



July 21, 2025

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

Re: CON Project 25-013  
Discontinuation of ICU and Obstetrics services  
OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center - Ottawa

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

I write in support of the project to discontinue Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Obstetrics services at OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Ottawa. These discontinuations are part of a planned transition by OSF HealthCare, which committed to closing these services in Ottawa upon their relocation to OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Peru. The new location in Peru is scheduled to open these services in August, ensuring continued access for patients in the region.

Community Health Partnership of Illinois operates a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Mendota and maintains a strong partnership with OSF HealthCare through an existing contract at OSF Saint Paul Medical Center. We are actively working to update this agreement and expand our partnership to include OSF Saint Elizabeth, OSF Saint Clare, and the OSF Medical Group in the I-80 corridor. These contracts allow us to refer our patients to OSF facilities for services that we do not provide, such as diagnostic imaging, laboratory work, obstetrics, and other specialty care.

We value this collaborative relationship, which ensures that our patients, particularly those in rural and underserved communities, receive seamless access to the high-quality care they need. We believe the consolidation of services at OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center in Peru will further strengthen this regional access and improve the continuum of care for our shared patient population.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Review Board to approve the proposed discontinuations at OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center - Ottawa.

Sincerely,

Eleace Sawyers, Chief Executive Officer  
Community Health Partnership of Illinois  
205 West Randolph Street, Suite 2222  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 795-0000

C: Karen Brodbeck, Director of Public Relations, OSF HealthCare  
Mark Hohulin, Senior Vice President, Healthcare Analytics, OSF HealthCare