

**From:** [Ashish George](#)  
**To:** [DHSR.SMFP.Petitions-Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [External] RE: Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorder Beds under Certificate of Need  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 12:03:53 AM

---

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you verify. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to [report.spam@nc.gov](mailto:report.spam@nc.gov)

In keeping with its mission of providing support, education, advocacy, and public awareness to all those whose lives have been touched by mental illness, NAMI North Carolina welcomes the proposed changes to the mathematically-based bed need methodologies in the state medical facilities plan (SMFP). The suggested new guidelines appropriately take into account the many years that have passed since the SMFP was put in place.

We urge that patients be empowered to receive services without a significant travel burden, which could diminish both their level of comfort and the support available to them during treatment. NAMI NC's own work emphasizes the need to serve isolated communities in the state and recognizes the need to adapt the provision of services to the distribution of the population. As much as bed utilization, we believe this standard to be an essential part of reform.

Ashish George  
Director of Public Policy/Psychiatric Advance Directives Specialist  
National Alliance on Mental Illness, North Carolina (NAMI NC)  
309 W. Millbrook Road, Suite 121 | Raleigh, NC 27609  
Office: 919 788 0801 Ext. 4748 | [Join us on Facebook](#) | [www.naminc.org](http://www.naminc.org)

[Join us on our Walk for Mental Health during the COVID-19 pandemic!](#)

