May 19, 2014

The Honorable Tim Flynn, Mayor of Oxnard
And Members of the Oxnard City Council

Dear Mayor Flynn and Members of the City Council:

As the Chief Nursing Officer at St. John’s Regional Medical Center, I feel compelled to write you concerning your allocation of CDBG funding for community service projects. Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association is a nonprofit provider who works diligently with us to provide home health care and hospice care for our under- and un-insured patients.

Our heart is in the care we provide for our neighbors throughout Oxnard. That care does not occur in isolation, compelling us to build strong relationships with other providers to ensure that a full spectrum of quality care is provided to each and every person who comes through our doors. Once a patient is ready for discharge, we remain engaged to ensure a smooth continuum of care as the patient moves from our hospital to the responsibility and care of home health. Working with providers such as Livingston allows us to make that transition seamlessly on behalf of the patient, knowing that they will continue to receive optimal care in the privacy of their own home.

When we have an under- or un-insured Oxnard patient who needs home health care or hospice care, we reach out to the community providers we know have the ability to provide the services needed. In my mind, Livingston is one of the top providers. One advantage in working with them is their willingness to work with the uninsured and Medi-Cal populations.

Many of these patients are senior citizens, have low income levels to support their healthcare needs, and need support as they return to the home environment. We appreciate the care provided by our community care providers, particularly Livingston, to assist in effective patient care transitions. The quality of care from Livingston is evidenced by the fact their rehospitalization rates are lower than both the state and national averages.

I urge you to give serious consideration to supporting Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association through CDBG funding in support of the subsidized care patients served within the City of Oxnard.

Sincerely,

Catherine Frontczak, RN, BSN, MBA
Chief Nursing Officer
St. John’s Regional Medical Center
1600 North Rose Avenue
Oxnard, CA 93030