

Long-Term & Behavioral Health Committee
Agency Report for Petition Regarding
Reallocation of Adult Care Home Need from Perquimans County to Gates County
in the Proposed 2012 State Medical Facilities Plan

Petitioners:

Meridian Senior Living, LLC
PO Box 2568
Hickory, NC 28603

Gates County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 148
Gatesville, NC 27938

Perquimans County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 45
Hertford, NC 27944

Contact:

Jordan Qualls
Meridian Senior Living, LLC
PO Box 2568
Hickory, NC 28603

Request:

As stated by the petitioners, “This petition requests an adjustment to the need determination to include an ability to reallocate adult care home beds from Perquimans County to Gates County.”

The beds reallocated from Perquimans County to Gates County would result in a new Adult Care Home Facility being constructed in Gates County, totaling 70 beds, serving the residents of both Gates and Perquimans Counties.

Chapter 2 of the Plan allows petitioners early each calendar year to recommend policy and methodology changes. Reallocating the beds from Perquimans County to Gates County would change the methodology as to the location of beds serving residents of Perquimans County.

Background Information:

Inventory and utilization information first appeared in the 2002 North Carolina State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP). Need is determined on an individual county basis by calculating bed to population ratios of the number of Adult Care Home patients per Age Group, as compared to the certified population per Age Group. The utilization per county is then calculated into a five-year average combined statewide utilization rate, which is then applied to the projected population going forward three years, for each county.

Amount of Need per each county is then established in two ways. First, if any county's bed deficit is 10 percent to 49 percent of its total projected bed need and if the average occupancy of licensed beds in that county, minus exclusions, is 85 percent or greater, the need determination is the amount of the deficit rounded to 10. Second, if any county's total projected bed deficit, minus exclusions, is 50 percent or greater, average occupancy does not apply, and the need determination is the amount of the deficit rounded to 10.

Analysis/Implications:

For Gates County, the need for 40 Adult Care Home Beds existed in the North Carolina State Medical Facilities Plans from 2007 to 2010 for which no applications were received. The need for 40 Adult Care Home Beds for 2011 was applied for, meeting the February 15, 2011 deadline.

For Perquimans County, a need for 30 Adult Care Home Beds exists in the 2011 North Carolina State Medical Facilities Plan. There were no applications for the 30 Adult Care Home beds for Perquimans County for the 2011 SMFP, as February 15, 2011 was the deadline to apply. There is a pattern of bed deficits existing for Perquimans County ranging from 30 beds in the 2008 SMFP to 30 beds in the 2011 SMFP.

As petitioners suggested and State Medical Facilities Plans have established, there is a pattern of unapplied for Adult Care Home Bed need determinations, for multiple counties, including but not limited to Gates County and Perquimans County, representing rural counties in the eastern part of North Carolina, from 2007 to 2011.

Agency Recommendation:

The petitioner requests a change in the methodology to reallocate adult care home beds from Perquimans County to Gates County, in effect changing the location of beds serving residents of Perquimans County. The Agency is in agreement with the change in the methodology, based on the pattern of need determinations and lack of applications in this area of the state. Clearly, people need the services. Using the average occupancy data for the two facilities in Perquimans County from Fall 2010 data results in 79.17 percent average occupancy. A recent update of the data shows an increase to 88 percent average occupancy, which results in a need determination of 30 adult care beds in Perquimans County. Based on these updates, the Agency recommends this Petition be approved.