

July 15, 2010

Mr. Craig Smith
Chief, Division of Facility Services
Certificate of Need Section
701 Barbour Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

DFS Health Planning
RECEIVED
JUL 18 2010
Medical Facilities
PLANNING SECTION

RE: Letter of Support for Inpatient Hospice Bed Special Need Petition of Lower Cape Fear Hospice for New Hanover County

Dear Mr. Smith,

I understand that the Proposed 2011 State Medical Facilities Plan has identified a deficit of 3 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County. I am writing to express my support of Lower Cape Fear Hospice & LifeCareCenter's petition to establish an adjusted need determination of 6 inpatient hospice beds in New Hanover County.

Lower Cape Fear Hospice has operated their Hospice Care Center at over 101% for the past year. As a provider in New Hanover County working with them over the years, they have my complete support concerning this matter.

Sincerely,



Kathryn R. Emmart, RN, NHA
Administrator