

NUMBER: 1

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) AJ. Querciagrossa

City Ottawa State IL Zip _____

Contact Phone Number

309-696-1204

Contact E-Mail Address

AJ.Querciagrossa@osfhealthcare.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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NUMBER: 2

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Dawn Trompeter

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

Contact Phone Number

815-431-5458

Contact E-Mail Address

Dawn.Trompeter@osfhealthcare.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 3

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Maeanne Stevens

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-252-3103

Contact E-Mail Address

mstevens313@sbcglobal.net

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Committee member CHO

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Hello. My name is Maeanne Stevens

I was the past Chief Nursing Officer at Saint Elizabeth for 23 years.

OSF merged with Ottawa Regional 12 years, under the pretense that OSF would provide "greater access to integrated primary, secondary and advanced tertiary healthcare" and support growth of services at our hospital.

Now 12 years later, OSF wants to decrease Med-Surg beds by almost 80% and eliminate our 5 bed ICU and 14 bed OB department. **With this proposal, we are at jeopardy of becoming the 2nd smallest Medical-Surgical bed hospital in Illinois.**

This would equate to an average daily bed deficit of 15.2 beds and 29 beds during peak census.

Out of the 120 counties in Illinois:

LaSalle County is the 2nd largest county in land mass and 17th largest in population. 84% of the county land mass is located East of I-39.

In addition, Ottawa is the largest populated town in the C-2 planning area.

So why would OSF want to put 75% (114:152) of the acute care beds West of I-39 and potentially leave the East side of LaSalle County a medical desert?

In 2022, patients 65 years and older accounted for 65% of inpatient Med-Surg admissions. OSF acknowledges that the population is aging. **So why would we want to make the older population the most vulnerable to be transferred?**

AS proposed, the private rooms on the mental health will increase the average census from 14 to 26. This will result in a greater number of patients being stabilized on the med-surg unit before admission to the mental health unit, further reducing beds available for med-surg admissions.

With no ICU, overdose patients be transferred to an ICU – just to have them returned for admission, once stabilized.

In addition, OSF plans for no after hour or weekend surgeries. **This will result in patients requiring immediate surgical or post op interventions to be transferred.**

I know we are not to focus on "what-ifs," but let's not forget the COVID epidemic. **The question is not whether this could happen again, but when?** With only 12 beds and no ICU a large number of patients will need to be transferred. That's if there are beds available elsewhere.

Why reduce a financially solvent and nationally awarded hospital for safety from a 99 bed hospital to 38 beds – with 68% of those beds allocated to mental health?

OSF emphasizes that the majority of healthcare provided today is as outpatients. **If so, why are they reducing the number of ORs and procedure rooms where outpatient procedures are performed?**

OSF's plan also poses safety issues for staff and patients. The reduction or elimination of current services, equates to reduction of available staff to respond to internal emergency code situations, especially to the mental health unit.

In conclusion, I welcome a new hospital, **but it must be appropriately sized and provide services that meet the needs of our growing community and surrounding towns and townships.**

I request that you deny OSF's proposed Certificate of Need as written and work with the communities affected in submitting a mutually beneficial plan for Ottawa and Peru.

Thank you for your time.

References upon request: mstevens313@sbcglobal.net

NUMBER: 4

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Helen Rockford Wells

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-481-1955

Contact E-Mail Address

dennis.rockford@yahoo.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Concerned Citizens Retired Healthcare
Worker

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Amy Murri Briel

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-302-5242

Contact E-Mail Address

murriebriel2020@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 6

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Jay K. McCracken

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

309-238-9554

Contact E-Mail Address

j.mccracken@ottawachamberillinois.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Review Board Speech

OSF HealthCare, June 13, 2024

J. McCracken
Ottawa Area
Chamber of Commerce

- My name is....**Executive Director of Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce.**

- I begin by expressing our appreciation for the opportunity to share our thoughts about the current OSF Plan.

- OAC Board of Directors met on May 22nd, and our Chamber Board passed a resolution of opposition to the OSF HealthCare plan.
- Due to the proposed elimination and/or reduction in healthcare services in Ottawa.
- We would normally celebrate and support the construction of a new hospital in Ottawa!
- However, when we learned about the reduction or elimination of services here, numerous citizens, including City Council leaders and our Chamber Board decided to respectfully ask for OSF to reconsider their current plan.
- Some of those concerns are:
 - A reduction in medical/surgical beds to only 12 beds. (less than Mendota and Princeton, which are great communities, but much less population than Ottawa.
 - The loss of vital services such as in-patient intensive care
 - The loss of in-patient Obstetric care and birthing rooms

- **Negative impact on our community and other communities nearby such as Marseilles, Streator, Naplate, Grand Ridge and others.**
- **This will also cause a huge strain on our Emergency Medical and Transport Services, resulting in longer transport times for our citizens and staffing challenges for our fire department and emergency services.**
- **We respectfully request OSF to reconsider their current plan and ask for them to provide a full-service hospital to the largest community in LaSalle County. We also respectfully ask for all of you to join our efforts today.**
- **We also believe that the LaSalle/Peru area deserves a fine hospital, too. It is our belief that a balanced approach to these two areas of greatest population in the county would result in far fewer transfers and better medical care for everyone.**
- **Thank you again for your time and consideration. We appreciate this opportunity to share our concerns and sincerely hope that you will help us maintain quality healthcare in Ottawa.**



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Dr. Lopez

City Ottawa State IL Zip _____

Contact Phone Number

815-539-7461

Contact E-Mail Address

leonardo.lopez@osfhealthcare.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 8

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) MARGARET REAGAN

City OTTAWA State _____ Zip _____

Contact Phone Number

815-228-7522

Contact E-Mail Address

maggie546@mac.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CHO Committee

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Coordination of care for patients

ON their healthcare journey is of essence;

NOT journeying them to care.

Ironically, my small rural Colorado community is going from a clinic to a hospital but land is their brick wall.

And yet our community hospital gave so much—

*beautiful building and campus *60 acres land N of Rt 6

*30 acres S of Rt 6

*ALONG with—our dreams and accomplishments

Eastern & Central LaSalle Co. cannot be seen as a way station,

convenient for corporation;

detriment to those needing care.

Margaret Reagan

Member CHO committee

Served 9 years on Board of Governors, Community Hospital-Personnel Committee, Secretary, Vice Chair and Chair

Central School

June 13, 2024



NUMBER: 9

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Barbara Jones

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

321-377-1110

Contact E-Mail Address

bjones141100@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

NA

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Kari Castelli

City O'Hare

State IL

Zip 61356

Contact Phone Number

(815) 481-3503

Contact E-Mail Address

kc-pinkpearl@yahoo

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

retired nurse

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 11

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Carlue Hitchino

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-326-2639

Contact E-Mail Address

car.armstrong3@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Hello, my name is Carlie Hitchins. I am born and raised in Ottawa, IL and decided to move back to Ottawa after furthering my education elsewhere. I will keep this short, I am opposed to the new plan OSF has submitted along with a lot of my community members, and I ask the board present here to please deny OSF's application. I am proud to have moved back here and see the growth in our community, and I think it would be a big mistake and will ultimately hurt citizens to reduce services in a growing community.



NUMBER: 12

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Michelle Conger
City Peoria State IL Zip 61603

Contact Phone Number

309-370-7981

Contact E-Mail Address

michelle.conger@OSFHEALTHCARE.ORG

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Thank you for joining us today. My name is Michelle Conger (or – *I am representing Michelle Conger, who couldn't be here today*).

