

Long-Term Behavioral Health Committee

October 3, 2012

Recommendations to the North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council

The Long-Term and Behavioral Health (LTBH) Committee met once after the May Council meeting, on September 14.

Following is an overview of the Committee's recommendations for the Long-Term and Behavioral Health Services Chapters, chapters 10-17, of the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP). This report is organized by Chapter of the SMFP.

Chapter 10: Nursing Care Facilities

There were two petitions related to this Chapter.

Petition 1

Petitioner: Bell House

Request: The petitioner, Bell House, requests inclusion in the 2013 SMFP of a special need determination for 40 Skilled Nursing Facility beds in Guilford County earmarked for serving adults with physical disabilities caused by musculo-skeletal conditions resulting from neurological disorders.

Committee Recommendation: Due to the specialized needs of this population and the absence of a viable alternative for care in a group setting, the committee recommends approving this petition.

The committee further recommends that the adjusted need determination include the following language:

- The beds shall serve adults with physical disabilities caused by musculoskeletal conditions resulting from neurological disorders, such as cerebral palsy and spina bifida.
- In choosing among competing applicants, priority shall be given to applicants who demonstrate that they currently serve adults with ortho-neurological disorders

Petition 2

Petitioner: OrthoCarolina

Request: The petitioner, OrthoCarolina, requests an adjusted need determination for 16 nursing facility beds to be utilized in conjunction with an existing or approved orthopedic ambulatory surgical facility in Mecklenburg County.

Committee Recommendation: Due to the absence of both statutes for the governance of such a facility and administrative rules for licensure of this type of combination facility, the committee recommends denying this petition.

Committee members recommend that the SHCC consider innovative ways of caring for patients with cost reductions to provide care for citizens of North Carolina using the CarolinaOrtho petition as an example to determine if a work group needs to be formed.

Other Actions Related to Nursing Care Facilities:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Chatham County, 110 Nursing Home beds

Committee members would like to remind everyone, inventories and need determinations are subject to change throughout all chapters.

Additional Note: The Planning Branch is in the process of expanding their Access databases so that all calculations are performed within Access in order to reduce the possibility of errors in calculations. While converting the data to Access from Excel, an error was discovered in the Excel formula used to calculate the statewide utilization rate for the proposed plan. Once corrected, the age-based utilization rates were updated for Table 10B and resulted in a need determination for Chatham County.

The updated utilization rates are as follows:

Under Age 65	0.61 Beds/1000
Age 65-74	7.76 Beds/1000
Age 75-84	26.12 Beds/1000
Age 85 up	92.88 Beds/1000

Chapter 11: Adult Care Homes

Actions Related to Adult Care Homes:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Alexander County, 20 Adult Care Home beds
 - Davidson County, 40 Adult Care Home beds
 - Graham County, 20 Adult Care Home beds
 - Hyde-Tyrell, 40 Adult Care Home beds
 - Jones County, 30 Adult Care Home beds
 - Pamlico County, 30 Adult Care Home beds
 - Polk County, 30 Adult Care Home beds

There was one petition related to this Chapter.

Petition 1

Petitioners: Meridian Senior Living, LLC; Hyde County Board of Commissioners; Tyrell County Board of Commissioners

Request: The petition requests an adjusted need determination to the Hyde-Tyrell Combined Service Area from 40 beds to 50 beds.

Committee Recommendation: Because these counties have a longstanding pattern of need determinations totaling 50 beds and the loss of the 10 beds occurred as a result of an attempt to address issues of access for both counties, the committee recommends approving this petition.

Chapter 12: Home Health Services

There was one petition related to this Chapter.

Petition 1

Petitioner: HealthKeeperz, Inc.

Request: The petitioner, HealthKeeperz, submitted a petition requesting an adjusted need determination for a Medicare-certified home health agency in Brunswick County.

Committee Recommendation: Given that a need determination was generated for one new home health agency or office in Brunswick County at the deficit “threshold” of 275 patients using criteria in place prior to the SHCC’s May 30 revision of the standard methodology and a need determination missed being generated at the new “threshold” of 325 by .06 of a patient, the Committee recommends approving the request for an additional Medicare-certified home health agency or office in Brunswick County.

In addition, Committee members suggest providing the additional home health office a “placeholder,” similar to the “placeholder” provided to the office that received a need determination by the standard methodology, for the three annual Plans following certification of the office based on need. The agency will count the greater of 325 patients or the actual number of patients served by the new office as part of the total people served.

Actions Related to Home Health Services:

The Committee decided to consider further changes regarding rounding to the Home Health methodology for the Proposed 2014 Plan in the spring of 2013.

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Forsyth County, 1 Medicare-certified Home Health Agency or Office

Chapter 13: Hospice Services

There were four petitions related to this Chapter.

