

RECEIVED

By K Fisk at 4:37 pm, Aug 01, 2012

424 E. Raleigh Street
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
Post Office Box 1077
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Several years ago, one of my closest friends was close to dying of a rare and very aggressive thyroid cancer. She had had an emergency tracheotomy, and it did not go well. She was having trouble breathing on her own. She was 46 years old, had no husband or nearby family members she felt close to, to care for her. She had a small apartment, which during the course of her illness had become disheveled, despite our best efforts to help her with all her household and medical needs. At the hospital, because she had no insurance (after losing her job related to side effects from her illness), the hospital staff said she could not stay there anymore, and needed a place to go home. Hospice said they could help as long as someone in addition to Hospice was by her side 24 hours a day. We could not guarantee it, though we did our best to cover most of the day. Doctors did not know if she would live a month, a week, or days. We

did not know, without the breathing tools of the hospital, if she would suffocate on her way home from the hospital. And yet she was fully conscious much of the time, except for when pain medications were kicking in. She was in great distress imagining people at her house – the many friends coming to town and incoming relatives whom she did not want in her space. She had bad associations with her house, too, because roommates had abandoned her when they found out she had cancer. Half of the furniture was gone. To make things worse, her air-conditioning had broken days before and it was late June. We were so busy attending to her at the hospital fruit and vegetables on her counter had rotted quickly in the heat. She wanted to stay at the hospital. The hospital said they would not let her stay. Her anxiety was affecting her ability to breathe on her own. She was in so much distress! It was not how any of us who had known and loved her wanted the end of her (or anyone's!) life to be.

Thankfully, because she was an Orange County resident, and because one of the doctors had been really taken to her and really liked her spunk, he made special efforts to get her into Hospice Center in Hillsborough. There was only one bed, and he said we may only have an hour to get her there, before the would make the bed available to someone else (who sadly also needed it) and the bed was filled again. She was so relieved to be able to go to Hospice! A calm came over her, that was very peaceful to watch. She held my hand and cried and mouthed "thank you"... We were able to begin working on her breathing together then. I talked her through yogic breathing, and once she felt like she could do it by herself OK, we made the big move to Hospice. I think knowing she was going there, helped her to make it. She kept the breathing while the ambulance took her there. There would have been no resuscitation had she lost the rhythm. She would have died from lack of air. What a horrible death that would have been! Instead, in a new place of calm, a clean, loving, supportive place, where all her needs would be met, she made it to Hillsborough. Friends came and went with ease. We were able to play guitar for her. Family members who had been absent in her life for too long had a place to go outside when their remorse was too much. They were able to have privacy to hold her hand and talk to her when they were ready. She died

several days later, peacefully, and with love around her. She looked like an angel. She just slowly went to sleep. Had it not been for Hospice, I think her life would have ended very differently. It would have been a traumatic ending. Suffocation. And all of us that loved her would have carried that distress for years and years. I am grateful that Hospice allowed us a peaceful and loving goodbye to a dear, dear friend and daughter...

But -- She lived in Carrboro, just 30 minutes from Hospice. What if she had lived in Siler City, where I live. There would be an hour and half drive. For people with low-incomes, the daily cost of gas would be exhorbitant. Many people cannot afford hotels. Many people have multiple family members. Even more importantly, many people are like my friend Lisa, they live modestly, and have to work to maintain insurance or their jobs, as do the people that are close to the patients. Many Chatham County residents would not have been able to be there 24-7, so far from work and where they live. What if there were no family or friends around? How would a cancer patient who is single get the needed help? I shudder to think about it! It could be me, or someone else I love! I want for the loving people in our county to have a place to be... it should be available here. Our population, even with the economic crisis, is growing and growing. By the time we have a place built, it will have grown even more... Many of the people moving here are of retirement age, too, with families far away.

Please approve our petition.

Earnestly,

Jane Allen Wilson

BARBER & BARBER

Lawyers and Counselors

PLLC

WADE BARBER
ELIZABETH BARBER

P.O. Box 1755 • 27 Hillsboro Street
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Office: (919) 542-5050
Fax: (919) 542-3468
www.barberandbarberlaw.com

25 June 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Via USPS

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for
Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

I am a native of Pittsboro, having been born here in 1944. I have practiced law here since 1971, except for eight years when I served as District Attorney and another eight years as Senior Resident Superior Court Judge.

Hospice has provided invaluable service to many of my clients over the past 30 years. Personally, UNC Hospice cared for my beloved sister, Mary Hayes Barber Holmes.

Chatham County, especially its retired population, continues to grow and more and more families will be calling on Hospice.

I respectfully suggest that this petition by UNC Hospice is justified based upon the needs of our community.

Sincerely,


Wade Barber

WB/mdl



UNC
DENTISTRY

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Continuing Dental Education
Campus Box 7430
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7430
Phone: (919) 966-2729
Fax: (919) 966-8954
www.dent.unc.edu/ce

6/26/12

Dear Mrs. Barker,

I am a volunteer for
hospice in Chatham County.

I am writing in support
for a hospice inpatient bed
facility in Chatham County.

As our aging population
increases there will be increased
demand for hospice care.

Please do what you can
to approve the petition request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kenneth Hatcher



Administrative Office
299 Lloyd Street
Carrboro, NC 27510-1821
P: 919-933-8494 F: 919-933-9201

piedmonthealth.org



June 27, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

As operator of two Federally-qualified community health center medical practices focused on serving low-income populations in Chatham County, Piedmont Health is pleased to offer its letter in support for the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has been a great benefit to many patients and families in our community. The UNC hospice staff is highly skilled and most caring and compassionate.