- As the Chief Strategy Officer for our health care system, with more than 30 years of experience, I have seen firsthand the evolution and challenges of our health care landscape. Today, I want to speak about the crucial role of centralizing obstetrics (OB) services in our region and why it's more important than ever.
- Across the country, 217 hospital obstetric units closed between 2011 and early 2023, according to health care consulting firm Chartis, creating many “maternity care deserts.” Two-thirds of those closures are in rural areas. These closures are abrupt and devastating, especially for expectant mothers who find themselves without the necessary care and support during one of the most critical times in their lives. But we're not standing idly by while this happens. We're stepping up, going above and beyond to pick up the pieces and ensure that no one is left behind.
- Our commitment to centralizing OB services is about more than just maintaining a standard of care—it's about innovation and resilience. By consolidating these essential services, we're creating a hub of excellence, where our dedicated teams can focus resources, expertise, and cutting-edge technology to deliver the best possible outcomes for mothers and their babies.
- One of the key elements driving this initiative is our embrace of digital care. Telehealth and digital monitoring have revolutionized how we provide prenatal and postnatal care. Expectant mothers can now have consultations, receive critical health information, and even have routine check-ups from the comfort of their homes. This not only increases



NUMBER: 13

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) CHARLES GENTERT
City LOSTANT State ILL Zip 61334

Contact Phone Number

815-257-3289

Contact E-Mail Address

CGENTERT@AOL.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

self

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 14

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Richard Gerding

City Offawa State IL Zip 61330

Contact Phone Number

630-842-2974

Contact E-Mail Address

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

family

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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12

My name is Richard Gerding and I'm here representing our family, who strongly believe, that the hospital and all services should remain in Ottawa

In February, 1966, a committee was appointed by the then Mayor, Dan Riordan, to assess the healthcare needs of this community and also to propose a means of obtaining them. This committee worked tirelessly because they all saw the need to expand on existing services at Ryburn King Hospital, and provide

many more → for
They saw a need to provide all the services that the people of Ottawa and surrounding communities would need, which

This study

→ resulted in a recommendation to build a new hospital. My father, Paul Gerding, Sr. and Andrew O'Connor^{Sr} were named as co-chairman of fundraising. This committee worked faithfully on their mission, and in 1974, Community Hospital of Ottawa opened its doors at 1100 East Norris Drive. This was an answer to the promise made to the donors who gave freely and generously to this important cause.

and for

I know I am speaking for my family, but ~~probably~~ many others too
This proposal ^{several} - your plan is a blow for the future of the people in this community who deserve a ^{full functioning} hospital and safe healthcare services.

The efforts of
We can only hope that for those involved in this planning, those who built and maintained the building, and to all the area healthcare workers who devoted their careers to our community hospital, were not in vain.

→ And financing of a new community hospital in 1974

Thank you!

NUMBER: 15

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Catherine Ciszewski

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815-228-6478

Contact E-Mail Address

Ciszew143@aol.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Former Comm. Hosp. of Ottawa

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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OPERATION OTTAWA

MY NAME IS CATHY CISZEWSKI. I AM A FORMER EMPLOYEE AND MY HUSBAND TOM CISZEWSKI WAS THE HEAD OF ANESTHESIA SERVICES AT CHO FOR OVER 33 YEARS. HE WAS ALSO AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY RESERVE AND WAS DESIGNATED AS THE LIASON OFFICER FOR THE MOVE FROM RYBURN-KING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL TO THE NEW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF OTTAWA. COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF OTTAWA WAS JUST THAT, A HOSPITAL TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY, FINANCED BY THE COMMUNITY, AND ADMINSTRATED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. IT WAS NOT NAMED AFTER ANY ONE PROMINENT PERSON OR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

THE MOVE, REFERRED HEREIN AS "OPERATION OTTAWA" COMMENCED ON APRIL 6, 1974 AND WAS ASSISTED BY THE OTTAWA POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS, THE 801ST GENERAL RESERVE HOSPITAL OUT OF CHICAGO, THE USAR ARCOM UNIT OUT OF PERU, THE CIVIL DEFENSE AND THE SALVATION ARMY.. AT 7 AM THE PATIENTS WERE THE FIRST TO B E MOVED.

THERE WAS A SPECIFIED ROUTE FOR PICKUP, PROCESSION AND DROPOFF OF PATIENTS AND SUPPLIES. 41 PATIENTS WERE MOVED, EACH ACCOMPANIED BY A NURSE OR PHYSICIAN DEPENDING ON THE SEVERITY OF THEIR ILLNESS. THEY WERE EXAMINED PRIOR TO THE MOVE AND AT ARRIVAL TO THE NEW FACILITY. PATIENTS WERE CATEGORIZED. WITH A PHYSICIAN ASSIGNED TO EACH CATEGORY.

ALL PATIENTS WERE TRANSPORTED, RECEIVED AND CHECKED INTO THEIR ROOMS BY 11 AM. LUNCH WAS SERVED AND THE MOVING OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES COMMENCED AT 12:45. ALL NEW EQUIPMENT WAS ALREADY IN PLACE IN THE NEW HOSPITAL, AND THAT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR PATIENT CARE, BUT PORTABLE X-RAY MACHINES, ANESTHESIA MACHINES, SUCTION MACHINES, OR AND DELIVERY TABLES, NURSERY LAYETTES, LINEN, FILE CABINETS, SEVERAL THOUSAND POUNDS OF MEDICAL RECORDS, AND CENTRAL MATERIAL SUPPLY WAS MOVED BY TRUCK BY THE ARMY.

THE ASSISTANCE BY THE ARMY RESERVE UNITS WITH THEIR TRUCKS, AMBULANCES AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL SAVED THE

HOSPITAL THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN MOVING COSTS, AND PROVIDED A VERY USEFUL TRAINING EXERCISE FOR THEM.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN CHARGE OF FUNDRAISING WERE PAUL GERDING AND ANDREW O'CONNOR. ADMINISTRATORS WERE NORMAN SANDERS AND ROSS MARINE. CHIEF OF STAFF WAS DR. MOREHEAD, AND PHYSICIAN COORDINATORS FOR THE MOVE WERE DRS. ROSBOROUGH, LEWIS, JOHNSON, VILLAFLO, O'BERTO, ,MAIERHOFER, YU, NEUFELD AND GONZALO.

NUMBER: 16

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Mark Hohulin

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Dr. Michael Cruz

City Peoria State IL Zip 61603

Contact Phone Number

309-231-1687

Contact E-Mail Address

michael.cruz@osfHealthcare.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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READ INTO RECORD BY MARK HOHULIN

These comments are being offered on behalf of Dr. Michael Cruz, who couldn't be here today.

- As the Chief Operating Officer of OSF HealthCare with over 25 years of clinical experience, I witness the daily challenges in delivering the necessary level of care in our Intensive Care Units (ICUs).

Challenges in ICU Staffing and Recruitment:

- Recruiting specialized physicians such as intensivists, pulmonologists, cardiologists, ICU-trained nurses, and other specialists is increasingly difficult.
- The volume of critical patients must justify the 24/7 staffing required for an ICU, which is not feasible with only 2, 4, or 6 beds.

Need for Centralization:

- Centralizing ICU services at a single location with 8 beds allows us to provide high-quality care following best practices for those patients who are critically ill.
- Efficient staffing is impossible with multiple small ICUs for the exact same reason we regionalize trauma, pediatric critical care, burn units, etc.

Current Staffing Difficulties:

- Maintaining ICU-level care is clinically challenging due to the intensive nature of services, which could include patients on ventilators, those needing complex pharmacologic infusions, frequent respiratory therapist expertise, and complex hemodynamic monitoring to list a few.
- Currently, we lack sufficient staff to provide adequate ICU care, resulting in transfers to larger centers in Rockford and Peoria.

