

Petition

**Request for Revision to the 2019 State Medical Facilities Plan
Adjustment to Need Determinations**

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Petitioner:

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Statement of the requested adjustment

Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina, LLC requests the following special need change to the *2019 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)*.

Diagram 19B Medicare-certified Home Health agency or Office Need Determinations
(Proposed for Certificate of Need Review Inaugurating in 2019)

It is determined that the counties listed in the diagram need additional Medicare-certified home health agency or office as specified.

County	HSA	Home Health Agencies/ Office Need Determination	CON Application *Due Date	CON Beginning Review Date
Randolph	III	1	TBD	TBD

Reasons for the proposed adjustment

The proposed 2019 SMFP does not include in its Home Inventory for Randolph County, the Randolph County Home Health agency, Touched by Caring Hands, LLC.

New agencies are typically recognized with a placeholder of 250 patients. The failure to include either the patients that actually have been served, or the 250-patients placeholder results in Randolph County bed deficit of 580 home health agency patients and, thus, generates a need determination for 1 additional Randolph County home health agency.

Statement of adverse effects on the population of the affected area that are likely to ensue if the adjustment is not made

If the adjustment is not made to the inventory in Diagram 19B, Diagram 19C will continue to show a need determination for one additional home health agency in Randolph County. If the need is eliminated and not fulfill, the result will be an uneven supply of home health agencies in the county. The only way to ensure steady growth of home health agencies in Randolph County is to adjust Diagram 19C to include the Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina demonstration project in the inventory of home health agencies. Diagram 19B will; thus, adjust to show the correct need determination of 1 additional home health agency in Randolph County.

Statement of alternatives to the proposed adjustment that were considered and found not feasible

A development could be excluded from the inventory because it was created in response to a special need. However, that special need for persons who speak languages other than Spanish or English is still a huge part of Randolph County population. Moreover, Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina plans to respond to other critical population of medically underserved persons, regardless of disability or language. These are both difficult populations and Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina is willing to serve both well.

Evidence that the health service development permitted by the proposed adjustment would not result in unnecessary duplication of health resources in the area

By reducing the need in the 2019 SMFP will reduce the risk of unnecessary duplication by counting an existing agency that is not restricted from serving any patients.

Evidence that the requested adjustment is consistent with the three Basic Principles governing the development of the SMFP

Safety and Quality

Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina mission is to be deficiency-free by Medicare, with installed electronic medical records for all nursing staff, providing a full service agency, offering all Medicare Home Health Agency services.

Access

Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina will be the default provider of care for medically underserved and socially underserved patients, these services to include both non-English speaking and chronic care older patients.

Value

Touched by Caring Hands of North Carolina plans to offer services without regard to patient ability to pay, accepting Medicaid, Medicare, and persons on self pay or who have severely restricted private insurance. This younger group is often overlooked by home health agency planners.

Diagram 19C Medicare-certified Home Health Agency or Office Need Determinations

County	Underserved Patients (Hispanic)	Home Health Agencies/ Office Need Determination
Randolph	40%	1