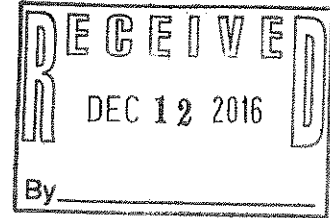


November 28, 2016

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**

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.

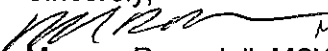
As I am aware from my previous work with Wraparound services, there are current and projected bed shortages for children, adolescents and adults well in excess of the UHS request. Shortages includes care for the most seriously ill individuals who are often involuntarily detained or committed as well as inpatient psychiatric care for children, adolescents and adults with less severe diagnoses but nonetheless requiring inpatient psychiatric care.

Willamette Valley Behavioral Health is a wholly owned subsidiary of Universal Health Services ("UHS"). Universal is also the owner of Cedar Hills Hospital, an 89-bed adult, inpatient psychiatric hospital, located in Portland Oregon. It is my hope that Willamette Valley Behavioral Health will be able to bring local clinical expertise and market knowledge from Cedar Hills as well as the very broad experience and expertise of UHS in developing and operating psychiatric hospitals.

As a social worker, I recognize the incredible and projected need for more inpatient psychiatric beds in the mid-Willamette Valley, accessible to Marion and surrounding counties. Immediate action to increase inpatient psychiatric capacity is critically needed. My hope is that UHS's 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,

  
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