Impact of Physician Shortages:

- Despite our proximity to Chicago and its south suburbs, recruiting highly trained physicians remains difficult. This is a broader issue within the health care industry.
- One specialist, such as a cardiologist, cannot cover an ICU year-round. Adequate staffing for ICUs requires multiple specialists.

Benefits of Centralized ICU Model:

- Centralizing ICU beds will reduce patient transfers to Rockford and Peoria, allowing more patients to stay within their community.
- With a centralized ICU, we can better support the local population and ensure high-quality care without relying on external transfers. As noted earlier, these highly trained clinicians need to maintain their respective skillsets and having an adequate patient volume to utilize this scarce skillset is predicated on a regional model.

Commitment to Community Health:

- Our commitment to centralizing ICU services aims to create a more resilient and accessible and sustainable health care future.
- By having an 8-bed ICU in one location, we can keep sicker patients in their community and reduce the need for transfers to larger centers.

Recruitment and Future Growth:

- Recruiting to a centralized model is more feasible than to a split model across multiple locations.
- We currently have 5 ICU beds with an average census of 3, partly due to the lack of on-site intensivists. A centralized 8-bed ICU running at 90% capacity ensures optimal care for the sickest patients.

Conclusion:

- The population size does not support multiple small ICUs. Centralizing ICU services allows us to provide the right level of care effectively.
- Our goal is to build a model that keeps patients within their communities, providing top-level care without frequent transfers to larger centers.

By focusing on a centralized approach, we can ensure that our ICU services are both efficient and effective, ultimately benefiting the communities we serve.

Thank you!

These comments are being offered on behalf of Dr. Michael Cruz, who couldn't be here today.

- As the Chief Operating Officer of OSF HealthCare with over 25 years of clinical experience, I witness the daily challenges in delivering the necessary level of care in our Intensive Care Units (ICUs).

Challenges in ICU Staffing and Recruitment:

- Recruiting specialized physicians such as intensivists, pulmonologists, cardiologists, ICU-trained nurses, and other specialists is increasingly difficult.
- The volume of critical patients must justify the 24/7 staffing required for an ICU, which is not feasible with only 2, 4, or 6 beds.

Need for Centralization:

- Centralizing ICU services at a single location with 8 beds allows us to provide high-quality care following best practices for those patients who are critically ill.
- Efficient staffing is impossible with multiple small ICUs for the exact same reason we regionalize trauma, pediatric critical care, burn units, etc.

Current Staffing Difficulties:

- Maintaining ICU-level care is clinically challenging due to the intensive nature of services, which could include patients on ventilators, those needing complex pharmacologic infusions, frequent respiratory therapist expertise, and complex hemodynamic monitoring to list a few.
- Currently, we lack sufficient staff to provide adequate ICU care, resulting in transfers to larger centers in Rockford and Peoria.

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- Recruiting to a centralized model is more feasible than to a split model across multiple locations.
- We currently have 5 ICU beds with an average census of 3, partly due to the lack of on-site intensivists. A centralized 8-bed ICU running at 90% capacity ensures optimal care for the sickest patients.

Conclusion:

- The population size does not support multiple small ICUs. Centralizing ICU services allows us to provide the right level of care effectively.
- Our goal is to build a model that keeps patients within their communities, providing top-level care without frequent transfers to larger centers.

By focusing on a centralized approach, we can ensure that our ICU services are both efficient and effective, ultimately benefiting the communities we serve.



NUMBER: 17

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Mollie Perrot

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

312 806 1443

Contact E-Mail Address

guiltz77@hotmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Senior Citizen

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

NUMBER: 18

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Tony Barrett

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

Contact Phone Number

708 703-0913

Contact E-Mail Address

tonyb@friendshiphouse.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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15



NUMBER: 19

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

AB

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Don Faye

City Ottawa State IL Zip _____

Contact Phone Number

815 434 0737

Contact E-Mail Address

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Concerned Citizen

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 20

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

VALERY CALVETTI

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 488-4121

Contact E-Mail Address

valerycalvetti@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Citizens of Ottawa / Self

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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16



NUMBER: 21

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Bill Murphy

City

O'Hare

State

IL

Zip

61305

Contact Phone Number

630.615.9568

Contact E-Mail Address

mayorwdg@aol.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

~~SUPPORT~~

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 22

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Mary Twardowski
City Atlanta State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

224-639-2583

Contact E-Mail Address

maryt-free@yahoo.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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My name is Mary Twardowski. I retired from OSF in December. I know that I 80 region is OSF terminology, but we are not the same community as LaSalle-Peru to Princeton. The Ottawa area encompasses many other towns and communities: Sheridan, Serena, Seneca, Marseilles, Dayton, Naplate, Wedron, Grand Ridge, Streator, just to name a few. Streator lost their inpatient hospital and their residents have to travel to Ottawa for care now, which is a hardship. But now, they will have to travel even further, to Peru. I know that for a lot of families, especially families of elderly patients, travel is not easy, especially in winter weather.

Ottawa is the biggest community and will end up with the smallest hospital? Ottawa is also the furthest area northeast that OSF is involved in (other than their site in Escanaba, Michigan). To the east of us, Chicago facilities are making their way in this direction. The Ottawa hospital was built about 50 years ago. OSF's current plan does not meet our current or future needs. 50 years from now, Ottawa should look very different as did farmland in the suburbs 50 years ago. We will likely have Chicago suburbs at our eastern door.

12 bed inpatient unit, no ICU, no OB. What sense does it make to take away ICU? How many people will die due to a lack of critical care? What about a patient who is successfully resuscitated from a cardiac arrest and is unstable? Now they will have to be transferred to a different town for critical care. They may not survive the delay in care. In stroke care, "time is brain". Time is an essential component for quality healthcare with optimal outcomes. We already have difficulty with having certain surgical specialists available, no now on call surgery will be performed in Ottawa. And surgical beds will be reduced.

Other people will bring up the strains on our resources in dealing with mental health patients and in having to transfer so many patients to another town.

How much is the "payer mix" to blame? And how many of the mental health patients are from other communities? What about recruitment? We already have a difficult time recruiting new providers to rural areas. Who will want to come to a town with a 12 bed hospital and barely any services. What about the OSF physicians who are near retirement? Will OSF be sending new PCPs our way? There are so many reasons why this plan is not in the best interest of our community.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Brian Bressner

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-712-7291

Contact E-Mail Address

bbressner@cityofottawa.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Ottawa Fire Department

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Opposition to OSF Healthcare

To the Health Facilities and Services Review Board

Good afternoon, my name is Brian Bressner and I am the Fire Chief for the City of Ottawa Fire Department.

I am here to discuss the concerns of not only the Ottawa Fire Department but concerns of all EMS providers in and around the Ottawa area.

As EMS providers we work hand in hand with ~~our~~ OSF St. Elizabeth's as we both need to follow the Illinois Administrative Code for the Illinois Department of Public Health – Title 77-part 515 Emergency Services and Highway Safety. These are Illinois State Statutes that have not been addressed at this time by OSF's new plan.

- Section 515.220 EMS Regional Plan
 - Patient transfer patterns, including criteria for determining whether a patient needs the specialized service of a trauma center, along with protocols for the bypassing of or diversion to any hospital, trauma center or regional trauma center.
- Section 515.315 Bypass or Resource Limitation Status Review
 - The hospital shall notify the Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services, of any bypass/resource limitation decision, at both the time of its initiation and the time of its termination.
 - In determining whether a hospital's decision to go on bypass/resource limitation status was reasonable, OSF shall consider the following:
 - The number of critical or monitored beds available in the hospital at the time that the decision to go on bypass
 - The approved hospital protocols for peak census, surge, and bypass and diversion at the time that the decision to go on bypass status was made
 - Hospital diversion should be based on a significant resource limitation and shall be based on meeting the following two criteria
 - No available or monitored beds within traditional patient care and surge patient care areas with appropriate monitoring for patient needs
 - No available essential diagnostic and/or intervention equipment or facilities essential for patient needs

In these state statutes there is no mention if the bypass considerations are for a single licensed hospital with two campuses. If this is the case - this gray area within the statute that will allow OSF to automatically divert ambulances from Ottawa FD, Marseilles EMS, Sheridan EMS, and Grand Ridge Fire to the Peru campus. This will place a strain on the EMS services with longer response times and additional calls not being covered in a timely manner. It is our opinion that the plan that OSF is presenting is not a safe option for the citizens of this community and will ultimately cost the citizens more due increase in staff and lack of funds to cover the additional costs.