The growth of hospice services will increase in future years as more patients are now documenting their end-of-life choices in the form of advanced directives. An increasing number of our elderly patients in Chatham and Orange Counties do not have local relatives to assist in hospice home care. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County is a hardship for the patients as well as causing some extended lengths of stay in our acute care hospitals. UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

I am convinced that the development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services.

For these reasons and the justification provided in the petition by UNC Hospice, I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully,



Brian Toomey, MSW
Chief Executive Officer

Moncure Community Health Center
Moncure
P: 919-542-4991 F: 919-542-3726

Siler City Community Health Center
Siler City
P: 919-663-1744 F: 919-663-1635

Scott Community Health Center
Burlington
P: 336-421-3247 F: 336-421-3275

Carrboro Community Health Center
Carrboro
P: 919-942-8741 F: 919-942-1473

Prospect Hill Community Health Center
Prospect Hill
P: 336-562-3311 F: 336-562-4444

Charles Drew Community Health Center
Burlington
P: 336-570-3739 F: 336-570-1215

Piedmont Health SeniorCare
Burlington
P: 336-532-0000 F: 336-532-0000

Mrs. Kathleen Barker

Clinical Director, Post Acute Services

UNC Hospice

P.O. Box 1077

Pittsboro, NC 27312

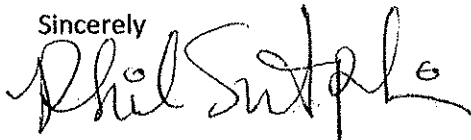
Dear Mrs. Barker;

I am writing you in support of the movement to establish an inpatient hospice facility in Chatham County. My experience with hospice is both personal and corporate – my Dad lost a battle against cancer, but in his waning days a local hospice was invaluable in providing comfort to him as well as much needed relief to my Mom. The hospice representative actually became a friend of the family for years after my Dad's passing. This experience so endeared the hospice concept to me that when I had the opportunity to serve on the board of directors of a hospice in South Carolina, I jumped at the chance. During seven years on the board, including three as treasurer, I became further convinced of the necessity of providing hospice services to as many people as possible. I also believe these services need to be as close geographically to the affected families as possible.

Thanks to Libby Hart, I am aware of the possibility of having an inpatient hospice in Chatham County and would like to strongly endorse this concept. Chatham County is an area of population growth and many of the new residents are retired or will soon retire and therefore will ultimately be candidates for hospice services. How wonderful it would be if they didn't need to travel many miles one-way to avail themselves and family members of such services. A local hospice would also give individuals like myself the opportunity to do highly satisfying community-oriented volunteer service.

I hope and pray that the legislature will provide the necessary funding and framework to establish this facility in the very near future – while it is easy to calculate the cost of establishing and maintaining the facility – the benefit to the community is beyond measure and far outweighs the financial expense.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Sutphin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "P" and "S".

Phil Sutphin

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post-Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

25 June 2012

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

As a social worker in the geriatric community and native of Chatham County, I am writing this letter in support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

It has been my experience that as people are becoming more familiar with the services offered by hospice as well as documenting their end-of-life choices, an increasing number of individuals are requesting hospice, making it a valuable service we should be offering to residents within Chatham County. Additionally, it cannot be denied that many older adults living in Chatham County do not have relatives living nearby and therefor are not appropriate for hospice home care. Offering at least six inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County would allow an individual to remain in their community while still being able to receive the needed support and services offered by hospice—completing the continuum of care for that individual.

For these reasons and the justification provided in the petition by UNC Hospice, I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully,

Jessica Fines, MSW

Riley, Patricia

From: Barker, Kathleen [Kathleen.Barker@rexhealth.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2012 8:41 AM
To: Riley, Patricia
Subject: RE: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice inpatient beds in Chatham

From: archie copeland [mailto:arch6255@att.net]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:47 PM
To: Barker, Kathleen
Subject: Petition for adjusted need determination for Hospice inpatient beds in Chatham

Dear Ms. Barker:

It is with great enthusiasm that I support the need for an inpatient facility in Chatham County. For nearly six years I have worked as a Hospice volunteer and have witnessed the need and desire for such a facility. The patients with whom I have worked have resided in Durham, Orange and Chatham Counties. In each of these cases, the patients could have spent their final days more comfortably in an inpatient facility.

UNC Hospice currently serves a large area. As the populations grow, the demand will grow at an accelerated rate as more retirees relocate in both Chapel Hill and Pittsboro, and there is the realization of the services offered by Hospice.

Civic organizations, members of the clergy and physicians have long acknowledged the importance of hospice and have continued their support of its presence in the community.

Staff and volunteers of UNC Hospice have dreamed of an inpatient home which could house at least six hospice beds and trust that it will finally become a reality.

Sincerely,

Archie W. Copeland
53 Red Pine Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

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6/26/2012

Riley, Patricia

From: Barker, Kathleen [Kathleen.Barker@rexhealth.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 4:06 PM
To: Riley, Patricia
Subject: FW: Support for Hospice Home in Chatham Co.

-----Original Message-----

From: Brenda McCall [mailto:brnd_mccall@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 11:33 AM
To: Barker, Kathleen
Subject: Support for Hospice Home in Chatham Co.

Through my work as a Transitions Case Manager at UNC Hospitals, I see the great benefit of Hospice Care to our patients and families. Our aging and chronically ill population continues to grow as we live longer. This longevity has been made possible to a great extent by the advances in health care. There comes a point where the quality rather than the prolongation of life becomes priority. A Hospice Home in Chatham County would greatly benefit nearby residents when they are confronted with these difficult decisions.

