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Health Care Regulation  
and Quality Improvement

July 23, 2023

Matt Gilman, Program Manager  
Public Health Division, Oregon Health Authority  
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 465  
Portland, OR 97232  
Via email: [Matt.S.GILMAN@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:Matt.S.GILMAN@oha.oregon.gov)

Dear Mr. Gilman:

Cascade Health Solutions fully supports the replacement and expanded acute rehabilitation hospital of PeaceHealth Riverbend, LLC currently seeking OHA approval.

By way of background, 20 years ago, McKenzie-Willamette Hospital formed a new company jointly owned and operated by a for-profit entity. When this occurred, the hospital's foundation and some of its service lines formed an independent, non-profit healthcare organization: Cascade Health. Since then, we have provided charitable community health services to Lane County. Through collaboration and cooperation, we work closely with other organizations to collectively improve our community's health and well-being. Our services give people the care, tools, education and support they need to take control of their conditions and make healthy choices.

Today we provide a wide range of healthcare for the Eugene-Springfield community, including home health, hospice, palliative care and rehabilitation services, including physical therapy, occupational health and counseling. Our highly experienced and compassionate medical professionals provide individualized, attentive care to every patient. Our holistic approach to care considers not only a patient's physical symptoms, but their emotional and social needs, as well. This contributes to helping your patients achieve excellent outcomes in the aftermath of injury, illness or surgery and long-term health improvement.

We regularly support patients and families that are preparing for discharge from PeaceHealth's Oregon Rehabilitation Center (ORC), and in that transition planning we have become well aware of the age and space limitations of the current ORC.

A new state-of-the-art rehabilitation hospital will serve Lane and adjacent Counties well. From our experience, it will also provide the opportunity to ensure that the patient and family feel better prepared for the transition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Van Houten', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Eric Van Houten, MSW, MBA  
CEO