OSF Admin staff please reach out us at the Ottawa Fire Department and ~~other~~ surrounding departments to discuss these concerns.

As
Fire
Chief I
am sick
and tired
of hearing
our medical
unit radio
that they
are delayed
due to a
lack of
h.i.r



NUMBER: 24

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Kyle Boon

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815 433 2131

Contact E-Mail Address

kboon@osf275ottawa.pdf.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Ottawa Police Department

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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OSF Hospital Proposal Talking Points

- Kyle Booras, Captain with The Ottawa Police Department. – I've been a police officer for 18 years with the City of Ottawa and grew up in this community.
- Today I want to discuss how the new hospital proposal impacts the Ottawa Police Department specifically regarding our calls for service to OSF.
- The facts previously discussed by Chief Roalson summarized 68 disturbance related calls, mostly stemming from patients suffering some mental health related crisis from May 2023 – May 2024.
- As he indicated, often times, these calls required officers to be at OSF for extended periods of time, sometime over 2 or 3 hours.
- To accurately paint the picture, on night shift specifically, there are 6 officers assigned with the minimum amount of officers allowed being 4.
- We at the Ottawa Police Department certainly applaud OSF for recognizing the growing amount of mental health related issues throughout our community and surrounding communities, however, with OSF's new plan there are certainly many issues I would like to bring to light.
- With a new, smaller hospital, and the proposed increase of in-patient mental health beds, this creates several issues.
- This will inevitably increase the number of patients seeking mental health related services here in Ottawa from many surrounding communities, further requiring an unmanageable number of calls for service from my agency. From a management perspective, this is not sustainable, practical, or safe for my department.
- To further complicate the problem, many of the patients from other communities upon their release from treatment, will inevitably end up in Ottawa, and as history has proven, could be left without housing and become displaced within our community requiring even more resources.
- To be clear, we simply do not have the resources to accommodate this hospital plan as I understand it to be written.
- It is important to note, OSF has its own security, however, as the 68 calls for service prove, their security is not able to adequately resolve these mental health related calls without our assistance. With this current proposal of substantially more in-patient mental health beds, I envision our calls for service to the hospital ER more than doubling. Other local entities such as the High School and Elementary School district often pay for special event security through the police department to staff



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) LYNN Mc DONALD

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-433-4226

Contact E-Mail Address

hal.berg@sbeglobal.net
hal.berg@sbeglobal.net

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

SELF + FAMILY

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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13 June 2024
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board Meeting
Central Intermediate School
Ottawa, Illinois 61350
4:00 p.m.

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. Today's meeting, and the uproar in this community regarding proposed changes in OSF St. Elizabeth healthcare in Ottawa, Illinois, is evidence that we support and greatly appreciate your work, since 2012, in this community.

Administrative and executive team members of OSF Healthcare have reported that Ottawa St. Elizabeth Hospital is a profitable entity. Thus, proposed plans to completely eliminate some services such as obstetrics and intensive care, and greatly reduce others [inpatient medical/surgical beds (by 67% from 45 to 12), operating rooms by 60% (from 5 to 2), and outpatient gastroenterology procedure rooms by 50% from (2 to 1)] do not seem to make any sense.

The plan for one hospital with two campuses (Ottawa and Peru), may sound like a solution to the ear of an administrator, and very likely comes with great financial and bureaucratic benefit, as moving a patient is "simply" a "change of departments". To patients and family members of critically ill loved ones, it sounds misleading. Providing the care that is needed is no longer as "simple" as just moving a patient a few feet down the hall from one department to another. That "hallway" literally becomes ~15-90 miles long, with the superimposed risk and stress of a medical transport, as well as separation from the best medicine of all, family and friends.

For these reasons, OSF Healthcare, please reconsider your proposal for Ottawa.

Illinois HF&SR Board members, please decline the current OSF proposal, and keep existing services in Ottawa. If for whatever reason you and OSF are unable to do so, please do us the courtesy of a logical, honest and transparent explanation of why changes will occur. Any changes must minimize patient risk, optimize safety, and provide security and police support as clinically indicated, for all (inpatient and emergency department) transports. Ultimately, any changes must be actionable and realistic with fair-market reimbursement for the safety, security, care and associated transportation requirements of patients seeking healthcare in Ottawa.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely on behalf of my family,

Patricia McDonald

Jean McDonald

Susan Misselt

Lynn McDonald (OHS classmate of Dr. Brian Rosborough, with appreciation and thanks to Dr. Manigold for his care of our parents through the years.)

*- JMC Donald / 13 June 2024 -
Ottawa, IL*

NUMBER: 26

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) JULIE POLANCIC

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-434-2526

Contact E-Mail Address

K.POLANCIC@MCHSI.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Good Afternoon. My name is Julie Polancic and I have been a resident of Ottawa for 36 years.

I was a member of the Governing Board of Directors for Ottawa Regional Hospital – from approximately 2002 to 2013, and I was on the Board during the decision-making, due diligence, and transition process with OSF. We selected OSF as our partner because we believed OSF shared the same values, mission, and vision of improving and increasing healthcare services in Ottawa and the surrounding area.

I believe OSF's current proposed plan is sorely misguided and ill-conceived.

We, the Board, understood the changing landscape of healthcare -- which is why in 2012, after 15 months of due diligence, we chose OSF as a partner to help ensure the hospital would not only survive, but thrive with expanded services. Upon signing that partnership agreement, the then OSF CEO James Moore said – and I quote – “OSF and Ottawa Regional share a united mission and vision for the future: to ensure the tradition of high quality healthcare is enhanced and expanded in Ottawa and its surrounding communities.” - End Quote. We all believed the benefits of this affiliation

would result in greater access to services and improved outcomes for patients.

Ottawa Regional Hospital was efficiently and effectively managed. The administrations were fiscally responsible, invested wisely, and positioned the Ottawa Hospital to weather difficult economic times and to be a top performer.

The impact of OSF's proposed plan on Ottawa is untenable. OSF failed to consult with city agencies and other key stakeholders in the community. They are placing an unnecessary and badly-planned burden on the citizens and taxpayers of this community. In 2012, Ottawa placed its unwavering trust in OSF. OSF should be working to improve the quality of life in this community, instead they are doing the opposite by removing services.

We expect better! We deserve better! We urge you to reject this flawed plan and urge OSF to consult community stakeholders to revise and make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of this community.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Nancy Tuftie
City Marseilles State Ill Zip 61341

Contact Phone Number

815 343 2599

Contact E-Mail Address

ntuftie@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Thank You, Illinois Health Facilities & Services Board, for being here to listen to opposition to OSF's Plan for the Hospital here.

It saddens me to my CORE, having been a loyal, dedicated employee for 35 yrs to have to be here tonite. In 2012, I was still working as a SW when SEMC Admin. requested I represent the hosp. in Peoria @ monthly Corporate Ethics Mtgs. Ethically, from all I learned at those Mtgs, it is so wrong to leave the City ^{of OTTAWA} & surrounding area with a new hospitalite. It is frightening!

