

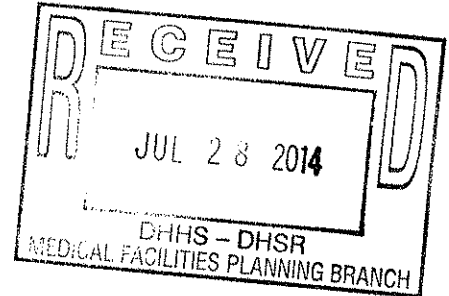
Johnnie W. Carswell, Chair  
Maynard M. Taylor, Vice Chair  
Wayne F. Abele, Sr., Commissioner  
Jeffrey C. Brittain, Commissioner  
Jack Carroll, Commissioner



Kenneth B. Steen, County Manager  
Kay H. Draughn, Clerk to the Board  
J. R. Simpson, II, County & Tax Attorney

**BURKE COUNTY**

July 22, 2014



T. J. Pulliam, MD  
Chair, Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services  
2714 Mail Center Service  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

**Ref: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Burke County in the 2015 SMFP**

Dear Dr. Pulliam:

I am writing on behalf of the Burke County Board of Commissioners to support Burke Hospice & Palliative Care's effort to petition for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County.

Our community is blessed with medical facilities and caring personnel. We recognize the valuable benefits of hospice services to our citizens and these services provided by the inpatient hospice home in Valdese are well utilized in Burke County. As you may know, the next nearest hospice inpatient beds are located in other counties and out-of-county travel for these services is a hardship for many Burke County residents to endure during a time of crisis. Increasing hospice inpatient capacity in Burke County will improve local access to inpatient hospice services for residents of our county and this would be greatly appreciated by the Board of County Commissioners as well as the citizens of Burke County.

Please receive this letter of support for approval of a need determination for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County and consider inclusion of our request for additional inpatient beds in the 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth B. Steen  
Burke County Manager

cc: Burke County Board of Commissioners



**BURKECHAMBER**  
Burke County Chamber of Commerce

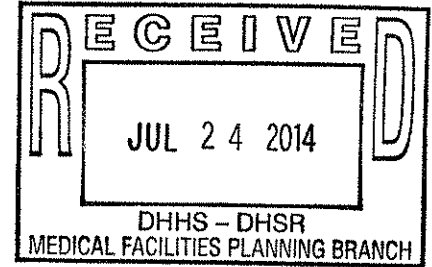
110 E. Meeting St.  
Morganton, NC 28655

Phone: 828-437-3021  
Fax: 828-437-1613

[burkecounty.org](http://burkecounty.org)

July 21, 2014

T. J. Pulliam, MD  
Chair, Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services  
2714 Mail Center Service  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714



Re: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Burke County in the 2015 SMFP

Dear Dr. Pulliam:

I am writing as President and CEO of the Burke County Chamber of Commerce to support Burke Hospice & Palliative Care's effort to petition for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County.

Our community is blessed with extensive and capable medical and health-related facilities and providers. As a former vice president with Blue Ridge HealthCare in Burke County, we valued the benefits of the quality, compassionate services provided by Burke Hospice & Palliative Care and partnered with the organization to complete the continuum of care in our community. Accordingly, hospice services are well utilized in Burke County, including at Burke Hospice's local inpatient hospice home in Valdese. The next nearest hospice inpatient beds are located in other counties, making travel a hardship for most Burke County residents. Increasing hospice inpatient capacity in Burke County will improve local access to inpatient hospice services to county residents, relieving an immense burden for patients, families, and friends.

Please accept my support for approval of a need determination for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County in the 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Sincerely,

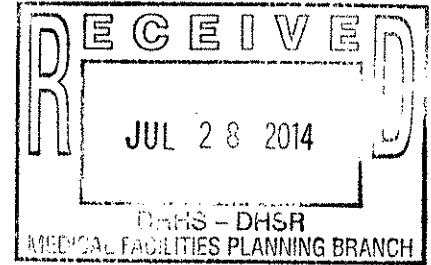
Jerry R. Davis  
President and CEO



Carolinus HealthCare System  
*Blue Ridge*

July 22, 2014

T. J. Pulliam, MD  
Chair, Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services  
2714 Mail Center Service  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714



Re: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Burke County in the 2015 SMFP

Dear Dr. Pulliam:

I am writing to support Burke Hospice & Palliative Care's effort to petition for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County.

Our community is generously blessed with extensive and capable medical and related facilities and personnel. We recognize the valuable benefits of hospice services. As a result, hospice services are well utilized in Burke County, including at our local inpatient hospice home in Valdese. The next nearest hospice inpatient beds are located in other counties, making travel a hardship for most Burke County residents. This is an immense burden for patients, families, and friends to endure during a time of crisis. Increasing hospice inpatient capacity in Burke County will improve local access to inpatient hospice services to residents of our county, many of whom must travel great distances to receive such services.

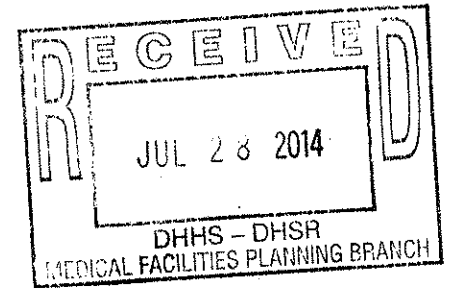
Please accept my support for approval of a need determination for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County in the 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Sincerely,

Kathy C. Bailey  
President and CEO



Carolinus HealthCare System  
*Blue Ridge*



July 22, 2014

T. J. Pulliam, MD  
Chair, Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee  
State Health Coordinating Council  
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services  
2714 Mail Center Service  
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Re: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Burke County in the 2015 SMFP

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Our community is generously blessed with extensive and capable medical and related facilities and personnel. We recognize the valuable benefits of hospice services. As a result, hospice services are well utilized in Burke County, including at our local inpatient hospice home in Valdese. The next nearest hospice inpatient beds are located in other counties, making travel a hardship for most Burke County residents. This is an immense burden for patients, families, and friends to endure during a time of crisis. Increasing hospice inpatient capacity in Burke County will improve local access to inpatient hospice services to residents of our county, many of whom must travel great distances to receive such services.

Please accept my support for approval of a need determination for hospice inpatient beds in Burke County in the 2015 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Sincerely,

Susan Pollpeter  
Director of Volunteer Services