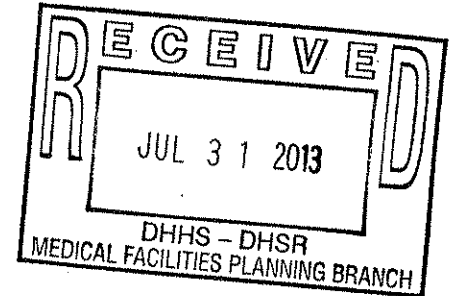


W & B Health Care, Inc.
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Red Springs, NC 28377
(910) 843-1997
rennerthome@aol.com

July 31, 2013

North Carolina Division of Health Service Regulation
Medical Facilities Planning Branch
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699



Petition

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised that this letter is a written petition requesting an adjustment to a need determination for a hospice residential care facility in Red Springs, NC. Based on evidence provided by the North Carolina Proposed State Medical Facilities Plan as well as other statistical data, it is our strong belief that a hospice residential care facility is needed within the Red Springs community.

According to G.S. 131E-176(13a), hospice, in part, means "any coordinated program of home care with provision for inpatient care for terminally ill patients and their families...and meets the physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and special needs of patients and their families, which are experienced during the final stages of terminal illness and during dying and bereavement." At W & B Health Care, Inc., we believe that it is nearly impossible to fulfill this basic commitment if those who are most in need do not have the adequate resources to at their disposal.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Health Service Regulation, as of July 2013, there are only five hospice facilities in Robeson County. Out of these five, two facilities provide inpatient beds, with only one of these being accredited. Although all five facilities provide hospice care, none are located in Red Springs: four are in Lumberton and the other is in Pembroke. Providing a facility in Red Springs would assist patients and their families in securing a local place that may be more beneficial to their economic, physical, social, and transportation needs. Patients and their families may feel discouraged from seeking help solely because they are unable to commute from their homes to farther away facilities.

Although hospice services can be done in the home, many patients and their families do not reside in adequate living conditions. According to a January 22, 2012 article in the *Robesonian*, "Robeson County ranked number 1 in North Carolina in the percentage of people living under the poverty line, and ranked 80th in the United States out of 3,143 counties." If the core objective of hospice is to provide dignity, respect, and comfort to those who are dying and their families, how can we as

health care providers justify that we are meeting this goal if those we serve are living in unsafe, undignified, and uncomfortable conditions, which clearly contradicts the Three Basic Principles of the North Carolina State Medical Facilities Plan of Safety and Quality, Access and Value? Surely, we can do better.

We, at W & B Health Care, Inc. want to provide a residential care facility for patients and their families to feel at ease, that is convenient for commuting, offers a comfortable, homely, and safe environment, and allows for patients to live out their remaining days as stress-free as possible. In addition, we also want to provide a service where patients and their families can be linked to services that will assist in will preparation, grief counseling, group therapy, legal assistance, and bereavement assistance. Serving our clients is our number one priority.

In conclusion, we hope that the presiding governing bodies consider all of our justifications for opening a hospice residential care facility in the Red Springs, NC community. We truly feel that if given the opportunity, we at W & B Health Care, Inc. could provide a place for those in our community, who are living in their last days, the dignity, comfort, and peace of mind that they and their families deserve. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." – 2 Corinthians 5.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandra Wilson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Sandra Wilson, CEO