215 South Tousley P.O. Box 188 New York Mills, MN 56567 February 4, 2013 "SERVING SENIORS SINCE 1960"

Phone: 218.385.2005

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Mr. Stefan Gildemeister, Director Health Economics Program Minnesota Dept. of Health P.O. Box 64882 St. Paul, MN 55164-0882

Dear Mr. Gildemeister:

This letter, is being written in support of the proposed 12 bed inpatient psychiatric hospital, to serve geriatric patients at the hospital in Perham, Minnesota.

The Elders' Home, is a skilled care facility in New York Mills, located 12 miles east of Perham, on US Hwy. #10. Our residents receive their primary care services, from physicians from Sanford Clinic (Perham), located in New York Mills, as well as, from physicians located at the Tri-County Clinic, in Wadena, MN.

We occasionally have resident's, that have some type of behavior, or other psychiatric issue, that requires services from qualified health care professionals. At this time the nearest facility is located in Staples, MN, approximately 35 miles from our facility. On several occasions, the Staples facility was full and not accepting new patients. When that happens, we have to work with facilities in either Fergus Falls (45 miles), or Brainerd (60 miles), from our facility.

The Elders' Home, Board of Directors, at their monthly Board meeting, held on January 31st, passed a resolution, in support of the new facility in Perham. If you require additional information, please contact me at 218-385-2005.

Sincerely

Cal Anderson, Adm.