



Area Agency On Aging
Cape Fear Council of Governments

July 1, 2010

Mr. Craig Smith
Chief, Division of Facility Services
Certificate of Need Section
701 Barbour Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

DFS Health PLANNING
RECEIVED

JUL 16 2010

Medical Facilities
PLANNING SECTION

RE: Letter of Support for Inpatient Hospice Bed Special Need Petition of Lower Cape Fear Hospice for New Hanover County

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am Jane Jones, Director, of the Cape Fear Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging which serves New Hanover, Brunswick, Columbus, and Pender counties.

I am writing in support of the Special Need petition of Lower Cape Fear Hospice seeking to have the state designate a special need for 5 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County for the FY2014 planning year. It is my understanding that the only inpatient hospice facility in New Hanover County, Lower Cape Fear Hospice has operated at over 101% for the past year and the Proposed 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan projects that New Hanover County will have a 5 inpatient bed deficit, one short of the required six beds to generate a need determination.

The Proposed 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan shows an overall deficit of 5 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County. Lower Cape Fear Hospice is petitioning to have these 5 inpatient hospice beds included in the 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan and the Area Agency on Aging fully supports an adjusted need determination for 5 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jane S. Jones

Jane S. Jones, Director
Area Agency on Aging
Cape Fear Council of Governments

Serving Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover and Pender Counties

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