I'll never forget when OSF took over in 2012, ~~when OSF took over~~ ~~and~~ ~~Adm.~~ With the Pledge/Promise, both words were used, that health care services in Ottawa would not only grow, but include expansion of invasive procedures, so we go ahead traveling to Chicago, Rockford, Peoria, etc, would Not be necessary, for alot of services/procedures.

I Pray, that all who have the power to change this plan will do so. Please don't eliminate & drastically cut like 80% of Med/Surg Beds in OTTAWA, which actually will be higher as MH Patients most often require a few days of medical stabilization in a Med/Surg Bed before going into MH TX Bed.

Ephesians 4:25 says: Speak the Truth to one another. One of OSF's Core Values is: OPEN & Honest communication to Foster Trust Relationships among yourselves & with those we serve. I pray all who have the Power to change and adjust this plan to ~~just a hospitalite~~ will do so. Thank You. There is still Time, to do the right thing!

Nancy Justice

Keep our
Acute Care
Hosp & Services
open.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Bill Anderson

City 677 State IL Zip 61312

Contact Phone Number

815 228 1892

Contact E-Mail Address

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 29

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Mark Stoult

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815-992-1409

Contact E-Mail Address

markstoult@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

Good afternoon

My name is Mark Stoudt, I will be forever grateful for the care and love that my family has received from the OSF Network since entering our community. I recommend that the Review Board deny the current application and healthcare plan submitted by OSF-St. Elizabeth. This will severely impact the services provided to the population in the Ottawa area in which they serve.

OSF has indicated the proposed new hospital will be designed with the **"patient at the center of the care model."** I would like to share a recent out-patient experience that I tried to have completed fully by the OSF Network. The current services offered by OSF in my opinion are not the **"patient at the center of the care model."**

I can personally attest to recent five-and-a-half-month **"patient at the center of the care model"** that included OSF partners and facilities that offered appointments ranging from 30 days to over 150 days out. The geographic area ranged from Ottawa, Streator, Mendota, Princeton, Peoria, Rockford, and Bloomington.

I am thankful for the individual providers at the local OSF that did care for me during my experience. Thankfully, I was able to complete my care plan with Morris Hospital providers.

To further illustrate my point, I called the Ottawa ENT office this morning. My call was transferred to Guilford Square. Guilford Square is located in Rockford. The next appointment available in Mendota was in December or January. I could schedule an appointment in mid-September in the Rockford office.

When conducting your due diligence and reviewing the application, I challenge the Board to investigate **"the current patient at the center of the care model"** that OSF St. Elizabeth is currently providing to the Ottawa area and promises our community with the submitted plan. If you decide to approve the application, I ask that the Review Board to hold OSF accountable for the care that our community deserves.

Thank you

Accountant - (2)
as far as recruit most out Patient
Provide a challenge up!! close Customer

Down & Feather

Answer

NUMBER: 30

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

John Armstrong

City

Offshore

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 508 8625

Contact E-Mail Address

ibank4@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CHC

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) WAYNE EICHELKRAUT

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815 481 6861

Contact E-Mail Address

WEICHELKRAUT34699@ATT.NET

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CITY OF OTTAWA

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

BRIAN ROSBOROUGH

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 - 481 - 1011

Contact E-Mail Address

bsrosb@icloud.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

INDEPENDENT

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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6/13/24

Remarks to Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board

Re: CON 24-011/CON 24-013

My name is Dr Brian Rosborough. I practiced medicine in Ottawa for 34 years. For the last 8 years of my career, I was the Chief Medical Officer at OSF St Elizabeth Medical Center until I retired in December of 2022. I am opposed to the plan as presented by OSF.

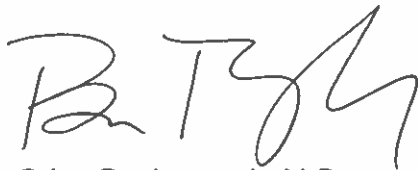
No one disputes the plight of rural health care and the history that this region was over bedded when there were 6 full-service hospitals. Since then, 3 hospitals have closed and 2 have been converted to critical access hospitals. St. Elizabeth has grown, met financial targets and performed well on national quality metrics.

OSF is now the only hospital provider in the region and while that can eliminate duplication of expensive high-tech services, lack of competition can lead to organizational tunnel vision. A business plan may be favorable for the organization, but it may not fully meet the needs of the communities it serves.

The OSF plan creates a regional hub in Peru with expanded services, continues with 2 critical access hospitals and builds a new hospital in Ottawa but with drastically reduced inpatient, ICU, Ob and surgical services. Less services than the critical access hospitals. If you look closely at the numbers OSF submitted, the plan will also reduce outpatient services.

The question that the board must decide is one of vision. Does OSF have the correct plan for the future of healthcare in this region or do the citizens and local governments opposed to the plan have valid concerns about the economic impacts on Ottawa and the inequitable distribution of healthcare services in Ottawa and eastern LaSalle County?

I feel this plan is too drastic and does not appropriately meet the needs of the most populous portion of LaSalle County. I urge the board to deny the CON and have OSF come up with a more equitable plan. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Rosborough', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Rosborough, M.D.



NUMBER: 33

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Brian Dose

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815 343 7472

Contact E-Mail Address

briandose976@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

LaSalle County Board

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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6/13/2024

Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St, Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Board Members,

I am a 4 time elected County Board member and chair our Finance Committee. I have also been a licensed Illinois Paramedic for over 25 years and taught EMS related classes throughout the County.

I voted for and supported the County Board Resolution for St Margaret healthcare workers who were left unemployed when their hospitals suddenly closed. The west end of the County needs a full service hospital. I applaud OSF for helping resolve healthcare and supporting the unemployed healthcare employees in that portion of the county. However, I also voted for the resolution opposing OSFs plans in the Ottawa area because:

1. There are no ICU beds east of I-39 in LaSalle County. That creates a hardship on many that must drive daily to see their loved ones. We are the second largest County by geographic size in the state.
2. The decision did not include local city leaders from Ottawa, Marseilles, or other communities.
3. The east portion of this county has supported a non profit hospital with full services close to home.

These types of changes should have community involvement and input. We are a nation of checks and balances with oversight provided by elected and appointed boards. I ask this board to provide balance to healthcare in the region and check the current plan. Governor Pritzker stated healthcare is a human right. If healthcare is a right, then local leaders should have the ability as equal partners to represent their constituents across the table from a healthcare organization that may change healthcare services to a particular region, particularly when those constituents disagree with the health care organization.

This board can foster a better partnership in local healthcare by pausing OSF plans and asking them to consult and confer with local leaders on the next steps together as true mission partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Dose', enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

Brian Dose
LaSalle County Board Member
735 5th Ave
Ottawa, IL 61350

NUMBER: 384

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Carole Brodbeck

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-674-3137

Contact E-Mail Address

csbrodb22@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Speech Outline for Carole – Thursday, June 13, 2024 @ 4 p.m.

Central Intermediate School – Speaking in SUPPORT

- Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Carole, and I'm a retired school teacher and former ~~member of~~ ~~the~~ school board. *member.*
 - I've lived in the area for many years, and I'm also a current patient in our healthcare system. I'm here to voice my strong support for the new hospital and the regional care model being proposed by OSF.
 - I understand that change can be *quite* challenging, but *it is essential for growth.*
- I* believe this new hospital will bring tremendous benefits to our community. It's important to remember that while ICU beds will be located in Peru, the need for ICU care is quite rare here in Ottawa. On average, we only have about one person in the ICU at any given time. Plus, we're all accustomed to driving for services – it's a part of our daily lives.

