

Letter of Support for HCR Manor Care

July 8, 2013

To whom it may concern,

St. Anthony Hospital is working towards the development of partnerships in the continuum of care that will provide high quality care with good outcomes for our patients that we share. In February 2013 we met with HCR Manor Care and discussed their interest in placing a new facility in our Lakewood area. We did a review of HCR Manor Care's current outcomes and return to hospital readmission rates and find them to be a quality partner in post acute care.

Our hospital focus is on return to hospital rates and we had a positive conversation about the work we could collaborate on to decrease readmissions, especially in the Heart Failure and COPD patient population. We are finding that the need for post hospital skilled care has increased along with the expectation of receiving quality care. With that we are also seeing a higher demand for Medicaid long term post hospital care. St. Anthony Hospital being a level 1 trauma center, we have a higher number of patients with catastrophic life changing events that end up needing long term care. Our ability to have Medicaid beds that are able to care for complex patients with quality driven outcomes is of the up most importance. Most families want that care to be provided in their community, that being the Lakewood area in this case. I support the need for post-acute Medicaid Nursing Home beds in the western Denver community. Thank you for this opportunity to have a voice.

Sincerely,



Vicki Poplaski RN, BSN

Director Case Management

St. Anthony Hospital

Phone 720-321-1628

11600 W. 2nd Place

Lakewood, CO 80228

vickipoplaski2@centura.org



City of Lakewood

Office of the Mayor
Bob Murphy

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October 15, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal by ManorCare Health Services, LLC to construct and operate a new nursing facility to be located in the Lakewood area of Jefferson County. I understand that ManorCare will be requesting a limited number of the beds in the new facility to become enrolled in the Medicaid Program. I support the application for these new beds as such services should be made available to Medicaid recipients who require short-term post-acute rehab services in order to return to the community at their highest possible functioning level.

Based upon my knowledge of the community designated by the applicant to be served by this new facility, I believe there is a large unmet need for these services for all patients including Medicaid and Medicare patients. Lakewood's demographics reflect the fact we have the highest number of seniors 60 years or older in the area, and this number will double in less than 10 years. I am also familiar with the applicant's high success rates returning patients back to their home communities and believe that this facility will improve the quality of services provided to all members of the community, including those eligible for Medicaid assistance.

Accordingly, I urge your office to approve the application to enroll some of the beds in the proposed ManorCare nursing facility in the Medicaid Program. It will be a tremendous asset to those who require Medicaid assistance to access such services in our local community. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bob Murphy
Mayor



October 18, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal by ManorCare Health Services, LLC to construct and operate a new nursing facility to be located in the Lakewood area of Jefferson County. I understand that ManorCare will be requesting a limited number of the beds in the new facility to become enrolled in the Medicaid Program. I support the application for these new beds so that services can be made available to Medicaid recipients who require short-term post-acute rehab services and they can return to the community at their highest possible functioning level.

I believe the community that will be served by this new facility has a large unmet need for these services for all patients including Medicaid and Medicare patients. I am also familiar with the applicant's high success rates returning patients back to their home communities and believe that this facility will improve the quality of services provided to all members of the community, including those eligible for Medicaid assistance.

Accordingly, I urge your office to approve the application to enroll some of the beds in the proposed ManorCare nursing facility in the Medicaid Program. It will be a tremendous asset to those who require Medicaid assistance to access such services in our local community. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy Kerr".

Senator Andy Kerr
Senate District 22

Citizens For Andy Kerr
PMB 1142
9206 W. Alameda Ave.
Lakewood, CO 80226-9824
Phone: (720) 979-4515
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CHERI JAHN

State Senator

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Senate District 20



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Member

Finance
Member

Senate Chamber
State of Colorado
Denver

October 18, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant St.
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

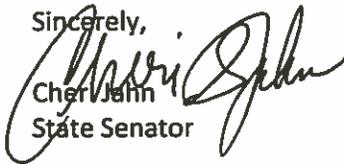
I am writing this letter to offer my support for a proposal your department is in receipt of from ManorCare Health Services, LLC to construct and operate a new nursing facility to be located in the Lakewood area of Jefferson County. I understand ManorCare will be requesting a limited number of the beds in the new facility to become enrolled in the Medicaid program. I am supporting this request because I think it is critically important that such services should be made available to Medicaid recipients who require short-term post-acute rehab services. It is important that they be able to return to the community at their highest possible functioning level.

