

LaSalle County Health Department
717 E. Etna Road
Ottawa, Illinois 61350-1097
Phone: (815) 433-3366
Fax: (815) 433-9522

Christine Pozzi, BS, LEHP, Administrator

David Manigold, MD, President
Renae Gallagher, Vice President
Steven Gonzalo, Treasurer
Bruce Boaz, Secretary
Mark Benavides, DDS
Robert B. Maguire, MD
Lori Janko Wilke
Ali Braboy

June 30, 2026

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

ATTN: Certificate of Need Review Committee

RE: Letter of Support for Sycamore Specialty Hospital LTACH Application

Dear Members of the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

I am writing to express our support for the application submitted by Sycamore Specialty Hospital to establish a Long-Term Acute Care Hospital (LTACH) at the former Kindred Hospital facility in Sycamore, Illinois.

The closure of Kindred Hospital left a gap in the availability of LTACH services for residents in the northern portions of our county. While patients have been redirected to other facilities, many of those hospitals are located substantially farther away, creating hardships for patients and their families. Access to care should not require lengthy travel times, especially for individuals recovering from serious illnesses, complex medical conditions, or extended hospitalizations. Sycamore Specialty Hospital is uniquely positioned to fill this critical health care need.

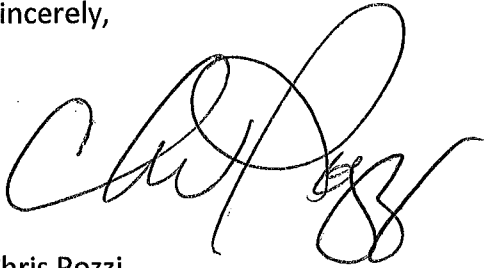
As our population ages, the demand for LTACH services—including rehabilitation and recovery support for complex medical conditions—will increase significantly. Ensuring that these services remain available within areas reasonable distance of patients and their families is vital to maintaining quality health care throughout the region.

Approving Sycamore Specialty Hospital's application would not create unnecessary duplication of services. Rather, it would restore critical health care capacity that was lost when Kindred Hospital closed and would preserve access to care for current and future residents of northern LaSalle County and surrounding communities.

I respectfully urge the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve the Certificate of Need application for Sycamore Specialty Hospital. Doing so will strengthen health care access, and ensure that residents of our communities continue to receive the specialized care they need close to home.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

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

Chris Pozzi

Public Health Administrator

LaSalle County Health Department