

July 10, 2024

Debra Savage, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, 2nd floor
Springfield, IL. 62761

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Opposition OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Centers CONs
Replacement Hospital, 24-011
Discontinuation of Facility, 24-013

Dear Ms. Savage:

Unfortunately I, and many others, have concerns regarding the OSF CONs on your docket. It pains me because I know in our facility good people are doing good work with those coming for medical care. I also can reflect on a time when affiliation with St. Francis was positive and supportive.

Today I fear destruction of long-standing care in eastern and central LaSalle County. The plan to tear down the existing hospital and the phantom plans for a "quasi-clinic" and mental health facility is incomprehensible.

OSF is consistently non transparent regarding the preciousness of healthcare plans for eastern/central LaSalle Co. We have a long tradition offering quality health for those needing medical care. Countless hours given by physicians and support medical staff rallying together to offer best practices to our citizens seeking medical care, and the good old days of citizens graciously rallying behind physicians and medical staff when needs surfaced with the hospital.

Health care runs deep in my soul. Our mother was schooled as a nurse in a Catholic hospital with advanced work at Catholic University. She worked copious hours as a volunteer after beginning her family. She instilled in us her love and respect for hospitals, medical staff and services. Every community we lived in her family also gravitated to volunteer efforts well into adulthood. I know her assessment, if alive today, would be OSF is not being 'catholic'.

Healthcare throughout US is trying to find its future thru challenges and innovation and enhance earnings - but destroying a good healthcare organization is not a solution. We recognize potential of workforce shortages and thin margins throughout the country.

OSF recommends downsizing our quality hospital with good profit margins and favoring a hospital about 20 miles away from Ottawa, 33 miles from Seneca... This action comes about by bankruptcy of the Peru, IL hospital and its subsequent acquisition by OSF. The Peru, IL hospital will become OSF location of choice for the county.

It seems like a poorly conceived plan that is detrimental to many. Because there was no prior communication with communities and governments there is a common perception that the plan was secretive and impulsively prepared. Indeed, maybe it was....

The financial audit, dated Dec, 2023, attached to CON #24-011 states in last paragraph "OSF plans to open the hospital (Peru) location as a second campus of SEMC during the Spring of 2024." Yet in March, 2024 the announced plan grossly diluted care in Ottawa and flipped the main campus to Peru.

This appears to be a monopolistic grab of hospital service, OSF refers to this as I-80 corridor. In reality they are working to control I-80 and I-39. Ottawa hospital may be considered just too far away...This plan leaves a serious and unfair void of services in eastern and central LaSalle Co. Their moral compass is stuck.

The Ottawa Micropolitan is considered one of the largest micropolitans in the US. LaSalle County is one of the largest counties in Illinois and will have the second smallest hospital in Illinois. Eighty-four percent of county land mass is east of I-39 and yet the hospital will be west of I-39.

The only local OSF meeting primarily shared information on rural hospitals closing. Ironically it seems OSF may have been trying to convince our communities and themselves that we were rural!

Attempting to think 12 med/surg beds is adequate is again incomprehensible:

- knowing the number of rooms is inadequate,
- knowing people will be transported to other facilities, and
- knowing patients are stacking in hallways or remaining in ERs for lack of inpatient rooms

is not quality planning.

Radio interviews (local and national), articles read, and just dialog with individuals throughout town call attention to growing concern for inpatient beds. Areas throughout the US are creating bed registries/bed tracking systems.

"The Health Cost of Reducing Hospital Bed Capacity" stated reducing bed count, "could be a sign of increased efficiency but could also reflect a degradation in quality of care."

As the article develops —“There is also a large literature on emergency department crowding documenting adverse effects in terms of waiting times, delayed treatment, and exposure to medical errors, but with mixed results on mortality.”

The researchers however did extensive study on hospitals following the trends to reduce inpatient rooms and concluded, “Regions that retained more beds saw greater decreases in mortality.”

Care seems so truncated for patients. I have heard stories that sadden me. A patient might be shuffled between unknown physicians and hospitals... that could be the normal with the plan on the table. I'm unfortunately not referring to serious illness, just more common issues that can and should be handled locally.