Sincerely,
Brenda McCall, RN, CM

Sent from my iPhone
Brenda McCall

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UNC
HEALTHCARE

HOSPICE SERVICES

June 22, 2012

P.O. BOX 1077
PITTSBORO, NC 27312

T 919.342.5545
F 919.342.6232

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post-Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Mrs. Barker,

I am writing to support UNC Hospice's plan to develop an Inpatient Hospice Unit in Chatham County, NC. I am a healthcare provider, a consumer of UNC Hospice and a Chatham County resident so have a unique perspective on why I feel Chatham County and UNC Hospice desperately need an inpatient hospice unit.

As a discharge planner at both Duke Medical Center and UNC Hospitals, I have had the opportunity to work w/ UNC Hospice. The staff is always professional and caring. They truly support the hospice philosophy. When patients would discharge to home w/ hospice, I knew that both the patient and the family would be treated w/ dignity and respect. However, time and time again, I have watched families struggle when faced w/ symptoms that could not be controlled in the home setting or when dying at home was not the best option. They would be left with the choice of coming into the hospital or being placed in an inpatient hospice facility in another area of NC. How many times have I said, "Sometimes there are no right choices, only the ones you can live with."

More recently, my father was a recipient of the services provided by UNC Hospice. The caring, support and symptom management provided to my family by UNC Hospice was unbelievable. When the symptoms became unmanageable in the home setting, we had the option of hospital admission or transition to an inpatient hospice unit. We chose inpatient hospice. My father and most of my family live in Pittsboro. Our closest options for inpatient hospice were Hillsborough or Durham. We felt very frustrated that after we had developed a strong relationship w/ the staff at UNC Hospice, in my father's last days, we had to change hospice agencies.

Chatham County is perfectly located in the heart of North Carolina. An inpatient hospice unit could help families not only from Chatham but also surrounding communities. Chatham County is known for having strong volunteer support. I have no doubt that those same devoted residents would do whatever is necessary to support an inpatient hospice unit in their community.

Sincerely,

Tonya Wilson Thompson, MSW, LCSW
Clinical Care Management
UNC Hospitals
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-966-8102



UNC
HEALTH CARE

HOSPICE SERVICES

P.O. BOX 1077
PITTSBORO, NC 27312

T 919.542.5545
F 919.542.6232

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

As a Case Manager in the UNC Hospital System, I have worked closely with UNC Hospice for several years. UNC Hospice provides excellent end of life care and I have gotten nothing but wonderful feedback from families of patients in need of this level of care. I am excited about the possibility of adding inpatient beds in Chatham County, as this is a much needed area of inpatient hospice services. The professional, compassionate folks at UNC Hospice would be the perfect group of people to manage this population.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth McKenzie
Transitional Case Manager
UNC Hospitals

424 E. Raleigh Street
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
Post Office Box 1077
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Several years ago, one of my closest friends was close to dying of a rare and very aggressive thyroid cancer. She had had an emergency tracheotomy, and it did not go well. She was having trouble breathing on her own. She was 46 years old, had no husband or nearby family members she felt close to, to care for her. She had a small apartment, which during the course of her illness had become disheveled, despite our best efforts to help her with all her household and medical needs. At the hospital, because she had no insurance (after losing her job related to side effects from her illness), the hospital staff said she could not stay there anymore, and needed a place to go home. Hospice said they could help as long as someone in addition to Hospice was by her side 24 hours a day. We could not guarantee it, though we did our best to cover most of the day. Doctors did not know if she would live a month, a week, or days. We

did not know, without the breathing tools of the hospital, if she would suffocate on her way home from the hospital. And yet she was fully conscious much of the time, except for when pain medications were kicking in. She was in great distress imagining people at her house – the many friends coming to town and incoming relatives whom she did not want in her space. She had bad associations with her house, too, because roommates had abandoned her when they found out she had cancer. Half of the furniture was gone. To make things worse, her air-conditioning had broken days before and it was late June. We were so busy attending to her at the hospital fruit and vegetables on her counter had rotted quickly in the heat. She wanted to stay at the hospital. The hospital said they would not let her stay. Her anxiety was affecting her ability to breathe on her own. She was in so much distress! It was not how any of us who had known and loved her wanted the end of her (or anyone's!) life to be.

Thankfully, because she was an Orange County resident, and because one of the doctors had been really taken to her and really liked her spunk, he made special efforts to get her into Hospice Center in Hillsborough. There was only one bed, and he said we may only have an hour to get her there, before the would make the bed available to someone else (who sadly also needed it) and the bed was filled again. She was so relieved to be able to go to Hospice! A calm came over her, that was very peaceful to watch. She held my hand and cried and mouthed "thank you"... We were able to begin working on her breathing together then. I talked her through yogic breathing, and once she felt like she could do it by herself OK, we made the big move to Hospice. I think knowing she was going there, helped her to make it. She kept the breathing while the ambulance took her there. There would have been no resuscitation had she lost the rhythm. She would have died from lack of air. What a horrible death that would have been! Instead, in a new place of calm, a clean, loving, supportive place, where all her needs would be met, she made it to Hillsborough. Friends came and went with ease. We were able to play guitar for her. Family members who had been absent in her life for too long had a place to go outside when their remorse was too much. They were able to have privacy to hold her hand and talk to her when they were ready. She died

several days later, peacefully, and with love around her. She looked like an angel. She just slowly went to sleep. Had it not been for Hospice, I think her life would have ended very differently. It would have been a traumatic ending. Suffocation. And all of us that loved her would have carried that distress for years and years. I am grateful that Hospice allowed us a peaceful and loving goodbye to a dear, dear friend and daughter...

