



August 7, 2013

Selena E. Youmans
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch - Division of Health Service Regulation
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms. Youmans:

I am a Clinical Health Psychologist at Duke Integrative Medicine as well as the Director of Research at Duke Integrative Medicine. I specialize in treating patients with binge eating disorder and have also conducted several NIH and Industry studies based on eating disorders in the past ten years.

I am writing this letter to you to strongly encourage Durham County to allocate more beds for adult inpatient eating disorder patients in Durham County.

Unfortunately, there are very few options for treatment at this level of care, although the need is great. I personally would refer my patients to these beds if an inpatient eating disorders treatment need arose.

Sincerely,

Ruth Wolever, Ph.D.
Clinical Health Psychologist
Director of Research, Duke Integrative Medicine



August 8, 2013

Selena E. Youmans

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch – Division of Health Service Regulation

809 Ruggles Drive

Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms. Youmans,

I am an Internal Medicine physician with expertise in the treatment of eating disorders, currently practicing in a primary care practice. I am writing to recommend the allocation of adult inpatient psychiatric beds specifically for the treatment of eating disorders in Durham County. There are very limited options in this region for treatment of patients with eating disorders who require hospitalization. In my clinical experience working with patients with eating disorders, my patients have often waited for up to weeks at a time for specialty eating disorders beds due to the inadequate numbers of such inpatient beds in the area. If adult inpatient psychiatric beds were allocated for treatment of eating disorders in Durham County, I would refer my patients to these beds when inpatient treatment is indicated.

I appreciate your consideration regarding the significant need for adult inpatient psychiatric beds for the treatment of eating disorders in Durham County.

Sincerely,

Louise D. Metz, M.D.

55 Wilcom Center Drive
Suite 110
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Ph: (919) 929-7990
Fax: (919) 951-7855
ChapelHillPrimaryCare.com

August 7, 2013

Selena E. Youmans
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch - Division of Health Service Regulation
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms Youmans:

I am writing to support the application by the Veritas Collaborative for the allocation of inpatient psychiatric beds for the treatment of eating disorders in Durham County. Severe eating disorders are amongst the most deadly and difficult to treat conditions that psychiatrists are routinely faced with. Eating disorders require very specialized treatment that other inpatient facilities cannot provide. At present there are no options in Durham County for adults who require hospitalization for the treatment of their eating disorder. For these patients, a specialized inpatient unit may be the difference between life and death, and it seems critical that we provide this level of care for these extremely ill patients.

Should these beds be made available in Durham County, I would with great confidence refer my patients who were in need of inpatient treatment for an eating disorder to Veritas. Veritas has an excellent reputation for providing state of the art treatment for eating disorder; I anticipate that their providing inpatient psychiatric beds for adults with eating disorders would fulfill a significant need and be a great service to our community.

Regards,



Holly B. Rogers, M.D., DFAPA
Clinical Associate and Staff Psychiatrist
Counseling and Psychological Services
Duke University



August 6, 2013

Selena E. Youmans
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch – Division of Health Service Regulation
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

**Division of Student Affairs
University Counseling Services**

University Student Commons
907 Floyd Avenue, Room 238
P.O. Box 842525
Richmond, Virginia 23284-2525

804 828-6200 • Fax: 804 828-6099
TDD: 1-800-828-1120

Dear Ms. Youmans:

I am writing this letter to assert my **strong support for Veritas Collaborative**, a specialty behavioral health hospital currently treating adolescents struggling with life-threatening eating disorders located in Durham County and wishing to expand their treatment scope. I feel well equipped to write this letter as I am a former colleague of Stacie McEntrye and Chase Bannister and therefore very familiar with their capabilities, expertise, and work ethic. I am the former clinical director for Carolina House (2006 – 2008) and have intimate knowledge of what it takes to develop and oversee an eating disorder treatment program. Stacie and Chase successfully spearheaded the development of Carolina House and Veritas Collaborative and both are now well respected and effective treatment programs. They are well versed in best practice treatment for eating disorders and are nationally known leaders in this field. It is my understanding that they would now like to expand the services available at Veritas Collaborative to include adult inpatient beds.

I fully support Veritas Collaborative in expanding their treatment scope to include adult psychiatric beds. There are far too few options for adults with eating disorders needing this level of care; subsequently obtaining this care often means traveling out of state. This creates complications in treatment for many reasons. For example, it makes it more difficult to include family members in treatment which is something research indicates improves outcomes. This level of care is badly needed for adults in Durham County. Eating disorders continue to be the mental health disorder with the highest rates of mortality and appropriate intervention and care is critical.

I am an eating disorder specialist residing in Richmond Virginia and have immense difficulty finding appropriate treatment for my patients who need higher levels of care. If Veritas Collaborative were to expand its treatment scope to include adults I would, without question, refer my patients to them. This would meet a critical need and I feel confident that Veritas Collaborative is led by two of the best eating

disorder treatment professionals on the east coast. If you would like to speak with me further or if I can be of further assistance, don't hesitate to contact me at 804-828-6200 (work) or 205-910-5026 (cell).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sydney Brodeur McDonald, Ph.D., LCP". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "S" at the beginning and a large "D" in the middle.

