

Brackbill, Robert

From: Neil Bhaerman [neil.bhaerman@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2012 4:36 PM
To: Brackbill, Robert
Subject: Public Comment by Kim Bonnaure on Highmark-WPAHS affiliation

The following public comment is for the hearing on April 17th regarding the affiliation of Highmark and the West Penn Allegheny Health System

This comment is being submitted on behalf of:

Kim Bonnaure
3589 Old Oakdale Rd.
McDonald, PA 15057
(724) 693-0299

My name is Kim Bonnaure. I have worked at Canonsburg General Hospital for 29 years. I've worked in the Emergency Room for patient registration and recently as a coder in the ER.

It's been nearly three decades that I've worked and been dedicated to keeping this community hospital going. Canonsburg is a small hospital, but we take pride in the care we give and take pride that we serve and care for our friends and neighbors in the Canonsburg community and surrounding small towns.

I know these patients and they want to have a community hospital that is small and accessible without needing to go into the city or even a large hospital like Washington.

I have been there when Canonsburg was independent and then became a part of the West Penn Allegheny Health System. I know that in the healthcare environment today we can't stay viable as an independent community hospital of our size. And our health system can't stay viable without this support from Highmark.

Besides just the importance of serving our neighbors and friends, I also think it's important for Washington County residents and all of Southwestern PA residents to have a choice in healthcare providers. No industry should have a monopoly and in healthcare patients deserve a choice in their care.

I'm also proud to say that I've been active in my union to make sure that the jobs at Canonsburg hospital are quality jobs, and we can't afford to have hospital's closing and a loss of those quality jobs in these small communities. Our small communities need you to approve this.