“Traveling to receive healthcare services places the burden on patients. For individuals with low incomes, no paid time off from their jobs, physical limitations, acute conditions, or no personal transportation, these burdens can significantly affect their ability to access healthcare services.” (Rural Health Information Hub)

Concern for economic growth is also a worry. My father was tasked with finding a Midwest location to build a large manufacturing organization with access to water, rail and highway travel. He had many sites to consider but in the late 1960's Ottawa area was enthusiastically working to raise money to build a new hospital. Citizens were future planning and that was exciting. Assurance of quality healthcare close to home was a deciding factor for investing in the manufacturing plant between Ottawa and Marseilles. Good work, good wages and good quality of life were and are important in choosing locations to invest—then and now.

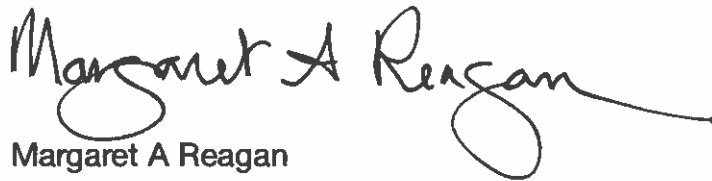
Much has been said about number of rooms, high volume of transfers and fewer opportunities for continuity of care. These ‘marvels’, of I-80 corridor and I-39 coordination only accentuate the monopolistic grab. Zack Cooper, an economist at Yale School of Public Health, writes that hospitals do create good jobs but worries that they're becoming like a “Dracula” that “sucks some of the vibrancy out of a lot of towns across the country.” (The Untamed Rise Of Hospital Monopolies)

As a Board you have listened to many hours of citizens of our communities caring about the inappropriate OSF plan for eastern/central LaSalle Co. They come from all walks of life and areas of the county. Letters have also filled your electronic mailbox and desktop. Concerned individuals abound in our communities.

It seems imperative for the Board to act in opposing the CON's which will impact healthcare in LaSalle Co. There have to be more powerful and appropriate CONs yet to be written to respect the needs of LaSalle Co.

Allow our community hospital to continue wrapping around the patient in the quality manner that our communities have cultivated for many decades. We are future oriented. With good leadership, and appropriate planning we can create a proper sized hospital for eastern/central LaSalle County that will respect emergencies, trauma, inpatient care, ambulatory care, mental health and community health.

With appreciation of your time and commitment to serve of the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret A Reagan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Margaret A Reagan

Ottawa, IL

06/18/2024

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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 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,

Richard Koban

654 UNION ST

MARSEILLES, IL 61341

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Linda Kolesar
654 Union St
Marseilles, Ill 61341

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Thank you,

Regina Hahn
209 Bellevue Ave
Ottawa, IL 61352

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1205 Illinois Ave
Ottawa IL 61350

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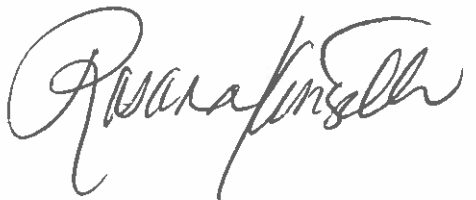
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Thank you,


Rosana Kinsella
1809 1st St
Peru IL 61354

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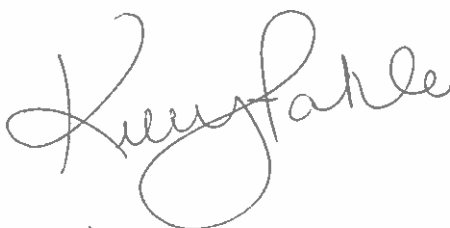
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Kelly Fahle

515 W. Superior St
Ottawa, IL 61350

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Robin Wilson
1015 LaSalle St Apt. 1
Ottawa, IL 61350

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Joyce Bailey

June 13, 2024

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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): Dan McLean

Name (Printed): Dan McLean

Address: 1574 N 22nd St

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Dennis C. Ahearn

Name (Printed):

DENNIS C Ahearn

Address:

1576 N 2250th Rd

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

Date

12 July, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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); &
Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

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Thank you,

Name:

Signature:

Melitta Barnett

Address:

404 E. Main St.
Ottawa, IL

Date 7/13/24

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

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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Thank you,

