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**Subject:** Public Interest Review - PrairieCare Brooklyn Park Hospital  
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Ms. Simon,

I am providing this information in response to your letter to Dr. Gorelick dated September 24, 2021, on behalf of Children's Minnesota.

There is definitely a continuing need for additional inpatient behavioral health beds for children and adolescents in our community, and these additional beds at PrairieCare Brooklyn Park will help address that need. However, the addition of beds is only the first step. It is challenging to find staffing for pediatric behavioral health services at any time, but especially now during the current staffing shortage. Any expansion of behavioral health beds in the community, whether PrairieCare or elsewhere, will likely result in migration of staff from one system to another and persistent open positions in the region.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important issue.

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