



**WellCare**

*A Leader In Home Health Care*

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The Gold Seal of Approval™

July 21, 2010

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

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

Dear Mr. Smith,

I understand that the Proposed 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan has identified a deficit of 3 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County. I am writing to express my support of Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter's petition to establish an adjusted need determination of 6 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County.

Lower Cape Fear Hospice has operated their Hospice Care Center at over 101% for the past year. As a provider in New Hanover County working with them over the years, they have my complete support concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Nikki Knotts,  
Director of Business Development

DFS Health Planning  
RECEIVED

JUL 13 2010

Medical Facilities  
PLANNING SECTION