- Take my daughter-in-law, for example. She had two high-risk pregnancies, and despite the complications, she received excellent care. Travel was never a concern for her, and the peace of mind that comes with knowing you're getting top-notch care is invaluable.
- Bundling our medical professionals into a strong regional unit makes perfect sense. It ensures that their skills are continually honed and that they have the patient volumes necessary to support continuous advancements in care and technology. This isn't just about a new building; it's about creating a sustainable, high-quality healthcare system for our region. *We aren't a big city. We're lucky to have OSF and to know that they are planning for the present AND the future.*
- I've been disappointed by some of the negative reactions in our community. OSF is offering us a ~~showing respect for different viewpoint~~ *is something* tremendous gift – millions of dollars in new ~~Expected from the "friendly city".~~ infrastructure and preserved jobs. This is a visionary

approach to healthcare, and we should be grateful for it. It's time to step up, Ottawa. Let's embrace this opportunity and support the future of our healthcare.

- Thank you.

NUMBER: 35

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

ROBERT ESCHBACH

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 491 5010

Contact E-Mail Address

eschbachlaw@yahoo.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

former mayor - city of OTTAWA

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 34

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Mary Ann Feely

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

630-740-7635

Contact E-Mail Address

maryannfeely@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Heritage Harbor

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Jeanne ArmstrongCity Ottawa State IL Zip 601350

Contact Phone Number

815-575-4905

Contact E-Mail Address

jbcarm@mchsi.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

I am here with concerned citizens for
Health Care

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Hi, my name is Jeanne Armstrong. I would first like to thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns this evening. I am here to speak on behalf of my 96 yr. old father and I believe many other elderly community members. I keep hearing that our current hospital is not utilizing all of the beds. Why is it then that 2 years ago my father was transferred to Champaign due to a lack of beds at St. Elizabeth's? My husband and I were on vacation out of state and via FaceTime were told that they could not ~~be~~ transfer him to nearby Morris Hospital where my dad's surgeon also had rights to practice. We later found out Morris had available beds and his surgeon would have made it happen. We of course rushed home and then had the inconvenience of traveling back and forth to Champaigne two hours away. This is just one example of the many frustrations experienced by many families. If OSF's current proposal goes through, there will be many more of these situations. I urge you to not grant OSF the Certificate of Need for their current plan and encourage them to go back to the drawing board to truly meet the needs of both Ottawa & LaSalle Peru Area.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815 431 1985

Contact E-Mail Address

two labradors@live.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Self

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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NUMBER: 39

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Ron Henson

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

(815) 486-3210

Contact E-Mail Address

sfest97@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Concerned Citizen

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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My name is Ron Henson and I am long time resident & small business owner in Ottawa. We are proud that all three of our almost adult children have all been born at the Ottawa Hospital.

We encourage your Board to vote **no** on the Certificate of Need for OSF in Ottawa because it drastically changes the healthcare footprint that has long served our community since 1895 and sets us back decades from the healthcare that we currently are offered.

Please vote no because Ottawa is the only community in Lasalle County that has actually grown in the last census.

Please vote no because the residents who reside east of Interstate 39 in Lasalle County will be underserved if this plan is adopted.

Please vote no because our hospital has been operated with a financial gain for the past several years unlike other area hospitals.

Please vote no because OSF St Elizabeth has a tremendously talented staff that has been nationally recognized.

Please vote no because they consulted with no local stakeholders in developing their plan. Not only did they not consult anyone locally but the **Ottawa City Council**, the **Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce**, the **Marseilles City Council**, the **Village of Naplate** as well as the **Lasalle County Board** have all passed resolutions opposing this plan most of which were **unanimous** votes.

Please vote no on their plan as the last discussion that Ottawa City officials had with OSF personnel prior to their announcement was a year or two ago when they were advised by OSF that Ottawa would be the I-80 corridor hub and Peru was expected to be **smaller** and the **one** birthing center would be located in Ottawa as well.

Please vote no simply because their plans come with no transparency or local input. OSF's idea of transparency and input is to sell their project after they unveiled it publicly.

Please vote no because our community want and deserve a quality healthcare partner who engage with & understand the needs of our citizens.

Pls vote no due to the economic impact this proposal will have on our city services and our continued growth and prosperity.

The hospital in Ottawa should not be one of the smallest in our State. Thank you!

Ron Henson



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Ed Terry

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

779-717-3172

Contact E-Mail Address

edwardt1949@yahoo.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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NUMBER: 41

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

MICHAEL DEACORD

City

OTTAWA

State

Zip

Contact Phone Number

815 434-1400

Contact E-Mail Address

MICHAEL.DEACORD@GMAIL.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

LAW OFFICES
MICHAEL T. REAGAN
FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS BUILDING
633 LA SALLE STREET
SUITE 409
OTTAWA, ILLINOIS 61350

MICHAEL T. REAGAN

TELEPHONE 815-434-1400
FAX 815-434-2423

June 13, 2024

Ms. Debra Savage
Chairwoman
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Savage:

Re: Project # 24-011 – OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center
Project # 24-013 – OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Please accept this expression of my strong opposition to OSF's proposal to drastically reduce the scope and nature of medical services currently available at OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa. I know that governmental decisions have to be firmly grounded upon concrete facts and evidence, and that the most powerful forms of persuasion are grounded upon such things. This Board has already been supplied with abundant factual detail documenting the lack of wisdom of OSF's proposal. As but one instance, the submission by Ms. Colleen Burns, MHSA, to the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Justice robustly sets out the facts and tightly reasons against the health care propriety of OSF's plan. So, I will concentrate this discussion more on the larger community aspects of why OSF's proposal should be denied.

This Board's decisions, OSF's plans, and the actions of the City of Ottawa and its citizens all have to be forward-facing and made with recognition of the future of health care. My opposition, and the opposition of so many fellow citizens and local governments, is based upon those future realities. However, the future provision of health care in Ottawa must also be grounded upon the historical facts of the growth of this community and the robust hospital facility which OSF finds itself in possession of because of many decades of effort, and contributions of all kinds, from the people in this community and surrounding areas.

Generally speaking, OSF has done a successful job of administering the hospital in Ottawa. This is a community hospital in the truest sense of the word. Its long history is already well documented for you. The current strong status of the hospital has been created in part by the service, work, and contributions of thousands of people over many years. My father was president of the Board at a critical juncture in the life of the hospital, and my sister was also president at a later time. I served as attorney for the Board for a number of years, and my mother, an RN trained at Catholic

University, worked with many men and women to support the annual hospital auxiliary holiday bazaar. The significant funds generated by that bazaar were devoted towards large medical equipment items and other needs of the hospital. My mother-in-law volunteered in excess of 5,000 hours at the hospital's gift shop, the proceeds from which were used to meet the hospital's needs. ~~Those actions are hardly unique. The community, the physicians and nurses, and the entire~~ hospital staff has long pulled together to make the hospital the success that it is.

Decades ago, it was trendy in healthcare management circles to engage in what was then called "corporate reorganization," the purpose of which was to render the combination of hospitals, by sale or merger, to be accomplished smoothly by creating only a very small number of decisionmakers within the hospital management. To do that at the Community Hospital of Ottawa would have required eliminating the Board of the hospital as the decisionmakers. The community rose up and successfully opposed that effort. One expression then was that the hospital had to be prepared for "when the wolf was at the door." Now, however, the wolf is within the hospital and is attempting to assert sole control over the fate of the hospital without the slightest bit of community input.

OSF did not consult with any members of the City Council or anyone else in the community. Its plans were sprung upon the public essentially simultaneously with the filing of its 148-page-long "Application for Permit" with this Board. OSF's platitudinous vague public statement was only that "when the new hospital is built, it will be reimagined as levels and types of services offered are realigned throughout the I-80 corridor. Our intent across all our I-80 communities is to ensure current and future generations have access to care locally." It was only in subsequent days that it became known that the services provided by the hospital in Ottawa were to be gutted.