Petition 1

Petitioner: CarePartners and Palliative Care and Four Seasons Compassion for Life

Request: The petition requests an adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds in Buncombe County.

Committee Recommendation: The Committee recognizes Buncombe County will experience a reduction in their occupancy rate based on six recently licensed hospice inpatient beds in Haywood County in addition to in-process hospice inpatient bed expansions. Therefore, the Committee recommends approving five hospice inpatient beds in Buncombe County. Five beds are consistent with the deficit identified in the Proposed 2013 SMFP.

Petition 2

Petitioner: UNC Hospice

Request: The petition requests to safeguard the need determination for six hospice inpatient beds in Chatham County.

Committee Recommendation: Based on Policy GEN-2 that states, “need determinations...shall be revised continuously through the calendar year to reflect all changes in inventories...” the Committee recommends denying this petition.

Petition 3

Petitioner: Mountain Valley Hospice & Palliative Care

Request: The petition requests an adjusted need determination for three hospice inpatient beds in Surry County.

Committee Recommendation: Based on the average length of stay (28.2 days) for inpatients at Mountain Valley Hospice in Surry County is almost three times the statewide average length of stay (10.2 days) for inpatients and no explanation provided by the petitioner. In addition to the consistent surplus of hospice inpatient beds identified in the SMFP the last four years, the committee recommends denying the request for an adjusted need determination for three hospice inpatient beds in Surry County.

Petition 4

Petitioner: Mountain Valley Hospice & Palliative Care

Request: The petition requests an adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds in Yadkin County.

Committee Recommendation: There is no licensed hospice inpatient or residential facility in Yadkin County and residents must travel to Forsyth, Iredell or Surry counties for hospice inpatient care. The committee acknowledges the steady increase the county has experienced in its average length of stay (ALOS) for the last four years and how it has been consistently above the state wide median ALOS. Based on the standard methodology’s adjustment for large discrepancies, the committee recommends using Yadkin County’s ALOS to project 2016 days of care (DOC) and the total projected inpatient bed deficit for Yadkin County. The committee recommends approving four hospice inpatient beds in Yadkin County.

Actions Related to Hospice Services:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodologies based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Hospice Home Care:
 - Granville County, 1 office
 - Cumberland County, 1 office
 - Hospice Inpatient:
 - McDowell County, 6 beds
 - Lincoln County, 6 beds
 - Mecklenburg County, 6 beds
 - Chatham County, 6 beds
 - Craven County, 8 beds
 - Onslow County, 7 beds

Chapter 14: End-Stage Renal Disease Dialysis Facilities

There were no petitions related to this Chapter.

Recommendations Related to End-Stage Dialysis Facilities:

The need for new dialysis stations is determined two times each calendar year. Determinations are made available in the North Carolina Semiannual Dialysis Report (SDR).

Due to recent changes in how the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) and the Networks are collecting and reporting dialysis data, Committee members reviewed and agreed upon an interim measure based on historical utilization patterns to project in-center and in-home dialysis patients by county until new reports can be developed.

Chapter 15: Psychiatric Inpatient Services

There were no petitions on this Chapter.

Actions Related to Psychiatric Inpatient Services:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Child Psychiatric Inpatient Beds:
 - Cumberland LME-MCO, 4 beds
 - Johnston LME-MCO, 3 beds
 - East Carolina Behavioral Health LME-MCO, 7 beds
 - Eastpointe LME-MCO, 6 beds
 - Cardinal Innovations LME-MCO, 10 beds
 - Smoky Mountain 1 LME-MCO, 3 beds
 - Smoky Mountain 2 LME-MCO, 2 beds

- Adult Psychiatric Inpatient Beds:
 - Coastal Care LME-MCO, 15 beds
 - Smoky Mountain 2 LME-MCO, 27 beds

Chapter 16: Substance Abuse Inpatient & Residential Services (Chemical Treatment Beds)

There were no petitions on this Chapter.

Actions Related to Substance Abuse Inpatient & Residential Services:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations at this time.
 - Child Substance Abuse Inpatient & Residential Service Beds:
 - Eastern Region, 2 beds
 - Western Region, 10 beds
 - Adult Substance Abuse Inpatient & Residential Service Beds:
 - Central Region, 13 beds

Chapter 17: Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

There were no petitions on this Chapter.

Actions Related to Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities:

The inventory has been updated based on available information to reflect any changes and includes placeholders when applicable.

- Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in no draft need determinations at this time.

Recommendations Related to All Chapters:

The Committee recommends the current assumptions and methodologies for these chapters be accepted for the 2013 SMFP. In addition, references to dates would be advanced one year, as appropriate.

Committee members authorized staff to update narratives, tables and need determinations for the 2013 SMFP as new and corrected data are received.