But -- She lived in Carrboro, just 30 minutes from Hospice. What if she had lived in Siler City, where I live. There would be an hour and half drive. For people with low-incomes, the daily cost of gas would be exorbitant. Many people cannot afford hotels. Many people have multiple family members. Even more importantly, many people are like my friend Lisa, they live modestly, and have to work to maintain insurance or their jobs, as do the people that are close to the patients. Many Chatham County residents would not have been able to be there 24-7, so far from work and where they live. What if there were no family or friends around? How would a cancer patient who is single get the needed help? I shudder to think about it! It could be me, or someone else I love! I want for the loving people in our county to have a place to be... it should be available here. Our population, even with the economic crisis, is growing and growing. By the time we have a place built, it will have grown even more... Many of the people moving here are of retirement age, too, with families far away.

Please approve our petition.

Earnestly,

Jane Allen Wilson

June 20, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077 Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am pleased to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. Chatham County does not have a free standing hospice inpatient facility, thus UNC Hospice patients and families who choose this option must currently seek it at a skilled nursing facility or hospital. While inpatient care in those settings is managed by hospice, this can create challenging changes in staffing and procedures for patients and families during a difficult time.

In addition, to utilize the inpatient level of care in a hospice operated facility, UNC patients would likely have to transfer to another hospice provider. This can also create an interruption in staff relationships and continuity of care. It would be very beneficial to UNC patients and families to be able to access all care levels from the same provider, including inpatient and residential care.

UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many patients in adjoining counties. The program has been in a growth phase for some time which is anticipated to continue. The need for an inpatient facility is overdue in Chatham and would be a benefit to many.

I have been a volunteer with UNC Hospice for more than six years and have worked in several hospice programs and organizations for nearly 25 years. UNC Hospice is, I believe, best positioned to meet this identified need both in terms of its quality of services and the strong community support it has from civic groups, churches and local physicians. UNC Hospice also has the resources to develop a facility and insure its clinical care and financial stability can be maintained over time. I strongly recommend approval of this of this petition request by UNC Hospice.

Sincerely,
Anne Kissel
Anne Kissel, PhD, NCC, CT

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27313

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker,

"So close but so far" can describe the news that the inpatient hospice can be built in Chatham County. The hospice volunteers have been waiting for this news a long time. We think it is great news but it is still far from the actual building. Whenever the hospice volunteers get together, we share small successes and many regrets that we could not help our patients more. I have been volunteering for the last eight years and I encountered three difficult cases that could have used an inpatient facility.

One young woman had no family who could take care of her. We drove all round trying to find someplace where she could die peacefully. It was not a happy trip. Then there was one patient with so many complications that it was difficult to help him and his family with our skills. What this patient needed was 24 hour care by professional nurses. I felt so sad and helpless for this patient. Then there was one person with late stage dementia where the patient was beyond the family's care or volunteer's willingness.

Our organization, UNC Hospice is a small organization but it has more than 100 volunteers. Some have been volunteering more than 10 years and my guesstimate of the average volunteering is five years. I met many dedicated volunteers who really want to help. My experience as a volunteer of different charity organizations tells me this hospice is a great organization because we have so many dedicated volunteers. It says something about the organization and need for the surrounding the area.

You know more about the statistics related to baby boomer's. The 18.3 % was the growth rate of the population older than 65 years in the Chatham County during 2000 to 2010. But I would like to emphasize the special growth rate to northern Chatham County due to UNC, Duke, Wake hospitals. These facilities are attracting older persons more than other areas. The northern Chatham County is a prime area for senior citizens to settle. Thus the population growth is higher than the normal rate. I am hoping we are preparing for the rapid growth of an aging population in northern Chatham County.

Yes, I strongly support the inpatient facility for northern Chatham County and especially for UNC Hospice. We who support hospice services have seen the rapid growth of volunteer hours and request for our services. I hope you will consider the number of volunteers in our organization and help us with our desire to serve better.

Thanks for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Eung Won (Ed) Park
12907 Morehead
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
www.espark@nc.rr.com

Dr. Tom K. Scott
800 East Rosemary Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

June 18, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

My experience with UNC Hospice spans some five years both as a care giver to the terminally ill and as a fund raiser. I have come to know the staff very well and I have only the highest admiration for them all. In making this request, UNC Hospice is asking to fill an urgent need that is not currently available in Chatham County and which should have been available years ago.

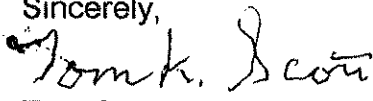
UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

Referrals to the hospice are likely to continue to increase due to more patients and families understanding the benefits of hospice care.

UNC Hospice has earned strong community support from civic groups, churches and local physicians.

Approval of this petition request by UNC Hospice is justified based on the needs of our community.

Sincerely,


Tom Scott

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in
Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing this letter to support the petition by UNC Hospice for six
inpatient beds to be located in Chatham County.

I am a volunteer for UNC Hospice and I can confirm firsthand the need for
such a facility. There have been times when we've had to put our patients
on a waiting list for an inpatient bed because we've had no beds available
for them in our county. Having a hospice facility located in Chatham
County would help us fulfill our mission of providing hospice and palliative
care services in close proximity to the families of our patients.

Please approve the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient beds. We need
them as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Paul K. Fehrenbach, Ph.D.
UNC Hospice Volunteer



UNC
HEALTH CARE

HOSPICE SERVICES

P.O. BOX 1077
PITTSBORO, NC 27312

T 919.542.5545
F 919.542.6232

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six inpatient hospice beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

UNC Hospice is an outstanding organization, as evidenced through word-of-mouth from my patients at the NC Cancer Hospital and the professionalism that I have encountered when working with UNC Hospice staff. Unfortunately, UNC Hospice is currently unable to meet the needs of all of our patients. Without an inpatient hospice, they lack the ability to help patients who want to die with hospice but are unable or unwilling to die at home. Having the ability to support a patient and family through death, no matter what challenges may appear, is intuitively the ideal way to promote a positive end-of-life experience through hospice services.

I have an extensive background in the provision of hospice and end-of-life care, both from clinical and research perspectives. As a nurse on UNC Hospital's inpatient oncology unit for many years, I often took care of dying patients who were unable to die at home. I know from these experiences that dying in a hospital is far from ideal. Staff is not always trained to manage symptoms and do not always have the time to help the patient and family emotionally.

Providing good end-of-life care in the hospital setting seemed an impossible task to me; this is what lead me to hospice nursing. I have worked both as a private-duty hospice nurse and as a visiting hospice nurse at Connecticut Hospice, the first hospice in the United States. This last position gave me the opportunity to team with Florence Wald, the founder of hospice in the United States, before she passed away. In my last conversation with her in 2008, she talked about how important it is that patients die in a home-like setting if they are unable to die at home. She started the original inpatient hospice in Branford, Connecticut, to provide that ideal environment.

Finally, as a researcher, I have found that the evidence to support a comprehensive hospice program to be convincingly positive for patients and families. My own dissertation research, conducted with data from local hospice organizations, suggests that the possibility of admission to an inpatient hospice could even allow for higher hospice enrollment, particularly among younger patients.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for at least six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jill Hill, PhD, RN, CHPN
Oncology Patient Education Coordinator
NC Cancer Hospital



UNC
HEALTH CARE

HOSPICE SERVICES

P.O. BOX 1077
PITTSBORO, NC 27312

T 919.542.5543
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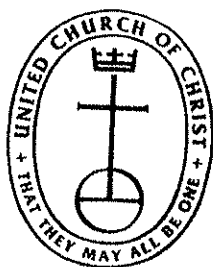
Dear Mrs. Baker,

I am writing to offer support for additional Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County. Not only is there a need for the current UNC Hospice services in the community, but also that need is expected to increase sharply in the coming years. As the Consulting Planner for a major development proposed in Chatham County, I am aware that Chatham County will be receiving much of the growth that is destined for this region. It has been suggested that Chatham County may double in population in less than twenty years. With this growth will come the increased need for Hospice care.

Therefore, I would like to join with others in support of the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need for determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Sincerely,

Philip Culpepper
Consulting Planner for *Chatham Park*
(919) 612-3725
pculpepper@mindspring.com



Hanks Chapel United Church of Christ

P.O. Box 366 • Pittsboro, NC 27312 • (919) 542-2938

June 23, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination
for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

Please accept this as a letter of support for the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for a facility for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Through the years, I've been associated with UNC Hospice in several ways. During its formative years when it was known as Hospice of Chatham County, it was my privilege to serve two terms on the original board of directors. My late mother-in-law came under Hospice care from 1985 – 86, becoming one of the first Chatham County residents to benefit from its services.

Since then I've seen the organization grow and expand in both size and scope, providing a wide range of services from patient care to bereavement counseling. As the pastor of two Chatham County churches during the past 22 years, I have seen many community members well served by the staff of UNC Hospice. I have also had the opportunity to visit Hospice facilities in neighboring communities--Wake, Durham, Randolph, Orange and Alamance counties in both my pastoral duties and as a staff member of Hall Wynne Funeral Home in Pittsboro.

Throughout that entire time as I have interacted with nurses, social workers, and chaplains the recurring thought in my mind has been that the citizens of Chatham County would be well served to have the comfort and care of an in-patient facility to complement the outstanding services provided by the capable and caring staff. When life nears its end it would be a blessing to both patient and family to make the transition locally rather than out of town.

Mrs. Kathleen Barker

June 23, 2012

Page 2

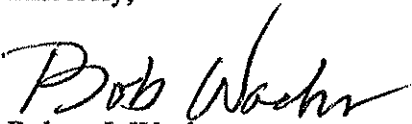
Although there are private Hospice firms in the county, UNC Hospice serves the majority of admissions for both Chatham and adjoining counties. No doubt, referrals and numbers will increase as the population ages and more and more people come to know about the care available. UNC Hospice has a well-deserved reputation locally and community support covers a wide spectrum of individuals, churches, civic groups and the medical community.

It's my opinion that a local in-patient care facility would be a major accomplishment and service for the residents of Chatham County. I also believe community support would be strong to help with the needs of both a capital campaign and on-going support.

Thank you for all you and your organization do to help the quality of life for people who need the care and support UNC Hospice offers.

Please feel free to call upon me for any support you may need and I may be able to offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Wachs", written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Wachs

Pastor, Hanks Chapel

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Chatham has many families that have been served by our hospice since the first group of volunteers and sponsors established the service more than 30 years ago. With those community-based roots and the large base of support our Hospice enjoys, I know that there are many Chathamites that will want to see a hospice house established.

As a family member that was served by Hospice while my Dad was dying, I saw firsthand what a difference hospice makes. He died at home as was his wish. But not everyone can do that. For those people, and for that very brief time, there needs to be a comfortable place to die with dignity.

I believe that the time is right to make this happen. The dream has been nurtured for a while, but until now the need hadn't been officially documented. The hospice community has known for years that Chatham could not offer the range of services that surrounding county hospices could. Those surrounding counties built and support their hospice house for those that cannot be served in their own home. The medical need has been established. Now it is time to establish that the community supports a hospice house for Chatham county.

This is to express my support for a hospice house in Chatham County. I will support it with my time and energy. I will support it financially. I would be delighted to help provide a much-needed and long-dreamed-of hospice house for Chatham county. I believe there are also many others that will step up to make this happen.

Sincerely,


10 Crosswinds Estates Dr.
Pittsboro, NC 27312

**MILTON D. PIEDRA
647 LOGAN LANE
LIBERTY, N.C. 27298-8267**

336-622-1990

MPIEDRA2@JUNO.COM

June 14, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P. O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need
Determination for Hospice
Inpatient Beds in Chatham
County

Dear Mrs. Barker

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

I have been a hospice volunteer for the past 6 years serving the Miami area and approximately 10 years serving UNC Hospice. Nothing disturbs me more than to find myself serving a hospice patient in a home that is cluttered and unkempt; a room that serves as a bedroom for the patient that is crawling with roaches; a room where the dogs and cats have the run of the place. These have been some of my personal experiences. Compare this to the cleanliness of hospital rooms - there is a world of difference. The reason why I choose a hospice facility.

UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and the many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

Referrals to the hospice are likely to continue to increase due to more patients and families understanding the benefits of hospice care.

UNC Hospice has earned strong community support from civic groups, churches and local physicians.

Approval of this petition request by UNC Hospice is justified based on the need of our community.

Sincerely,

Milton D. Piedra



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

DIVISION OF GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGY

CAMPUS BOX 7572
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-7572

T 919.966.1194
T 919.966.5996
F 919.966.2646
A 919.966.7822 Clinic
www.uncobgyn.org

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice
Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

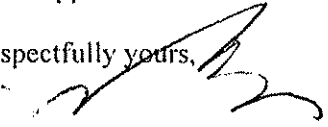
As a gynecologic oncologist practicing in Chatham County, I am writing this letter in strong support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has taken extraordinary care of my many patients and families in our community, at a very difficult time in their lives. The UNC hospice staff has proven to be highly skilled and most caring and compassionate. I have gotten such wonderful feedback from my cancer patients and their families.

The growth of hospice services will increase in future years as more patients are now documenting their end-of-life choices in the form of advanced directives. An increasing number of my gynecologic oncology patients in Chatham and Orange Counties do not have local relatives to assist in hospice home care. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County is a hardship for the patients as well as causing some extended lengths of stay in our acute care hospitals. UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

I am convinced that the development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services, resulting in even better care of our patients.

For these reasons and the justification provided in the petition by UNC Hospice, I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully yours,


Victoria Bae-Jump, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Division of Gynecologic Oncology
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Gynecologic Oncology Attendings

VICTORIA BAE-JUMP, MD, PhD
JOHN L. BOGGESS, MD
WENDY R. BREWSTER, MD, PhD
DANIEL L. CLARKE-PEARSON, MD
WESTLEY C. FOWLER, JR., MD
PAOLA A. GEHRIG, MD
JOHN C. SOPLER, MD
LINDA VAN LE, MD

Gynecologic Oncology Fellows

AMANDA JACKSON, MD
JOSHUA KILGORE, MD
EMILY KO, MD
KEVIN M. SCHUEFER, MD
ANUJ SURI, MD

Oncology Nurse Clinicians

ANNE DUNLAP, RN
LYN EHLER, RN
BECKY KIRCHNER, RN
LYNNA M. WOODS, RN

Clinic Director

PAT BULLERTON, RN, NP

Clinical Trials Data Manager

ELIZABETH HILL

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

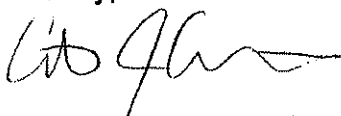
Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has an outstanding reputation for providing exceptional end of life care. Extending that quality of care to an inpatient hospice facility will provide a more comprehensive level of care in a home-like environment.

For the past several years the standard need methodology in the State Medical Facilities Plan has shown a deficit of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County. This year the deficit continues for Chatham; also, a shortage of inpatient beds exists in Orange County. Allocating six inpatient hospice beds to Chatham County will effectively eliminate these deficits and provide access to a complete continuum of hospice services.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crista Creedle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Crista Creedle, RN, BSN, OCN
Patient Services Manager III
4 Oncology
UNC Hospitals



James B. Holt, M.D.
Family Practice
Michael J. Tyler, M.D.
Family Practice
Erik Butler, D.O.
Family Practice
Sujatha Sajeevan, M.D.
Family Practice

Robert Wilson, M.D.
Family Practice
Cindy Julich, F.N.P.-C
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified
Dawn Erikson, F.N.P.-C
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified
Christine Strayhorn, F.N.P.-BC
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County.

Dear Mrs. Barker:

As a physician practicing in Chatham County, I am writing this letter in support of the petition for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. I have worked with UNC Hospice and found them to be a great benefit to many patients and families in our community. The UNC hospice staff is highly skilled, caring, compassionate, and professional.

The growth of hospice services will increase in the future years as more patients are now documenting their end-of-life choices in the form of advanced directives. An increasing number of my elderly patients in Chatham County do not have local relatives to assist in hospice home care. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County is a hardship for patients as well as causing some extended lengths of stay in our hospitals. UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

I am convinced that the development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services.

I urge you to approve the petition by UNC Hospice for six inpatient beds. Thank you for your support and consideration. Inpatient hospice care in Chatham County will greatly benefit those patients and families in need of this necessary service.

Sincerely,

Erik Butler, DO



June 11, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

For 4 years, it has been my honor to introduce Libby Hart, RN, as a guest speaker to our Growth and Development class in the UNC-CH School of Nursing to discuss her work as a Hospice nurse. I find her presentation about her patients and their families thrilling, because they introduce these first-semester students to the idea that the end of life is a rich and meaningful area for nursing, and that death can be handled with respect and dignity, and even comfort. Without fail, students tell me how they had initially dreaded the class, and then were surprised how reassuring, fascinating and uplifting Ms. Hart's presentation was. Every semester, several students decide that this may be the field for them. Some have even done their final preceptorship with UNC Hospice. This generosity and generativity of spirit speaks volumes about the excellent professionalism of Ms. Hart and her program.

With this in mind, I am writing to offer my strong support to the petition by UNC Hospice for a 6-bed unit in Chatham County. UNC Hospice has given so generously and comprehensively to the community, but sometimes in-home care becomes overwhelming. Hospice beds will greatly increase the options available to families who are underserved in Chatham County. I can think of no better guardians of end-of-life dignity and comfort than UNC Hospice. This is what I would choose for my own family.

Sincerely,

Pat Gingrich, RN, MSN, WHNP-BC
Clinical Assistant Professor
(919) 270-9060

The UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA *at* CHAPEL HILL

CB#7460, Carrington Hall · Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7460



James B. Holt, M.D.
Family Practice
Michael J. Tyler, M.D.
Family Practice
Erik Butler, D.O.
Family Practice
Sujatha Sajeewan, M.D.
Family Practice

Robert Wilson, M.D.
Family Practice
Cindy Julich, F.N.P.-C
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified
Dawn Erikson, F.N.P.-C
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified
Christine Strayhorn, F.N.P.-BC
Family Nurse Practitioner, Certified

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County.

Dear Mrs. Barker,

I am writing to express my support for the UNC Hospice petition that requests an adjusted need determination for six inpatient hospice beds to be allocated to Chatham County. As the Medical Director for UNC Hospice, I can confirm that the demand for inpatient hospice care is continuing to grow at a higher rate than other health care services as the population is aging and more patients and families understand the benefits that hospice provides. The population of Chatham County has increased by approximately 29 percent between 2000 and 2010.

An inpatient hospice facility in Chatham County is the best location due to the proximity to patient populations that utilize UNC Hospitals and Chatham Hospital. UNC Hospice has a genuine need to develop inpatient capacity to ensure that patients have timely access to a full scope of hospice services. During the previous year UNC Hospice served the majority of hospice patients from Chatham County.

Our collaborative relationship with the UNC Health Care System strengthens our ability to provide palliative care to patients and families. In addition, having an inpatient facility will enable us to expand our staff training, volunteer training and clinical affiliation relationships.

I fully support this proposal and hope that it can be accomplished in the near future.

Sincerely,

James B. Holt, MD

Frances Dillon

Dear Mrs. Barker,

In 1986 my husband and I
moved to Elnathorn County from
Boson, and immediately my
husband contacted Harpice to offer
his service as he had done with
the Menomochawitto Harpice. It and
I was and am voluntary
volunteers in their service.

My dear husband had the

last year of his life made so much
easier through the care of Harpice.

Frances Dillon

I implore you to consider the
need for a set of Gardening in
Chatham County, and give the
patriotic your support.

You have my gratitude for
your attention to my request.

Most sincerely,

Frances R. Dillon

3 Carolina Meadows

Appl. 206

Chapel Hill, N.C. 27517



UNC

THE CECIL G. SHEPS CENTER
FOR HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

Timothy S. Carey, M.D., M.P.H.
Sarah Graham Kenan Professor of Medicine
Director
Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research
Office Phone: 919-966-7100 Fax: 919-966-8918

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

725 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.
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F 919.966.8918

June 11, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post-Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Ms. Barker:

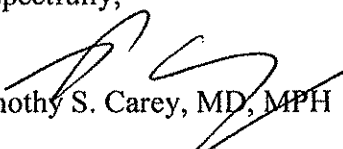
As a physician caring for patients residing in Chatham and adjacent counties, I am writing this letter in support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has been a great benefit to many patients and families in our community. The UNC hospice staff is highly skilled and most caring and compassionate.

The growth of hospice services will increase in future years as more patients are now documenting their end-of-life choices in the form of advanced directives. An increasing number of my elderly and chronically ill patients in Chatham and Orange Counties do not have local relatives to assist in hospice home care. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County is a hardship for the patients as well as causing some extended lengths of stay in our acute care hospitals. In addition to my ambulatory practice, I am an inpatient attending at UNC Hospitals and address these issues on a regular basis. UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

I am convinced that the development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services.

For these reasons and the justification provided in the petition by UNC Hospice, I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully,


Timothy S. Carey, MD, MPH



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE
CENTER FOR AGING AND HEALTH
5003 OLD CLINIC, CB 7550
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F 919.966.9734

June 14, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am an attending physician in Geriatric Medicine, and in the UNC Palliative Care Program, an interdisciplinary service across UNC Hospitals which provides palliative and "pre-hospice" care to a wide variety of seriously ill patients. As a physician practicing for over 20 years in Orange County, and serving patients from Chatham County, I am strongly in support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice provides excellent care following discharge of many of the patients I serve.

While some patients desire aggressive life-sustaining treatment until the moment of death, research shows that 70% of seriously ill patients and their families prefer treatments to enhance comfort and quality of life near the end of life. Family, patients and health care providers report significant unmet needs for emotional and spiritual care and pain and symptom management for dying patients. UNC Hospice provides these services, as well as bereavement support for families after death, and has proven a positive impact on the quality of care at end of life.

Fully 31% of the patients we treat in Palliative Care at UNC are discharged to hospice services. Most hospice care is delivered in patients' homes, but this requires that the patient have a willing, and able, family caregiver 24 hours a day and that the patient care needs can be met by the family. As a Palliative Medicine physician, I see many patients each month whose families simply do not have the financial, physical or emotional resources necessary to support home hospice care. They need inpatient hospice care.

Sadly, there is often a waiting list for existing inpatient hospice beds, or a lack of services in the patient's home county. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County is a hardship for patients we serve from this area. When these patients come from Chatham County, they must choose less optimal care (such as remaining in hospital) or inpatient hospice care far from family and friends who support them during their final illness.

Development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services. For these reasons I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura C. Hanson MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" at the end being more distinct.