Among the numerous outrageous aspects of OSF's plan is that it requests your approval to remove essential services from a hospital which has been operating at a multimillion-dollar net profit for years and to transfer them to a hospital location which went completely dark in bankruptcy.

During the depths of the pandemic, and because of the complete closure of the Peru hospital, despite the yeoman and much appreciated efforts of the physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals in Ottawa, healthcare here was markedly thinly stretched. The general supposition was that that was because OSF was charitably attempting to also serve patients in the Peru area on a temporary basis. It was not known until March of 2024 that the current proposed massive reorganization, to the extreme detriment of Ottawa, was being secretly planned during that time.

OSF frequently incants its designs for the "I-80 Healthcare Corridor." That term has no practical meaning. It is a figment of the public relations department at OSF, intended to camouflage the reality of the destruction of successful healthcare in this area. If it has any meaning, it is only as a line item in OSF's business plan. A citizen who spoke at the Ottawa City Council public hearing spoke truth to power in saying that OSF's plan looks far more like "the I-39 healthcare corridor," rather than one based on I-80.

June 13, 2024

Page 3

If this deficient plan of OSF is permitted to proceed it is likely that patients here will pursue their own healthcare corridors: eastbound I-80 to a good hospital in Morris and then on up I-55 to the world-class facilities on that corridor, or up the Route 71 corridor to the western suburbs and the great offerings of, among other institutions, Northwestern Medicine in those areas.

This Board is respectfully but urgently asked to recognize that approval of OSF's current proposal would have profound adverse consequences, with impacts beyond even the direct provision of healthcare. Approval of OSF's plan would inescapably impede the continued growth and viability of this currently thriving city and its surrounding areas. The hospital which the community created has been part of its healthcare and general economic lifeblood for a very long time. OSF does not have the practical nor moral right to unilaterally and drastically reshape the provision of hospital services here.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael T. Reagan



NUMBER: 42

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

JIM HOLLENBECK

City

MARSEILLES

State

IL

Zip

61341

Contact Phone Number

815-295-2133

Contact E-Mail Address

MAYOR@CITYOFMARSEILLES.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

MAYOR OF MARSEILLES

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.



NUMBER: 43

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

MICHAEL FEELY

City

OTAWA

State

IL

Zip

60561

Contact Phone Number

630-935-0566

Contact E-Mail Address

MFeely555@aol.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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NUMBER: 44

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Caroline Campaigne

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-252-6757

Contact E-Mail Address

carolinecampaigne@hotmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

concerned former board member

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

NUMBER: 45
NO-SHOW

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

DENNIS BLAXFORD

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 228-1364

Contact E-Mail Address

DENNIS BLAXFORD@AOL.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

MY FAMILY

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

NUMBER: 46

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Susie Walsh

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-252-7575

Contact E-Mail Address

CoachSusie65@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Concerned Citizen

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Colleen Burns

City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-252-7094

Contact E-Mail Address

colleenburns718@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Citizens for Healthcare
in Ottawa

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

Good evening – My name is Colleen Burns and I am opposed to OSF's plans. Through acquisitions over the past 12 years OSF has become the only provider of hospital services in the 3-county, C-02 planning region, and they are using that monopoly power to dismantle services that have been in place for more than a century.

Following years of partnership, Ottawa hospital merged with OSF in 2012. OSF paid no purchase price, but valuation at the time was \$58 million. OSF later acquired hospitals in Mendota and Princeton, each, again at no cost. ~~In recent years, Ottawa's hospital has received numerous quality awards, including a recent A rating from Leapfrog group; it operates at a net profit.~~

In early 2023, two of the region's five acute care hospitals closed abruptly. With these closures our planning region went from a surplus to a shortage of beds. Later in '23, OSF purchased Peru's closed hospital out of bankruptcy for \$38 million with promises of re-opening but with no mention of the impact to Ottawa's hospital.

In March of this year, OSF announced plans to build a new hospital in Ottawa that would eliminate both ICU and OB units; and maintain only 12 med/surg beds (a 78% reduction from the 54 licensed today). In stark contrast, OSF shared plans to re-open Peru as the system's inpatient hub on I-80, and add beds.

Not only are OSF's plans insulting to our community, which gave OSF **our most precious asset – our hospital – for FREE**, they do little to stabilize our entire region's need for more hospital beds following the closures in '23. OSF's plans keep the region with a shortage of **24 med/surg beds and 2 OB/delivery beds**; and **place all ICU beds west of I-39**. Their plans lack the support of EMS leaders tasked with regularly transporting patients from the 12-bed unit – a certainty, since Ottawa operates an average daily census of 24 med/surg, 3 ICU and 3 OB patients.

A monopoly is defined as, "the exclusive possession or control of the supply of a service." OSF clearly has a monopoly in our region and their ill thought through plan raises concerns about patient safety, service affordability and hospital staff working conditions. It places an undue burden on patients who will have to travel longer distances in potentially treacherous winter weather. And it abuses tax-payer funded resources like police and EMS.

For all of these reasons and more I ask the planning board to deny OSF's application. *As written.*

↓
We have filed ^{an antitrust} complaint against OSF with the DOJ & FTC ~~to~~ to investigate their monopoly and I ask...



NUMBER: 48

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

AMAR DAYE

City

OTTAWA

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 579 3910

Contact E-Mail Address

dookhizam@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Self

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

2021 - Pre-Closures in Spring Valley & Peru

HFSRB C-02 Planning Area		Bed Category		
City		Med/Surg	OB	ICU
Ottawa		54	12	5
Peru		38	7	4
Princeton		22	0	3
Mendota		21	0	4
Spring Valley		28	10	6
TOTAL		163	29	22
C-02 Bed Need		120	19	14
Excess / Shortage (red)		43	10	8

System Ownership in 2021

OSF (Acquired 2012)
SMP
OSF Acquired In 2021
OSF (Acquired 2014)
SMP

Key Point #1

Key Points

1. In 2021 our planning region (as defined by the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board) had an excess of beds (+43 med/surg; +10 OB/delivery; +8 ICU)
2. In 2023, following the closures in Spring Valley and Peru, our region was severely underbedded (-27 med/surg; -2 ICU)
3. In 2024, if OSF plans are approved they will still leave our region with a shortage of 24 med/surg beds and 2 OB/delivery beds. Meaning keeping more beds in Ottawa MAKES SENSE FOR THE ENTIRE REGION
4. OSF has gotten each hospital in our area for free, with the exception of paying \$38 million for Peru after it had closed.
5. OSF has a monopoly in our region, with no other hospital part of a separate system or stand-alone.
6. Ottawa is by far the largest area in the region with a hospital, but will have the fewest beds: it is also a growing population with Peru having population decline

2023 - Post-Closures in Spring Valley & Peru

HFSRB C-02 Planning Area		Bed Category		
City		Med/Surg	OB	ICU
Ottawa		54	14	5
Peru		0	0	0
Princeton		22	0	3
Mendota		21	0	4
Spring Valley		0	0	0
TOTAL		97	14	12
C-02 Bed Need		124	13	14
Excess / Shortage (red)		-27	1	-2

System Ownership in 2023

OSF
OSF Acquired in 2023, following closure
OSF
OSF
CLOSED

Key Point #2

Valuation at time of acquisition	OSF Paid
Source: IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board	
\$58 Million	\$0
\$38 Million	\$38 Million
\$25 Million	\$0
\$39.9 Million	\$0

Key Point #4

2024 - IF CON Permits Approved for Ottawa/Peru

HFSRB C-02 Planning Area		Bed Category		
City		Med/Surg	OB	ICU
Ottawa		12	0	0
Peru		45	11	8
Princeton		22	0	3
Mendota		21	0	4
Spring Valley		0	0	0
TOTAL		100	11	15
C-02 Bed Need		124	13	14
Excess / Shortage (red)		-24	-2	1

System Ownership in 2024

>>MONOPOLY<<

OSF
OSF
OSF
OSF
CLOSED

Key Point #3

Population: 2020 Census

Population: 2020 Census	Population: 2010 Census	% Change 2010 to 2020
18,840	18,768	0.4%
9,896	10,295	-3.9%
7,832	7,660	2.2%
7,061	7,372	-4.2%
5,582	5,558	0.4%
49,211	49,653	-0.9%

Key Point #5

Key Point #6



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

NUMBER: ~~49~~

RENUMBER

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) Robert HASTY
City Ottawa State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815 228 7253

Contact E-Mail Address

mayor.hasty@cityofottawa.org

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

City of Ottawa

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

Please note that anyone who does not pre-register in accordance with the HFSRB Public Participation Guidelines will not have an opportunity to speak at a Board meeting.