Name: Betty I. Cutler
Signature: Betty I. Cutler

Address: 408 EAST MAIN
OTTAWA, IL 61300

Date July 12, 2024

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

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

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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: Robert S. Cutler Jr
Signature: Robert S. Cutler Jr

Address: 408 E Main St
OTTAWA IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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):

Jean Eltrevoog

Name (Printed):

Jean Eltrevoog

Address:

223 Forest Park Place

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL. 61350

Date: July 15, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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:

Ryan Peterson
Ryan Peterson
2213 Cedar Rd
Ottawa / IL / 61350

Date: July 8th 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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): Madison Peterson
Name (Printed): Madison Peterson
Address: 2213 Caton Rd.
City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

Date: July 8, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Scott Peterson
2213 CATON Rd
OTTAWA 61350

Date: July 26 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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:

Kelly Peterson
Kelly Peterson
2213 Patton Rd
Ottawa IL 61850

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Date: July 9 2024

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): Pauline Wood
Name (Printed): Pauline Wood
Address: 1030 Thornberry Ct
City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61356

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

Mailed 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); &
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Rebecca Pitts

Name (Printed):

Rebecca Pitts

Address:

1534 W. Jefferson St

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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); &

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Jayne Glade Nugent

Name (Printed): Jayne Glade Nugent

Address: 1109 Carter St

City/State/Zip: Marseilles, IL 61341

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Mail to By July 19

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):

Peter G. Cook

Name (Printed):

Peter G. Cook

Address:

3002 4 E 18th Rd

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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)

Dear Chairwoman:

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Cathy Cook

Name (Printed):

CATHY COOK

Address:

3002 E. 18th Rd

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Hermila P. Heredia

Name (Printed): HERMILA P. HEREDIA

Address: 1225 111 AVE

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, ILL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mail to By July 19

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:


Miguel Heredia Jr
125 12th Ave
Ottawa, IL 61356

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Jammy Burgwald

Name (Printed):

Jammy Burgwald

Address:

1811 Littlefield Ln.

City/State/Zip:

Mahomet, IL 61853

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): DEB ANDERSON

Name (Printed): DEB ANDERSON

Address: 1534 W. JEFFERSON ST.

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mailed to By July 12
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:


Adam Walker
1104 Ottawa Ave
Ottawa, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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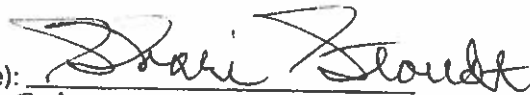
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

SHARI STOODT

Address:

2519 BEVERLY WAY

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Dawn Walker

Name (Printed):

Dawn Walker

Address:

1104 Ottawa Ave.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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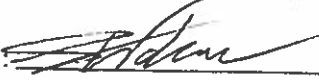
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Thank you,

Name (Signature): 

Name (Printed): Griffin Walker

Address: 1104 Ottawa Ave

City/State/Zip: Ottawa/Illinois/61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Richard J. Grant

Address:

1570 N. 30th Rd. #9

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Mary V Grant

Name (Printed):

MARY V GRANT

Address:

1570 N 30th Rd #9

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA IL 61350

June 13, 2024

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JUL 15 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Debra Seth

Name (Printed): Debra Seth

Address: 619 Cornell St

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

Most disappointing is a faith-based organization such as OSF would go against promises made to our community.

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
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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): John D. Warren

Name (Printed): John D. Warren

Address: 1023 N 33rd Rd

City/State/Zip: Utica, IL 61323

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 15 2024

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:

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Patrick Hughes

Name (Printed): Patrick Hughes

Address: 1009 Walnut

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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)

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Betty Pitstick

Name (Printed):

Betty Pitstick

Address:

918 Heather Lane

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

mail to By July 19

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): Thomas Baker

Name (Printed): THOMAS BAKER

Address: 602 5TH AVE

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 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

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Sally Baker

Name (Printed):

Sally Baker

Address:

602 5th Ave

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mail to By July 19

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:

Eileen Gerding
Eileen Gerding
622 Mason St.
OTTAWA, ILL 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 15 2024

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)

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Tony Adams

Name (Printed): Tony Adams

Address: 1201 4th Rd

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mail to 134 July 14
IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

