



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROY COOPER • Governor
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary
MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

VIA EMAIL ONLY

January 9, 2024

Robbie Roberts
roberts@wakemed.org

No Review

Record #: 4337
Date of Request: January 3, 2024
Facility Name: WakeBrook Behavior Health Facility
FID #: 080817
Business Name: WakeMed
Business #: 2018
Project Description: Resume operation of the 28-bed inpatient psychiatric unit to be operated under WakeMed's license
County: Wake

Dear Robbie Roberts:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency) received your correspondence regarding the project described above. Based on the CON law in effect on the date of this response to your request, the project as described is not governed by, and therefore, does not currently require a certificate of need. If the CON law is subsequently amended such that the above referenced proposal would require a certificate of need, this determination does not authorize you to proceed to develop the above referenced proposal when the new law becomes effective.

This determination is binding only for the facts represented in your correspondence. If changes are made in the project or in the facts provided in the correspondence referenced above, a new determination as to whether a certificate of need is required would need to be made by this office.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Crystal Kearney

Crystal Kearney, Project Analyst

Micheala Mitchell

Micheala Mitchell, Chief

cc: Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section, DHSR
Construction Section, DHSR

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION
HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 809 Ruggles Drive, 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704
https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ • TEL: 919-855-3873



WakeMed Health & Hospitals

3000 New Bern Avenue
Raleigh, North Carolina 27610
919-350-8000

January 3, 2024

Via electronic mail to Crystal.kearney@dhhs.nc.gov

Ms. Crystal Kearney, Project Analyst
Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Re: Request for No Review/Assume Operation of Inpatient Psychiatric Services at WakeBrook Behavioral Health Facility/Wake County

Dear Ms. Kearney:

This letter is to inform the Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section of WakeMed's intent to assume operation of inpatient psychiatric services at WakeBrook Behavioral Health Facility, located at 111 Sunnybrook Road, Raleigh, NC 27610. This facility has been closed since September 30, 2023. Wake County, which owns the building, and Alliance Health, the LME-MCO, have entered into an agreement with WakeMed that will allow WakeMed to reestablish operation of the facility's 28 beds. Recovery Innovations will operate the crisis/detox services on the WakeBrook campus. Please see Attachment 1 for the joint news release.

WakeMed is currently working with the Division of Health Service Regulation, Division of Medical Assistance, and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to meet the Conditions of Participation for Psychiatric Hospitals. WakeMed intends to operate WakeBrook's inpatient psychiatric beds as a unit of WakeMed Raleigh Campus under the WakeMed license (H0199) and CMS Certification Number (340069). WakeMed expects the WakeBrook facility will re-open for services on or around May 1, 2024.

Because inpatient psychiatric beds are no longer governed by the CON Statute, WakeMed believes this project is not subject to certificate of need review and is requesting that the Agency confirm that WakeMed may proceed without first obtaining a CON.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact me at 919-350-8023 or rroberts@wakemed.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robbie Roberts".

Robbie Roberts
Manager, Market Planning

Attachment

Wake County, Alliance Health announce new provider to deliver inpatient services at WakeBrook Behavioral Health Facility

October 24, 2023

WakeMed to provide inpatient mental health care services

[Joint news release with Alliance Health and WakeMed]

Wake County and Alliance Health are pleased to announce a new partnership with **WakeMed** to help reestablish operations of the 28-bed inpatient psychiatric unit at the WakeBrook Behavioral Health Facility in Raleigh.

After WakeBrook reopens, WakeMed will share the campus with Recovery Innovations (RI) who will provide three other services including:

- Crisis and assessment services
- Alcohol and drug detoxification unit
- Facility-based crisis services.

“WakeMed has the ability to provide higher levels of medical care at WakeBrook as a clinically appropriate alternative to local emergency departments,” said Alliance Health CEO Rob Robinson. “They will be able to leverage their medical staff to support patient care on the inpatient unit and call upon their partnership with a network of behavioral health providers to provide important post-acute community-based behavioral health and substance use disorders services and social care supports.”

WakeMed has a long history of stepping up to help meet the health care needs of this community and recently announced plans to build a 150-bed mental health hospital in Garner which will open in early 2027. WakeMed's partnership with nationally recognized mental health care provider Sheppard Pratt will also benefit WakeBrook patients.

"We are excited by the opportunity this partnership represents for the continuum of behavioral health care in Wake County," said Wake County Commissioner Cheryl Stallings. "WakeMed's historical commitment to supporting some of our most vulnerable community members, engagement of community providers to support post-crisis needs and service expansion to include a new behavioral health hospital make them a unique partner for this important service."

RI, a nationally recognized leader in delivering behavioral health services, pioneered the "living room model of crisis care," a best practice recommendation that creates a safe and trauma-informed environment for individuals in crisis. RI expects to assume the operations of three of the four services at WakeBrook by early 2024, with WakeMed following to reinstate the inpatient psychiatric services.

While a firm timeline for opening the inpatient unit has not yet been established, WakeMed will coordinate care with Wake County and Alliance to make these important services available as quickly as reasonably possible.

"Our community benefits from collective, collaborative solutions that better support optimal wellness and whole-person health," said Seth Brody, MD, MPH, WakeMed EVP & Chief Executive Physician. "As WakeMed aims to change the way mental health care is delivered, we are committed to working alongside Wake County, Alliance and other organizations to provide the vital services that WakeBrook patients—and every member of our community—deserve."

While WakeBrook Services are Paused

Services are currently paused at the WakeBrook campus in Raleigh while the facility is being renovated to accommodate its new providers. Please visit the [Alliance Health website](#) for an up-to-date list of ways to reach out for help until WakeBrook reopens.

Anyone who is in crisis and needs immediate assistance can call the Alliance Health Behavioral Health Crisis Line at 919-223-4617 (open 24/7) or the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988 (open 24/7).

For more information and updates related to WakeBrook, visit wake.gov/WakeBrook.

Department  Health & Human Services

Category Press Release

Print 

Share 

From: [ROBBIE ROBERTS](#)
To: [Kearney, Crystal](#)
Cc: [Stancil, Tiffany C](#)
Subject: [External] LONR Request
Date: Thursday, January 4, 2024 12:17:16 PM
Attachments: [WakeMed LONR Req WakeBrook Jan 2024.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Report suspicious emails with the Report Message button located on your Outlook menu bar on the Home tab.

Crystal:

I hope you had a great holiday and a happy new year. Please see the attached LONR request and let me know if you have questions. Thanks.

RR

Robbie Roberts
Manager, Market Planning
WakeMed Health & Hospitals
919-350-8023
rroberts@wakemed.org