

# HOSPICE

of RANDOLPH COUNTY

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Hospice • Palliative Home Health • Kids Path Pediatric Services • Bereavement Support • Volunteer Services  
Chaplain Services • Nursing Home Services • Grief Education for Schools • A Graduate Internship Site  
A Rotation Site for Nursing Students • Support Groups • AHEC Program Site

Dr. Thomas J. Pulliam, Chair  
Long Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
DHSR Medical Facilities Planning Section  
2714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

DHSR - Received  
7-28-10

Ref: Hospice of the Piedmont petition to add 6 hospice inpatient  
beds in Guilford County

Dear Dr. Pulliam,

This is written in support of Hospice of the Piedmont's petition to add six hospice inpatient beds in Guilford County in the *2011 State Medical Facilities Plan*.

The needs of the inpatient dying patient are most demanding and challenging, and a dedicated hospice and palliative care team, involving doctors, nurses, chaplains, medical social workers, counselors and aides is the optimal support system for care of the patient and support of their families. This level of care is the "gold standard" of intensive end-of-life care when families and/or caregivers cannot meet their loved one's needs at home. No one should be denied or delayed in receiving this level of care because a bed is not available.

We have worked collaboratively with Hospice of the Piedmont for over 20 years and anticipate that we will continue to do so as we open our own inpatient facility in Randolph County. We support Hospice of the Piedmont's effort because we believe that the need for this level of care will only grow as our population ages; family caregivers are not as available; and more people become aware of the availability of this level of care. Most patients want their health care to be provided in familiar territory and close to home, particularly as they near end of life. We anticipate that Hospice of the Piedmont and Hospice of Randolph County will continue to work closely together to ensure that patient/family's preferences are honored.

The need for additional beds in Guilford County is documented in the standard methodology, as was the need for hospice beds in Randolph County. We hope you will give strong consideration to Hospice of the Piedmont's request.

Sincerely,



Rhonda B. Moffitt, MA, MBA  
CEO/President

*"Supporting patients and families in preparing for completion of life."*