



Rock Island County

Rock Island County...Build the future and improve the quality of life for our community

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PRESS RELEASE

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County Board Chairman
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Health & Human Services Cmte Chair
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October 10, 2013

After a great deal of deliberation, the Rock Island County Board will explore the potential of leasing or selling Hope Creek Care Nursing Home. After providing an option for the long term care needs for residents of our County since 1839 in one capacity or another, the County is looking to divest itself from the nursing home business due to forces beyond our control that have made that commitment impossible to continue.

Reimbursement from both Federal and State agencies will no longer cover the costs of providing care for our residents that must depend on Medicaid for their financial obligation to Hope Creek Care. The past five years have seen a steady decrease in funding for programs essential to provide care for elderly and we have experienced a steady increase in costs for the services we provide. As a taxpayer funded health care center, we are required by state law to accept all Medicaid applicants for residency if beds are available.

The East Moline facility opened in 2009 after previously being located in rural Coal Valley. The 245 bed facility employs approximately 300. The County Board is exploring all options to ensure that our residents continue to receive quality care. The residents and their families are the primary concern of the County Board.

Our average census of 232 residents and over 130 of those being Medicaid residents at the facility. Currently, the State of Illinois reimbursement is about \$70 less than our actual cost per resident, per day which results in a deficit of over \$2.5 million in Hope Creek Care's

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operating budget for the next fiscal year. The taxpayers of Rock Island County can no longer afford to operate the skilled nursing facility.

The Rock Island County Board will take official action at their November 19th meeting to explore the potential of leasing or selling Hope Creek Care Nursing Home. In the coming months the members of the Rock Island County Board will be working closely with all sources to provide options for sale or lease of the facility. As we work towards these goals, we anticipate no change in the operation of Hope Creek Care. The County Board, Management and Staff at Hope Creek Care will continue to provide the quality care and compassion that has been our focus for these 100 plus years.

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