

# Comment on Proposed Fairview Health Services - Acadia Healthcare Mental Health Hospital

Date, Time:

6/2/2022 11:33:58 PM

Name:

Emma F.

Where do you live:

NE Minneapolis

Do you represent an organization?

No

What organization do you represent?

What is your comment on the proposed mental health hospital?

I am very concerned about the quality of care provided at existing Acadia facilities and the impact of this business' moral turpitude on care for those suffering from mental illness in the Twin Cities as well as the impact on community members who will be working at this facility.

Acadia has a lengthy documented history of fraud and unsafe care conditions.

-For example, health inspectors from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services documented over 50 pages of violations at Acadia's Rolling Hills Hospital in Oklahoma including instances of restraint and seclusion violations where minors were left unmonitored in seclusion rooms.

-During a one-week period in 2017, two suicides occurred at Acadia's Belmont Hospital in Philadelphia. The State cited the facility for lack of staff and lack of facilities that would prevent suicides, among other things. When state inspectors visited in November of 2017, they declared a state of imminent danger.

-At Acadia's Park Royal Hospital in FL, federal inspectors reported that the facility is "... too short-staffed to properly supervise patients"

A member of the direct care team at Acadia's Sierra Tucson (located in Oro Valley, AZ), mentioned the following in a Glassdoor employment review entitled "Short staffed to the point that patients are put in danger,"

Cons: Too few staff members to treat patients appropriately. As a result, Sierra Tucson has been charged with several wrongful deaths. Working here will land you with people's deaths on your conscience.  
Advice to Management: SHUT THIS PLACE DOWN BEFORE ANYONE ELSE IS KILLED.

The deleterious impact the proposed joint venture between Acadia Health and MHealth Fairview would have on our community needs to be stopped. This for-profit venture will shatter the established high quality of care provided to mental health patients in the metro. The unionized workforce of M Health Fairview hospitals offering psychiatric care will be dissolved (therapists, psychiatric associates, and RNs all have independent union representation at MHealth Fairview West Bank Campus hospital). The dismemberment of the workers' unions is an apparent long term goal for Fairview Leadership and opens the door for the new facility to slash wages and benefits. In contrast, the Director of Acadia, Reece Waud, has personally profited from stock-dumping investments in Acadia and is so wealthy he owns a home referred to as "Maine's largest mansion".

Fairview already has mental health beds located in hospitals with Emergency Rooms in the metropolitan area and will likely close their existing psych units to transfer those beds to this Acadia facility to boost profits. Unless this new facility also has an ER, Fairview's inpatient mental health services will no longer be bound by the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA). This is a federal law that requires anyone coming to an emergency department to be stabilized and treated, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. Many many people suffering from mental illness are poor and uninsured - they could be turned away from care based on the capacity, or lack thereof, their insurance to compensate for their care. This is a detriment to the community - not a benefit as Acadia and Fairview advertise. Moving psych beds from one facility to another and demolishing workers' unions for the profit of a publicly traded company with a lengthy history of poor patient care is truly heinous and does not belong in Minnesota.