

From: [PAM FOGARTY](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB](#)
Subject: [External] Fwd: Ascension closure of Alexian Brothers Medical Center Woman and Infant services
Date: Friday, July 11, 2025 9:15:26 AM

----- Original Message -----

From: PAM FOGARTY <fogarty1430@comcast.net>
To: "DPH.HFSRB@Illinois.gov" <DPH.HFSRB@Illinois.gov>
Date: 07/01/2025 1:31 PM CDT
Subject: Ascension closure of Alexian Brothers Medical Center Woman and Infant services

Hello,

My name is Pam Fogarty. I live in Algonquin and have been an employee at Alexian Brothers Medical Center (currently being run by Ascension) for 34 Years (35 in October). Administration, specifically Polly Davenport and Dr Bordo are attempting to close our Labor and delivery, Mother baby and Nursery units with in the next couple months. There has not been transparency or honesty regarding this. We heard "rumors" about this numerous times in the past several years and they have denied this even though it was already in the works. Our hospital is a community hospital and we serve a large population of Hispanics, Guatemalans, Ukrainians, all of which are lower income/medicaid patients. Ascension now claims that they are promoting "centers of excellence" which means all of our deliveries would be going to St.Alexius in Hoffman Estates. Currently, we are the excellent caregivers with years and years of experience/seniority, but St Alexius built a newer unit so they want everything filtered over there leaving Alexian with no L&D, Mother baby or nursery. Their change would severely impact several units in the hospital. ER would now have to do "walk in" deliveries in their already extremely busy unit, Obstetricians would no longer do Gynecologic surgeries at Alexian if they aren't allowed to do deliveries there. I am respectfully asking that you deny this proposal. The administrators claim that this WILL be approved because other surrounding hospitals will take some of our deliveries. The claim that this is occurring because of "Centers of excellence" is false. This is directly a money issue. Ascension has made so many poor decisions in the past couple years and cutting a quarter of L&D units is apparently what they do. The areas of focus for cutting out L&D units is because of low income, black and Latine patients. Ascension has claimed that they provide spiritually centered holistic care, yet 8/10 hospitals with L&D closures are in areas that provide care to medicaid patients. Five obstetric units have been closed by Ascension since 2022. They sold 8 or 9 hospitals to Prime healthcare and employees were all promised that they would have jobs, but it has been confirmed that this was not true. People were left without jobs, units closed, conditions were horrible and because of a whistle blower at one of those hospitals, representatives Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth are now asking for answers from Dr Reddy (Prime) in communication from May 20, 2025. Ascension Alexian Brothers Medical Center is non profit hospital, yet profit and money is what they are

focusing on. They will give you numbers to support why they want to close the WIS unit, but please know that this is partial to their agenda. We had a meeting today discussing their plan for this transition except they accidentally called it a transaction. They used the phrase "I hear you", but they have already said that the state of Illinois will approve this. They are prematurely very confident of your decision. There is so much growth in the surrounding areas and so many people in need of women's healthcare. We need to remain open to provide for the community, so I implore you to consider denying this closure. As a unit, we are fighting this. The Daily Herald employee was in the meeting this morning and was asked to leave. This pending closure has also been on NBC news twice. Please stop the trend of Illinois closing Obstetric units. This sends a message that women's healthcare is not a priority. The mom's and babies that come to us are in need of care. There have been emergencies that would not have had a favorable outcome if they would have needed to travel any farther to go to another hospital. Please consider all that I have said and do not rely merely on their "facts".

Respectfully,

Pam Fogarty

[847-529-8644](tel:847-529-8644)