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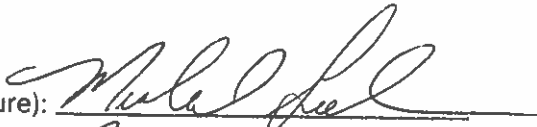
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Michael Graham

Address:

921 Deerfield Ln.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mailed 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); &
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Beth Graham

Name (Printed):

Beth Graham

Address:

921 Deerfield Ln.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, 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 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Steve Laughridge

Name (Printed):

Steve Laughridge

Address:

113 Beveridge Ave

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa 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 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Dave Roth
Name (Printed): DAVE ROTH
Address: 1447 IL AVE
City/State/Zip: OTTAWA IL

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mail to By July 19

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Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Steve Block

Name (Printed):

STEVE BLOCK

Address:

628 Catherine St.

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Stefany Wilkams

Name (Printed):

Stefany Wilkams

Address:

628 Catherine St.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
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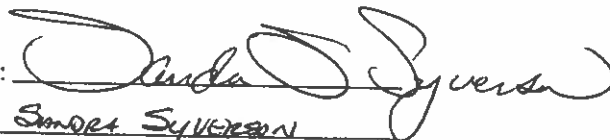
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Sandra Sylverson

Address:

1301 PHELPS ST

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA, IL 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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): Gloria R. Beard

Name (Printed): GLORIA R. BEARD

Address: 1301 Phelps St.

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

June 13, 2024

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JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Kathleen Damyan

Name (Printed): Kathleen Damyan

Address: 1312 Briarcrest dr.

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

June 13, 2024

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JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Kate Wilson
KATELIN WILSON
57 Valley View Dr
Sereco IL 61360

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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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:

Catherine Hanson
Catherine Hanson
137 Valley View Dr.
Seneca IL 61360

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Joseph Wilson

Name (Printed):

Joseph Wilson

Address:

137 Valley View

City/State/Zip:

Seneca, Ill 61360

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Jessica Wilson

Name (Printed): JESSICA WILSON

Address: 401 TANTER ST.

City/State/Zip: SENECA, IL 61360

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Richard L. Ayth

Address:

1300 Briarcrest Drive

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa Illinois 61350

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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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:

Janice J. Gerkitz
919 Paul St
Ottawa IL 61350

June 13, 2024

Mailed to By July 12

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

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Charles V. Pexrodt
Name (Printed): Charles V. Pexrodt
Address: 1107 Carter St.
City/State/Zip: Marietta, IL 61341

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Name (Printed):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

[Signature]
Lalichin
2433 Circle
Ottawa, IL 61550

Il. Department & Services Review Board

Atten: Debra Savage, Chairwoman

525 West Jefferson 2nd Floor

Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Opposition letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Replacement hospital (Con Project #24-11 &

Opposition Letter for OSF. Elizabeth Medical Center

Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

Dear Chairwoman:

I am writing in opposition of the above referenced cases, The change will leave a huge gap to access effective health care in Ottawa and the surrounding area.

In 2019 I had a complete bleed out from a colonoscopy that OSF St. Elizabeth was able to provide me with immediate care that has saved my life. If I would have had to wait for transport at 5:30 pm I would not have survived. Critical CARE upon arrival is essential to save lives.

Ottawa is thriving and growing. We have astounding growth coming our way.

This also accentuates the need for our services to NOT be reduced.

OSF NEEDS to honor its pledge and contract to leave our services at the same level or increase then.

OSF please respect you mission statement to serve with the greatest care and LOVE.

You must continue to provide transformational care with great love and integrity. OSF pledges on their website transformational care through strategic solutions, inventive approaches and bold advances. They seek innovative approaches and strategic solutions. OSF assures they will work with innovators to enhance care and protect the lives of their citizens. Honor your pledges and work with us.

In conclusion Debra, and the State of Illinois it is the government's responsibility to see that OSF shows integrity in this critical manor. The Government is FOR the people BY the people.

