



May 1, 2002

Mr. Cecil K. Province, Chairman
General and Building Committee
Jonesboro City Council
653 W. Washington
Jonesboro, AR 72401

Dear Mr. Province and Committee Members:

Please accept this letter as a formal request from St. Bernards Healthcare for use of the Huntington Building to provide services for senior citizens in Jonesboro. We have toured the facility on Huntington Avenue, and am convinced that the Mayor and City Council were correct in their vision for that location to become a hub for senior activities.

St. Bernards has been selected as the successful bidder to provide services for Craighead County through the East Arkansas Area Agency on Aging. The Jonesboro site would be the central location to provide meals, socialization, activities, transportation, and Adult Day Care for as many as 500 seniors throughout the region. We are interested in the west side of the complex, which would include the former Family Life Center, Choir Room, Parlor and office spaces.

Our contract with EAAAA calls for us to begin providing services on July 1, 2002. If agreeable to the City Council, we would begin by upgrading the kitchen (at our expense) to commercial standards with the addition of a steamer chest. Any improvements made to the facilities will be at our expense, and remain the property of the City of Jonesboro.

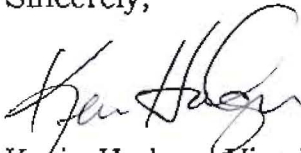
Please consider the advantages of this proposal to the citizens of Jonesboro. While we will occupy the building during normal business hours, the improvements and large rooms will be available to the public for special events. As you will see in the attached pages, St. Bernards will operate the senior life center to our customary standards, and the citizens of Jonesboro will benefit.

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While other cities in the county donate buildings to their senior citizen's centers, St. Bernards is prepared to lease the facility from the City of Jonesboro. We have factored into our bid proposal \$750 per month for rent, but could go as high as \$1000 if necessary. Realize, though, that for every additional dollar of rent, services will have to be reduced. I know that may sound unfair, but as you understand in the bidding process, budgets are tight. St. Bernards Healthcare is not taking on this venture to make money. We see providing services to our seniors as part of our Mission.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,



Kevin Hodges, Vice President of Senior Services
St. Bernards Healthcare

Encl.

CC: Alderman Garry Tate
Alderman Bill Roddy
Alderman Harold Perrin
Mayor Hubert Brodell