August 13, 2018

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

Dear Federal Communications Commission

In reference to your letter of June 14, 2018, Appeal of USAC Decision for Funding Request Number 16885101, Noyes Health and Noyes Mental Health requests a waiver to your denial.

The basis of our application to waive the denial is based on the importance of this facility to our rural community. Noyes Mental Health is an anchor service to the behavioral health needs of our region and the hardship associated with the increased cost of telecommunication to the facility would result in reallocation of resources away from our patients.

Our many years of successful participation in the USAC programs have enabled Noyes Mental Health to support the needs of the community in ways; we have been able to support annual visit volume growth of up to 25% per year necessary to address today’s co-occurring disorders around addiction and mental health, amongst many others.

Our services are far reaching across our region. We support 1300+ active patients as of the date of this letter with a geographic reach greater than 60 miles from our facility. The next closets facility to Noyes Mental Health is nearly 20 miles away and does not offer the depth and scope of services.

Noyes Mental Health has successfully used the telecommunication system in place to affordable support access to local and Internet based electronic heath record systems which have supported our ability to grow with the community need. A loss of funding would directly affect services to ensure our patients are receiving the best care possible in a rural community.

The original cause of the denial is based on an error cited by USAC as an address discrepancy, which is factual. In large part because of the needs of the community, Noyes Mental Health needed to move to a much larger facility to support the program. At the time the application was made the Noyes York State Office of Mental Health operating license for Noyes Mental Health was officially 1 Main St Dansville NY 14437. After the grant application was filed, and again because of the rapid rise of need for our services, we moved to a larger facility at 9221 Robert Hart Drive Dansville NY 14437.

We request USAC reconsider the denial of our appeal and issue a waiver to allow Noyes Mental Health to continue to support the growing need for behavioral mental health services in our community.

**Sincerely,**

John Dorak

Director, Information Technology Infrastructure

Noyes Health

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