



CLEVELAND
PINES
NURSING CENTER

July 28, 2010

Gene DePorter, Assistant Chief
Medical Facilities Planning Section
NC Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

DFS Health Planning
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AUG 02 2010
Medical Facilities
Planning Section

Dear Sir:

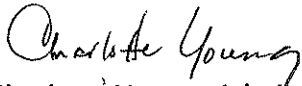
Re: Hospice Cleveland County Special Need Petition for One Hospice Inpatient Bed

I am the administrator of Cleveland Pines Nursing Center; our facility utilizes Hospice of Cleveland County to provide care & support for our residents during their end of life as well as support for their families. Cleveland Pine is a part of the Cleveland County HealthCare System, in which, I have been a part of for the past 3 years.

Wendover Hospice House has been a very important part of the continuum of care in Cleveland County since 1996. Wendover inpatient bed occupancy has exceeded 99% for the last five years (2005 - 2009) and exceeded 100% in three of these years. In 2009, an average of five people was on the inpatient waiting list on a typical day. Also in 2009, 77 people on the waiting list were never admitted and died elsewhere, including 34 who died in a hospital.

Kings Mountain Hospice House opened in May 2010 and has four hospice inpatient beds. Kings Mountain Hospice House inpatient bed occupancy has been 92% during its first three months of operation. The Proposed 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan indicates a current need for one additional hospice inpatient bed in Cleveland County. Waiting list data and occupancy levels at Wendover and Kings Mountain Hospice House substantiate this need. Adding one hospice inpatient bed at Wendover will create the capacity to serve over 30 additional hospice patients, significantly expanding access to care.

I strongly support Hospice Cleveland County's Special Need Petition.
Thank you for your consideration,


Charlotte Young, Administrator