Sydney Brodeur McDonald, Ph.D., LCP

Associate Director for Training

Eating Disorder Treatment Specialist

University Counseling Services

Virginia Commonwealth University

William A. Price, MD

810 Iredell St.
Durham, NC 27705

General Adult Psychiatry
Office (919) 416-3700

Voicemail (919) 406-8345
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6 August 2013

Scelena E. Youmans
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch - Division of Health Service Regulation
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms. Youmans:

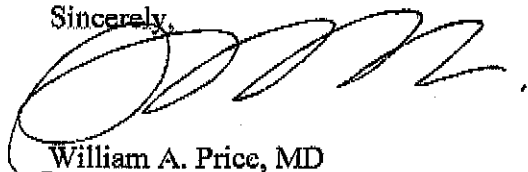
I write to support Veritas Collaborative's request that the NC State Medical Facilities board allocate adult inpatient psychiatric beds for the treatment of eating disorders in Durham County.

As a psychiatrist who has worked in Durham County for many public psychiatric organizations as well as in a private practice, I am aware that inpatient psychiatric beds in a facility that focuses on treating eating disorders are almost impossible to find.

Veritas Collaborative's efforts to provide this service in Durham County could make this scarce resource available for the many adults that suffer from eating disorders such as Bulimia and Anorexia Nervosa, illnesses which can be debilitating or fatal and which often require intensive specialized care to be adequately treated.

In my private practice, I see many young adults who are at risk for eating disorders; if these beds existed at Veritas Collaborative, I would refer patients there if inpatient treatment were needed.

Sincerely,



William A. Price, MD



Behavioral Health & Psychiatry, PA

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8/09/13

Selena E. Youmans

N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch - Division of Health Service Regulation

809 Ruggles Drive

Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Ms. Youmans,

I am writing to provide my strong support for The Veritas Eating Disorder Collaborative and their intent to add adult inpatient services for treatment of eating disorders. There are very few options in Durham County for treatment at this highest level of care for adults with eating disorders, and the need will surely continue to grow as the population of the Triangle Area grows. The treatment of severe, life threatening eating disorders requires a specialized unit with highly trained staff; these disorders cannot be treated effectively in a general inpatient psychiatric hospital. While this unit would be located in Durham County there is a need throughout our entire state for specialized treatment of this kind.

Please contact me at 919/442-1132 if I may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Neil Barry, Ph.D.

licensed psychologist - NC #1914

Molly Parks, Psy.D.
Licensed Psychologist
817 Broad St.
Durham, NC 27705
919-937-8335

Selena E. Youmans
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
Planner, Medical Facilities Planning Branch, Division of Health Service Regulation
809 Ruggles Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

Mrs. Youmans;

My name is Dr. Molly Parks, and I am Clinical Psychologist working with adolescents and adults in private practice in Durham, NC. I am writing to express my support for Veritas Collaborative's petition for the allocation of adult inpatient psychiatric beds in Durham County for the treatment of eating disorders.

I became familiar with Veritas Collaborative through my work with the Clinical and Operations Directors in seeking inpatient and residential referral services for my adolescent clients struggling with eating disorders and in need of more acute care. I have now referred three clients to Veritas within their first year of operation. I have been impressed by the quality of service they provide, and immensely grateful to their presence, as my attempts to locate appropriate care for clients in the Southwest region of the U.S. as been an ongoing frustration prior to their conception. While the need for adolescents has been addressed through their existing services, we continue to have very few options for adult inpatient psychiatric services for eating disorders treatment in Durham County, and the few options available are regularly full with waitlists for admission. The need for acute care for this very dangerous psychological disorder is often immediate when it arises, and telling clients and their families that they have to wait for services is not only frustrating, but feels ethically unsound. If these adult inpatient beds were allocated through Veritas, I can assure you that myself and other clinicians in the area would readily use this service as the need arose in our practices.

Please accept this letter as my strong endorsement for the Veritas Collaborative model, and my sincere expression of the need for this kind of service for adults in Durham County. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Respectfully,



Molly Parks, Psy.D.
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

FELTON & LUTZ

Nutrition Therapy

August 9, 2013

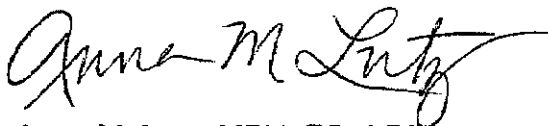
Selena E. Youmans
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Raleigh, NC 27603

Ms. Youmans:

I am writing to convey my support regarding the significant need for specialty eating disorders inpatient beds in Durham County. I am well aware of the need for more inpatient eating disorder beds in the Triangle. I am an outpatient Registered Dietitian and have specialized in eating disorders treatment for over a decade. There is constantly a waiting list for the inpatient eating disorders beds in our area, and I have had many, many patients that have had to wait to get the critical care that they need.

If specialty eating disorders beds were allocated in Durham County, I would certainly refer my patients, who are in need of this level of care, to these beds. I hope the state will consider the need to fill this gap in eating disorders care in Durham County.

Sincerely,



Anna M. Lutz, MPH, RD, LDN

Registered Dietitians/Nutritionists

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