

Open Door Baptist Church
227 NC Highway 24
Morehead City, North Carolina 28557

June 15, 2010

Thomas J. Pullen, MD
Chair, Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee
State Health Coordinating Council
N.C. Department of Health and Human Services
2714 Mail Center Service
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2714

DFS Health PLANNING
RECEIVED

AUG 02 2010

Medical Facilities
PLANNING SECTION

Re: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Carteret County in the 2011 SMFP

Dear Dr. Pullen

I am writing to support Crystal Coast Hospice House's effort to petition for hospice inpatient beds in Carteret County.

As a pastor in Carteret County, I have witnessed firsthand the wonderful care given to patients and their families by hospice volunteers. Every time I am involved with a family that has called upon hospice, I hear nothing but positive response from those involved.

Because of our more mobile and transient society, the family unit is more fragmented and often loved ones find themselves alone in attempting to give care to their terminally ill family member. It is in this environment that hospice really shines.

As has been mentioned in other letters, there is not an inpatient hospice facility anywhere close to our community, and because of that, there is a great need. As soon as members of our church heard about the possibility of an inpatient facility in our area, they wanted to get behind it and support it financially. Plans are already underway for a fundraising event.

I want to offer my full support for the approval of a need determination for hospice inpatient beds in Carteret County in the 2011 Medical Facilities Plan.

In His service


Rev. Jerry Linebarger