pushing staff to drive longer distances will only lead to dissatisfaction and turnover.

In the spirit of justice and fairness, I urge the IHFSRB to reject these proposals. Stand with the people of Ottawa and demand that OSF develop a plan that genuinely serves our community.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Drew McConville
818 Congress Street
Ottawa, IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Michele Anderson

Name (Printed):

Michele Anderson

Address: 710 Burlington Ave.

City/State/Zip: Grand Ridge IL 61325

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Allison Hertzner
Name (Printed): Allison Hertzner
Address: 808 Kimberly Ln
City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

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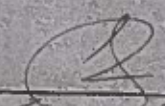
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Thank you,

Name (Signature): 

Name (Printed): Trisha Davis

Address: 1013 Lincoln Ave

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

Date: July 8 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Meghan Halm

Name (Printed): Meghan Halm

Address: 539 2nd Ave

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

June 13, 2024

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JUL 11 2024

Mail to By July 19

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &

Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

Dear Chairwoman:

I am writing to you in opposition of OSF's plans to discontinue services at St. Elizabeth Medical Center ("SEMC") in Ottawa, and in opposition of OSF's plans to demolish the hospital and build a newer, smaller facility that greatly reduces access to inpatient hospital services.

In March 2024, OSF announced plans to build a new hospital in Ottawa and demolish the one built in the 70s. The new hospital would keep 26 mental health beds; but the 5-bed ICU and 14-bed OB units would be eliminated; and only 12 med/surg beds would remain (a 78% reduction from the 54 it has today). In stark contrast, OSF shared plans to re-open Peru's once shuttered hospital as the system's new inpatient hub on I-80, and increase the number of beds. **Even with OSF re-opening the Peru hospital with an increase in beds, the severe reduction planned for SEMC-Ottawa still leaves the C-02 region short 24 med/surg beds and 2 OB beds, and will place all ICU beds West of I-39 - leaving a gaping hole in access in LaSalle County.**

Please vote against OSF's projects to demolish our hospital in Ottawa and replace it with a smaller facility that eliminates our ICU and OB units, and severely reduces our medical surgical unit to one of the smallest in the state. OSF's plans do not align with the growth in our area – both traditional residential and also through tourism as Heritage Harbor looks to build 300 vacation homes. OSF's plans also do not align with the promises they made to our community 12 short years ago – and the promises stated in their exemption application to the IHFSRB in 2012.

It is our hope that OSF takes the time to make a better plan for our hospital, one that is right-sized for our community's needs and honors the spirit of the partnership we entered into with their system and our local hospital.

Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Matt Fleck

Address:

913 Eans St.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa IL 61354

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

Mail to By July 19

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &
Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Erika Fleck

Name (Printed):

Erika Fleck

Address:

913 Evans St

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &
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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Kira Austin

Name (Printed): Kira Austin

Address: 509 S Bloomington St

City/State/Zip: Streator IL 61364

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Date: July 8, 2024

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Claire Small

Name (Printed): Clare Small

Address: 907 Colorado St

City/State/Zip: Marseilles IL 61341

Date: July 8 2024

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &
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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Mami Harsted
Name (Printed): Mami Harsted
Address: 1010 Caleb Dr.
City/State/Zip: Ottawa / IL / 61350

July, 9, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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Thank you,

Debbie Beguin

Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Diane Markey
Name (Printed): Diane Markey
Address: 920 Parks Ln
City/State/Zip: Channah, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

Mail to By July 19

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Mara Zocherman

Address:

6004 Swift Avenue

City/State/Zip:

Oglesby IL 61340

June 13, 2024

Mail to By July 19

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Tyler Bray 1

Address:

604 Swift Ave

City/State/Zip:

Oglesby, IL 61348

Date: July 8, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Christine K. Hasty

Name (Printed): Christine K. Hasty

Address: 623 Illinois Ave

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

FRANK M. HARRY

FRANK M. HARRY

920 PARKS LANE

OTTAWA IL 61350