My name is Robert Hasty, Mayor of the City of Ottawa, on behalf of City Council, I would like to state that the City of Ottawa has passed a resolution in opposition to OSF HealthCare's current plans for the St-Elizabeth Ottawa Hospital Campus. Though we welcome and agree that a new facility is in dire need, we have several concerns about the capacity of the hospital once it opens. Ottawa, has the largest population in LaSalle County, we have the largest working population in LaSalle County and while OSF likes to point to their I-80 Corridor Masterplan, Ottawa has the largest population from Morris to Princeton. Ottawa, was the only city in LaSalle County that actually grew in population from the last census while, again as OSF has pointed out, other Cities in LaSalle County have shrinking populations. With that said, OSF's current plan is asking for the Ottawa Hospital Campus to have the fewest number of Med/Surg Beds not only within their network of hospitals but almost of any hospital in Illinois. It simply doesn't make sense! Today, our ER and in-patient occupancy is running at near capacity almost every day and with Ottawa's proven economic growth, that doesn't seem to be a trend that will be reversing. The City appreciates the relationship we've had with OSF HealthCare over the last twelve years and it's our hope that they continue with their end of the bargain and provide not just Ottawa, but the Larger Ottawa area including communities such as Streator, Marseilles, Sheridan and Harding with the hospital we deserve and require. It's my request that the State denies or that OSF HealthCare amends their current application until a more realistic plan for our future can be determined. Thank you.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

NUMBER: ~~250~~

RENUMBER

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print) THOMAS GANJERU

City OTTAWA State IL Zip 61350

Contact Phone Number

815-252-7886

Contact E-Mail Address

TOMGAN@AOL.COM

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CITIZENS OF OTTAWA

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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Hearing before the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board concerning OSF's planned to construct a new hospital and decommission the current hospital in Ottawa, IL.

Date June 13, 2024

Below is transcript of my comments

This statement can be found in a paragraph with the heading of Access on page 13 of the Certificate of Need application filed with the Health Facilities and Services board on January 18, 2012:

Access of the Ottawa community will benefit by the proposed affiliation as there will be no decrease in service scope or levels of care currently provided. Rather, the Applicants anticipate the affiliation will support an increased clinical program scope through OSF's broader capabilities, sub-specialization and disease-based population management. In addition, the Applicant certifies that the proposed affiliation will not result in restricting patient admissions and that Ottawa's admission policies will not become more restrictive." OSF made a promise to Ottawa and surrounding communities in 2012 and now they want to renig on that promise. OSF will tell you that that above statement only had a 5 year warranty and they did put such language in the Affiliation Agreement that was signed with Ottawa Regional Hospital but left the warranty language out of the Certificate of Need application. Why did they leave it out of the Certificate of Need application – did they feel that if it was in the application it would harm their chances of gaining approval for acquiring Ottawa Regional Hospital? I wonder.

I urge the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to reject OSF's application to construct and new hospital and decommission the existing hospital in Ottawa, Illinois
Thank you

Thomas G. Ganiere
Commissioner of Public Health and Safety
City of Ottawa
323 Taylor St.
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-252-7886



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

NUMBER: ~~51~~

RENUMBER

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Tim Allen

City

Marseille

State

IL

Zip

61341

Contact Phone Number

815-252-4243

Contact E-Mail Address

ji allen @ mtco. com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

CHO

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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Good afternoon,

Like so many others, I was excited to hear that OSF had plans for a new facility in our area. But then the details of their plan were brought to light, and it became clear that the Ottawa-Eastern LaSalle County area would be greatly impacted in a negative way.

I want to recognize the members of Citizens for Healthcare in Ottawa, and thank them for their efforts in bringing their expertise and knowledge to bear, on this most important matter. They have made a sincere, unbiased look at OSF's current proposal - their findings show the real-life ramifications and negative impact that would result from this plan as proposed.

I urge that the Review Board deny the OSF plan as it is now proposed.

Jim Allen

Marseilles IL

NUMBER: 52

STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Debra Alsvig-Einhaus

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

61350

Contact Phone Number

815 434-9100

Contact E-Mail Address

dee 200850@yahoo.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Concerned Citizens for Health -

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: **OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center**

Project Number: **#24-011**

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Melissa Terry

City

Ottawa

State

IL

Zip

61380

Contact Phone Number

815-252-1824

Contact E-Mail Address

mmintern@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

Ottawa resident, clinical psychologist

Small business owner

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

This form must be returned to John Kniery at john.kniery@illinois.gov or 217-785-4111 (fax) or 525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor; Springfield, Illinois 62761 at least 24 hours prior to the HFSRB meeting.

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Dr. Melissa Terry, life long Ottawa resident,
Clinical psychologist

I am able to be here today because, after being born at Community Hospital of Ottawa, I was transferred to OSF St. Francis for a life-saving surgery when I was 3 days old. Additionally my family benefited from the generosity of the Sisters of St Francis who wrote off crippling medical debt following my hospital stay. I am personally and profoundly aware of the need for the broad continuum of services that systems such as OSF are able to provide.

In just the last 10 years my family has been to St. Elizabeth for everything from an unfortunate but minor run in with a table saw and preventive mammograms, to treatment for breast cancer and prostate cancer, acute congestive heart failure, GI surgeries, and more. My family will be grateful if I don't review the comprehensive list.

If OSF is permitted to move forward with reducing the access to healthcare in Ottawa, my family will be directly affected by needing to travel farther and farther to access these services, and will experience longer and potentially dangerous wait times. In a season of life where I am helping to care for young children, middle aged parents, and aging grandparents, having these services in town makes it possible for me to participate in their care. The trickle down effects and pressure displaced to individuals and community services would be many. Moving services farther away will require more time away from my own work serving kids in our community as a clinical psychologist. Public health in our area will suffer.

If OSF was able to demonstrate that they are not making money by providing care in Ottawa, I would understand why they might have a stronger case for downsizing. However, they do have a sustainable business model here in town, minimal competition, and an aging and growing population. I respectfully request that this review board require that any adjustments to OSF's services in Ottawa at least maintain the capacity that they are currently providing in our community.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

NUMBER:

LAST
54

Public Participation Form

Facility or Project Name: OSF – St. Elizabeth Medical Center

Project Number: #24-011

I. IDENTIFICATION

Name (Please Print)

Ralph Weber

City

Riverwoods

State

IL

Zip

60015

Contact Phone Number

847-791-0830

Contact E-Mail Address

rmweber90@gmail.com

II. REPRESENTATION

(This section is to be filled if the witness is appearing on behalf of any group, organization or other entity.)

Entity, Organization, etc. represented in this appearance (i.e., ABC Concerned Citizens for Health Care)

OSF Healthcare System

III. POSITION (Circle appropriate position)

SUPPORT

OPPOSE

NEUTRAL

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