

April 8, 2016

By E-Mail and USPS

Ben Steffen, Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Re: Holy Cross Germantown Hospital
Application for Certificate of Conformance (CoC) / Establishment of pPCI Services

Dear Mr. Steffen;

Thank you for your letter of March 11, 2016 and the work performed by MHCC staff regarding the Holy Cross Germantown Hospital CoC application for pPCI Services. In your very thorough letter, we appreciate that the Commission staff evaluated 10 standards, some with multiple components in order to determine ability of the institution to manage and provide a pPCI program.

We are pleased that the Commission staff determined that HCGH met nine of those standards. Specifically, commission staff acknowledged that HCGH would meet volume, quality of care, access, charity and financial, staffing, programmatic support, and transport requirements. We believe these findings reflect the quality of the program which HCGH has put together and the very strong community support; especially the strong support and advocacy from Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services (MCFRS). Utilizing data neither previously provided nor accessible to the Holy Cross team, staff has made a determination that there was not sufficient need to justify a new program and that doing so might lead to a proliferation of other requests. Specifically they believe that data suggests that there are patients that currently have delays in care and leave the area for care; however their overall "access" is not worse than others in the state as a whole.

Although we strongly believe that a new pPCI program at HCGH would be an important positive addition to our community's health services (a view MCFRS continues to hold strongly as well), we respect the staff's determination. Based on our discussion with them, we will withdraw our proposal and look to work with members of the MHCC staff to build a future application. We remain firmly committed to our community in the up-county and to our partners at MCFRS and their desire for Holy Cross Germantown Hospital to provide pPCI service for the benefit of the community and hope that this decision and follow-up efforts will meet all of our needs.

Kristin Feliciano will work with Eileen Fleck and your team such that we will be able to submit another promising application that the MHCC staff will recommend in the future. Thank you for your support in removing this application from the docketing process.

Sincerely,



Kevin J. Sexton
President and CEO, Holy Cross Health

Cc:

Kristin Feliciano
Blair Eig, MD
Sherri Thompson-Brusca
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