



DFS Health Planning  
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AUG 02 2010  
Medical Facilities  
PLANNING SECTION

July 30, 2010

Mr. Gene DePorter, Assistant Chief  
Medical Facilities Planning Section  
NC Division of Health Service Regulation  
2714 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

Dear Mr. DePorter:

I've been in practice in Cleveland County for over 30 years and have come to appreciate the great service that hospice provides, particularly in keeping patients out of the hospital and allowing them to live and die with dignity at home. Hospice has also helped address the problem of getting patients out of the hospital who need a higher level of care than their family can provide alone.

I am blessed to have been associated with Hospice Cleveland County as its Medical Director since retiring from Shelby Surgical Associates in 2007. During this time I have seen first-hand the level of care that hospice provides. One of the unfortunate things has been the inability to provide a bed for some people who really were in desperate need of one. Another inpatient bed will help alleviate the problem of a lack of beds.

I wholehearted endorse our Special Need Petition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Potts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James. M. Potts, M.D.