Resentfully submitted,



Barbara Jones

1824 N 2749 th Road

Ottawa Illinois 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Mary L Way
Name (Printed): Mary L Way
Address: 3070 E 1879th Rd
City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

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SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

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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): Allan L. Way II

Name (Printed): ALLAN L. WAY II

Address: 3070 E. 1879th Rd

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, IL 61350

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2024

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

July 11, 2024

Dear Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

I am writing in regard to the proposed OSF conglomerate to remove services from Ottawa Saint Elizabeth Hospital to other facilities around the area. I am opposed to this for several reasons.

First, Ottawa's central location and largest population in LaSalle County make it the obvious choice for being the hub of the services provided. As LaSalle County is large in area, it only makes sense that the surrounding towns come to Ottawa for their medical needs. People traveling from Streator to Peru or even Princeton are inconvenienced greatly, especially if they are very ill.

Second, having fewer hospital beds to serve the area just does not make sense. People who need hospital care should not have to wait for a bed and be transferred in their time of need. Often, time is essential for the health and well-being of the patient. Having an emergency room, but few hospital rooms is a detriment to the immediacy of the patients' care.

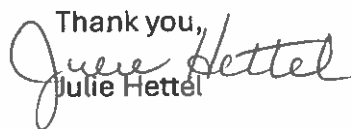
Third, moving the Obstetrics unit to an outlying area makes it harder for women in labor to get to the hospital in a timely manner. Most times women are driven in their own vehicle, so, if the woman is having difficulty, emergency needs, or even begins to deliver the baby in the car, there are no trained EMT's to support her. As having a baby is one of the greatest joys in life, care should be readily available for the family.

Fourth, doctors are leaving the area. Can you blame them? They must travel all over the county to doctor their patients when the patients had been coming to them, based in Ottawa at the Ottawa Saint Elizabeth Hospital and/or Medical Center. This has actually happened to me personally. One of my specialists whom I have seen in Ottawa every six months for a couple of years has left his practice. When I called for an appointment not only was I informed of his leaving, but that there was not a new doctor taking his place. Instead, I must travel to Peoria, see a Nurse Practitioner, and wait over four months past the time I was due for my visit. Very inconvenient and disturbing.

Lastly, this is more of a personal issue, yet was very upsetting to my husband and I. In early December, 2023, my husband who was very sick with Parkinson's Disease and advanced bladder cancer fell in our entry way and hit his head (face) on the edge of our marble topped table. He was taken to Ottawa Saint Elizabeth Hospital by ambulance after a 911 call. He broke his nose, sinus cavities and his occipital sockets. He was well cared for

there as he was cleaned up and stitched. It was decided that he needed to be transported to Peoria St. Francis and now the problems began. We waited a long time for the transport, which should have given the doctors plenty of time to know that this was not the right decision. We finally got to the hospital in Peoria in the late afternoon. We were not even there an hour before they were bringing in discharge papers. We did not even see a doctor. Seems that the specialist did not want to see him for a week or two until the swelling went down, which makes sense, but shouldn't the doctors have realized this before they took a very sick man on such a long trip? Anyway, they wanted him discharged, but my husband had not eaten all day, because they wanted him to be fasting in case a procedure was warranted. When I asked for some food for him, they were not happy, but they did bring him a sandwich on a hard roll. He could not eat it. He needed soft food. We were told that this was all that was available. Really????? They said we could stop for food on the way home. Then when I asked when the transport ambulance would be expected I was told that I would be driving him home myself. I was appalled. My husband was sick and in pain and I was frightened to be responsible for his care on the way home. Finally, I realized that this was the final decision, I asked them to wheel him out while I went to get the van. They told me, "no" at first. This is when I lost my temper, as I needed help to get him into the vehicle (It took two nurses and myself to transfer him from the bed to the wheelchair!) I can't imagine how they thought I could get him into the van myself. They helped grudgingly. The ride home was scary, but we made it. We were blessed that both our adult sons and our neighbors met us and helped us get into the house and get him into bed. We were exhausted! The purpose of this report????? As a Catholic hospital, I ask, were we treated with the love and respect that we should have been? Everyone told me to report this at the time it happened, but I was very busy caring for my husband and decided to let it go. Until now. He died on February 1 of this year.

I am asking you to rethink your thoughts about the changes you are considering for our Ottawa Saint Elizabeth Hospital and make the decision that Jesus would.

Thank you,

Julie Hettel