As you may know, I have spent an incredible amount of time, since being elected to serve in the legislature in 2000, on senior issues and short term/long term care issues. I am a strong believer in accountability and our duty as a state to be sure our elders are receiving the best of care. I have had a chance to review the Safety Care ratings for the ManorCare Health Services facilities and find they are above the average. I also watch closely to see that there is a solid ratio in nursing staff and CNA staff per patient and they appear to maintain a good, solid rating.

I believe there is a strong need for this program and that Colorado lacks in the short-term post-acute rehab services and this organization could help fill this need. ManorCare Health Services has a high success rate in returning patients back to their home communities based upon the ratings I've researched and this is a great plus for the families and communities.

I would urge your office to give this application a favorable approval so they may open beds in the proposed ManorCare nursing facility in the Medicaid program. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,


Cheri Jahn
State Senator

BETTY BOYD

STATE SENATE

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(303) 986-4194
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November, 15, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I'm writing this letter in support of the ManorCare Health Services, LLC proposal to construct and operate a 120-bed nursing home in Lakewood. At its inception, I was appointed by Governor Hickenlooper to chair the Community Living Advisory Group, a joint project of your Department, the Department of Human Services and the Department of Public Health and the Environment. One of the responsibilities of the Advisory Group is to consider and recommend changes to the long-term care services and supports systems for our citizens who need such assistance. The Advisory Group was established in light of the upcoming unprecedented growth in the state's population of those 65 and older as it is estimated that this population will double by 2021. These citizens will have a need for a variety of long term services and supports, including short term post-acute rehab services to allow them to return to the community at their highest possible functioning level after a hospitalization.

I am also familiar with the existing long term care services and supports in the Lakewood, Colorado area as I represented this area for many years during my service in the Colorado General Assembly. I support the proposal by ManorCare because it will specialize in providing short sub-acute rehabilitation services. There is a tremendous need for this new facility in the western Denver communities around Lakewood, as it will expand availability and accessibility to such services to residents of this area.

I further understand that ManorCare will be requesting a limited number of the beds in the new facility to become enrolled in the Medicaid Program. There is also a large unmet need to provide these services to Medicaid and Medicare patients given the upcoming population increases in the number our elderly citizens who are age 65 and above as I noted. Here, the ManorCare model of care which provides intensive post-acute rehabilitation in order to return patients to their homes in the community without being re-hospitalized is consistent with the goals identified by the Advisory Group for the state's long-term care services and supports systems.

It is my hope that your office will approve a new Medicaid Provider Agreement for the proposed ManorCare Health Services-Lakewood nursing facility. It would be a tremendous asset to our local community. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Betty Boyd
Chair, Colorado Community Living Advisory Group
Former Senate President Pro-Tem



City of Lakewood
Office of the City Council

Ramey Johnson
City Council, Ward 1

480 South Allison Parkway
Lakewood, Colorado 80226-3127
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December 4, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long-Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I am writing you in support of a proposal submitted by ManorCare Health Services, LLC to build and operate a new post-acute rehab facility in Lakewood, Colorado. After reading and hearing about this project, I am happy to endorse them.

It is projected that by the year 2020, 40 percent of Lakewood's population will be over 65 years of age. While we are living longer and are generally healthier, this shift in our population has enormous health implications for this area. The new St. Anthony Hospital is now located in Lakewood; however, it serves the entire Denver region. As a former case manager, I understand firsthand how difficult it is to place patients needing post-acute rehab in the nearby area. The lack of this type of bed has held up discharges, and it delays the start of much-needed rehab for patients. Additionally, delays increase expenses, which affect every payor and drives increased health care costs for everyone.

I believe that having ManorCare, which will offer Medicaid and Medicare beds in Lakewood, can only be described as a win-win situation for patients, families, and Lakewood and Jefferson County. Frankly, the need for these services has been there for a while. The ManorCare proposal will offer patients and families another needed choice.

I endorse ManorCare's proposal and hope you will support this as well. Please feel free to call if I may answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Ramey Johnson".

Ramey Johnson,
RN, MSN



Jewish Family Service

December 4, 2013

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Long Term Care Benefits Policy Specialist
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal by ManorCare Health Services, LLC to construct and operate ManorCare Health Services-Lakewood, a 120-bed nursing facility to be located in the Lakewood area of Jefferson County. I believe the requested Medicaid beds are vital to ensure access for all patients who require post-acute rehab services to assist them to return to the community at their highest possible functioning level. I am familiar with ManorCare's new post-acute model of care, including their strong patient outcomes and success in achieving low hospital readmission rates.

