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Brackbill, Robert

From: Bigag19@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 02, 2012 3:52 PM
To: Brackbill, Robert
Subject: RE: Proposed Affiliation of Highmark Inc. & West Penn Allegheny Health System
Attachments: WPHCP.pdf

Dear Mr. Brackbill

I am attaching a letter of support for the proposed affiliation of Highmark Inc. and West Penn Allegheny Health System. Please feel free to contact me for any additional information at 412-441-6950 ext 15 or Aggie@bloomfield-garfield.org.

Thank you.

aggie brose
deputy director
bloomfield-garfield corporation

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5149 penn avenue

pittsburgh, pa 15224

phone 412-441-6950 fax 412-441-6956

www.bloomfield-garfield.org

March 2, 2012

Robert Brackbill
Chief, Company Licensing Division
Pennsylvania Insurance Department
1345 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Proposed Affiliation of Highmark Inc. and West Penn Allegheny Health System

Dear Mr. Brackbill,

As a member organization of the Western Pennsylvania Community Partnership supporting West Penn Hospital, we respectfully request that you consider this letter of support in favor of the above mentioned filing under review by your office.

The Western Pennsylvania Hospital Community Partnership is a non-profit organization that was established in September 1991 to provide a forum for community and Hospital leadership to work together to understand and address health-related issues. Since its inception, the Community Partnership has addressed issues involving the health of residents of the City of Pittsburgh's East End neighborhoods. The Partnership's mission is to foster healthy communities, defined as those "in which all community members are empowered to affect the wellness, safety and living conditions of themselves, their families and their neighbors."

Our partnership includes various constituencies which support, service, work and use West Penn Hospital. The people of WPAHS --physicians, nurses, technicians and support staff -- provide excellent quality care 24/7 for our friends, families and colleagues. As WPAHS has struggled to survive, so have the Partnership member communities that rely upon the hospital's vitality.

Highmark has demonstrated its commitment to Garfield, Bloomfield and the surrounding neighborhoods through the restoration of many clinical services to West Penn, including the Emergency Department. In turn, our confidence has been restored that when we need emergency care, the caring physicians, nurses and staff will be available in a state-of-the-art facility.

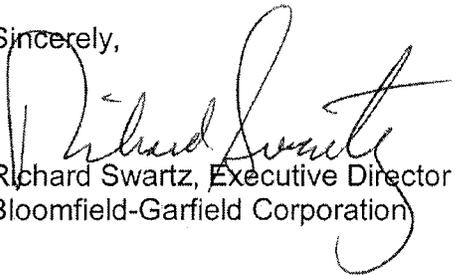
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Robert Brackbill
Chief, Company Licensing Division
Pennsylvania Insurance Department

West Penn is our hospital and we support this affiliation. We believe that your review will conclude that expeditious approval of the proposed affiliation is the correct action for patients and providers in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,



Richard Swartz, Executive Director
Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation