

October 26, 2021

Stefan Gildemeister, Director Health Economics
Program Minnesota Department of Health
Submitted via email to Alisha Simon

Dear Mr. Gildemeister,

On behalf of Allina Health, thank you for the opportunity to comment on the PrairieCare proposal to add 30 licensed children and adolescent psychiatric beds at the PrairieCare Brooklyn Park Hospital.

Allina Health is committed to addressing the need for mental health services throughout the state and recognizes that Minnesota continues to see an increase in the need for in-patient child and adolescent mental health beds, especially as we routinely see children and adolescents coming to our emergency departments for care. We support the PrairieCare proposal and urge consideration of also including mental health emergency services.

Additionally, Allina Health remains supportive of the public interest review process, and its ability to provide lawmakers with additional perspective with which to evaluate the request of a single hospital within the context of a community's needs, as well as its existing capacity. We acknowledge the important role that the public interest review has in ensuring community voices are heard and their needs are met in a responsible and sustainable way.

Thank you for allowing Allina Health to comment on the proposed addition of beds at PrairieCare Brooklyn Park Hospital. Please reach out to Kristen McHenry, Director of Government Relations at kristen.mchenry@allina.com with any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Joe Clubb
Vice President of Operations, Clinical Service Line
Allina Health