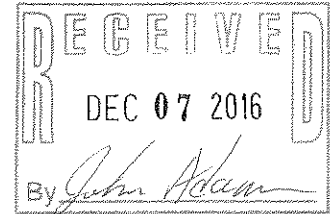


December 2, 2016

Ms. Jana Fussell
Certificate of Need Coordinator
Public Health Division
Oregon Health Authority
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 465
Portland OR 97232



Re: Certificate of Need Application by Universal Health Services to Operate a 100-bed Psychiatric Hospital in Wilsonville Oregon

Dear Ms. Fussell,

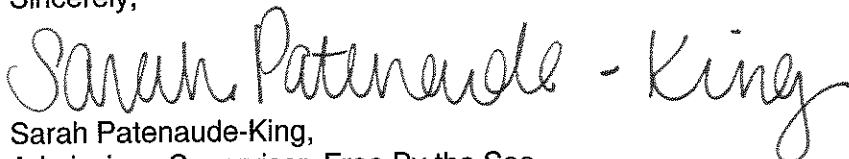
It is my understanding Universal Health Services ("UHS") has submitted a certificate of need request for a 100-bed psychiatric hospital. NEWCO Oregon, Inc., DBA Willamette Valley Behavioral Health, proposes to develop a freestanding psychiatric hospital for children, adolescents and adults in Washington County of the State of Oregon. I fully support its request. There are current and projected bed shortages for adolescents, adults and older adults well in excess of the UHS request.

Bed shortages include care for the dually diagnosed individuals who are often voluntarily seeking inpatient psychiatric care and substance use disorders treatment. Having a safe space for this vulnerable population is imperative for the individuals being served as well as our communities.

As an employee of Free by the Sea, a residential treatment provider for individuals with substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders, I recognize the substantial need for inpatient psychiatric beds in Washington and surrounding counties. Free by the Sea has worked in collaboration with Cedar Hills Hospital to treat individuals who need immediate detox and/or dual diagnosis treatment services. Free by the Sea is able to work collaboratively with the Assessment Center and Community Liaisons to refer patients for treatment in a timely manner, which is difficult with other health systems who simply do not have the bed availability or lack the resources to treat this population. There are very few if any inpatient detox and dual diagnosis providers in the region, which makes it very difficult for patients to access the care they need when they are in crisis.

Immediate action to increase inpatient psychiatric capacity is critically needed. As a current provider in this area with its Cedar Hills facility, UHS is ideally situated to provide additional capacity for patient care. Its relationships and experience in Oregon with other healthcare providers will improve its ability to meet patient needs in a timely, efficient, and cost-effective manner, and most importantly, to deliver accessible, high quality care. In closing, I fully support Universal Health Services' certificate of need request for a 100-bed psychiatric hospital in Washington County. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,


Sarah Patenaude-King,
Admissions Supervisor, Free By the Sea

cc.

Elizabeth Hutter, CEO
Cedar Hills Hospital