Through my work with Jewish Family Service of Colorado Senior Connections in Edgewater and Lakewood, I am very familiar with the needs of seniors in these communities. In fact, JFS recently got a grant to expand the Senior Connections Program to the neighboring city of Wheat Ridge in response to the needs of the seniors living on the west side of town not only in Lakewood but the surrounding area as well. A key goal of our Senior Connections program is to assist seniors in these communities to remain independent in the community through coordination of health and community services, case management, education, and civic engagement.

There is a tremendous need for this new facility in Lakewood as it will expand availability and accessibility to quality Medicaid-certified post-acute nursing facility services. The development of this nursing facility is also supported by other need factors including elderly population increases and the need to provide quality services to patients discharged from the hospital that require intensive rehab prior to successfully returning to their homes. I believe that MCHS-Lakewood would serve an important role in Lakewood by working with our case management team to ensure that seniors who require post-acute nursing care, can transition successfully back to the community upon discharge. In the case of those seniors who require longer post-acute stays, the availability of MCHS-Lakewood right in the community will enable seniors to maintain their community connections and support networks.

I urge you to approve a new Medicaid Provider Agreement for ManorCare Health Services-Lakewood, as it would be a tremendous asset to the community. We look forward to working with MCHS-Lakewood once it opens to ensure that the full continuum of healthcare is available for Lakewood area seniors. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Cathy Grimm, LCSW
JFS Senior Solutions

Joyce and Kal Zeff Building | 3201 South Tamarac Drive | Denver, CO 80231-4394
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Beneficiary Agency of Mile High United Way and Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado



JewishFamilyService

September 4, 2014

Kathleen S. Snow, M.P.A.
Office of Community Living, Supportive Living Options
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing
1570 Grant Street
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Snow:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposal by ManorCare Health Services, LLC to construct and operate ManorCare Health Services-Lakewood, a 120-bed nursing facility to be located in the Lakewood area of Jefferson County. I also wrote in support of this new facility in December 2013, and want to take this opportunity during the public comment period to once again express my support for this needed new post-acute facility. As I wrote in December, I believe the requested Medicaid beds are vital to ensure access for all patients who require post-acute rehab services, to assist them to return to the community at their highest possible functioning level. I am familiar with ManorCare's new post-acute model of care, including their strong patient outcomes and success in achieving low hospital readmission rates. I believe the provision of this post-acute model of care, in a Medicaid-certified nursing facility, would be a tremendous asset to our community and would support our goals to assist seniors to remain independent in the community.

Through my work with Jewish Family Services' Colorado Senior Connections in Edgewater, Wheat Ridge and surrounding communities, I am very familiar with the needs of seniors in these communities. In fact, JFS also has a grant to develop the Senior Connections Program in Wheat Ridge in response to the needs for Wheat Ridge seniors that we identified through our work in the Edgewater community. A key goal of our Senior Connections program is to assist seniors in these communities to remain independent in the community, through coordination of health and community services, case management, education, and civic engagement. We have discussed how ManorCare and JFS could work together to support these needs and to assist seniors to remain independent in their communities, and look forward to the opportunity to do so when MCHS-Lakewood opens in our community.

There is a tremendous need for this new facility in Lakewood, as it will expand availability and accessibility to quality Medicaid-certified post-acute nursing facility services. The development of this facility is also supported by other need factors, including elderly population increases, and the need to provide quality services to patients discharged from the hospital who require intensive rehab prior to successfully returning to their homes. I believe that MCHS-Lakewood would serve an important role in Lakewood as well in surrounding communities by working with our case management team to ensure that seniors who require post-acute nursing care, can transition successfully back to the community upon discharge. In the case of those seniors who require longer post-acute stays, the availability of MCHS-Lakewood right in our community will enable seniors to maintain their community connections and support networks.

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I urge you to approve a new Medicaid Provider Agreement for ManorCare Health Services-Lakewood, as it would be a tremendous asset to our community. We look forward to working with MCHS-Lakewood once it opens to ensure that the full continuum of healthcare is available for Lakewood area seniors. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cathy Grimm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "C" and "G".

Cathy Grimm, LCSW
JFS Senior Solutions