Laura C. Hanson, MD, MPH
Professor of Medicine
Division of Geriatric Medicine

Thoracic Surgery
3040 Burnett Womack Bldg.
UNC Health Care
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

June 13, 2012

Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Ms. Barker,

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six inpatient hospice beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

I am a nurse practitioner with UNC Health Care and I occasionally work with UNC Hospice. I've seen the need for inpatient hospice services, whether it be to palliate acute issues (e.g., uncontrollable pain or seizures) or to provide respite for the patients' caregivers. In addition, there are patients who do not have adequate home support and are best served in a homelike, inpatient setting.

For the past several years there has been a deficit of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham and Orange Counties. Currently our patients who require inpatient care are transferred to facilities like Chatham Hospital or Duke Hospice. Allocating six inpatient beds will eliminate these deficits and provide access to a continuum of hospice services in a more convenient location.

The UNC Hospice group has an amazing group of nurses. An inpatient hospice unit will complement their efforts to care for this special group of patients.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Terrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kyle" and last name "Terrell" clearly distinguishable.

Kyle Terrell, ACNP-BC, OCN

RAY THOMAS GOOCH
P. O. BOX 785
PITTSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27312

Ms. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro , NC 27313

Dear Ms. Barker,

My name is Ray Gooch. I have served as pastor of Brown's Chapel and Pleasant Hill United Methodist Churches in Chatham County for 30 years. For about ten of those years I was also volunteer chaplain for Hospice of Chatham. I am writing this letter in support of plans to build an inpatient Hospice Care Facility in Chatham County.

During these thirty years of my residency and work in Chatham County I have had church members, friends and family members who have both had Hospice in home care and care at facilities in Raleigh, Durham, Hillsborough, Chapel Hill and Asheboro. Each time the patient and family had to leave their nearby residences to travel out of county for the care during the final days of their lives. While these have been wonderful facilities and all were treated as though they were local neighbors, it would have been much more timely and easy for the family support group and community support groups to have been able to visit and care for patients in a more local facility.

As Chatham County continues to grow and as more retirement communities expand and develop, we would naturally anticipate that more and more people will be coming to end of life seasons and needing care both in their homes and with inpatient care.

I wholeheartedly endorse a plan to build a six bed care facility in Chatham County. I believe that our community will support this project in whatever means are needed. Please know that will be glad to give continuing endorsement to whomever it is applicable. Blessings to all who make these decisions that will benefit the citizens of our county and who may be able to help others in surrounding areas as well.

Hopefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Gooch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" and last name "Gooch" clearly distinguishable.

Ray Thomas Gooch
919 542-3033



www.unehealthcare.org

Mrs. Mattie Barker

P.O. Box 1077

Pittboro, NC. 27312

Dear Mrs Parker,

I would like to add my list to ^{Name to this} ~~the~~ petition for Dyett's Road
for important Hoopie Bed's in Clinton County.

As you know, I was the founder of Hospice in our state, and as an internist dealing with terminal patients, have appreciated and extensively used Hospice services. We raised money & built the in-patient option near Hallsboro (always full) and perceive that with the aging of our population, exercising this service—especially in Chatham, would be a great service.

Please call on me if any other support would help.

Sincerely -

James A. Bryan M.D.
Prof of medicine

P.S. I have many Clethra plants.

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

June 11, 2012

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

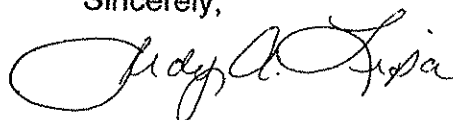
I am pleased to know that UNC Hospice has an opportunity to obtain inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County. I was Executive Director of UNC Hospice from April, 1999 until my retirement beginning April 1, 2011. There were many times during that tenure that an inpatient bed was required for an at home hospice patient. The only option available was a transfer to a contracted hospital or a transfer to another hospice's inpatient facility. Inpatient care in a hospital is difficult for hospice patients and families as the patient often needs to be admitted through the ED. This is an arduous experience for all patients, let alone a patient at the end of life. A hospice home is the best solution. These beds are at a premium and often there is a waiting list for admission.

UNC Hospice has exemplary patient and family satisfaction. In the years of my work with hospice the one request I heard frequently was that families and physicians wanted UNC Hospice to have their own Hospice home. The community that is served by UNC Hospice deserves a hospice inpatient unit especially with recent growth. This would be a much needed gift to the people of Chatham County and contiguous counties served by UNC Hospice.

UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham County and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties. Referrals to UNC Hospice have steadfastly increased through the years as more people understand the benefits of hospice care. This hospice has always shared strong community and local church support. Physician referral and satisfaction will only be strengthened by the ability of UNC Hospice to provide inpatient hospice care.

Approval of this petition request by UNC Hospice is justified based on the needs of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Judy A. Lipa".

Judy A. Lipa,
Former Executive Director, UNC Hospice



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Lawrence B. Marks, M.D., FASTRO
Dr. Sidney K. Simon Distinguished
Professor of Oncology Research
Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology
CB#7512, 101 Manning Dr.
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7512

Phone: (919) 966-0400
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email: lmarks@med.unc.edu

June 6, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
PO Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am the Chair of the department of Radiation Oncology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The physicians in my Department provide care, largely for patients with cancer, in five centers in Orange, Wake, and Johnson Counties (UNC hospitals, Rex, Wakefield, Smithfield and Clayton). Approximately 40% of the patients who receive radiation therapy are treated with a palliative intent; that is, the goal of therapy is to improve symptoms, rather than curing the illness. Many of our patients are near the end of their life, and do avail themselves of hospice services. Based on my first-hand experience with many dying patients, I can attest that UNC Hospice provides outstanding care for our patients in need.

I'm writing to express my strongest support for the petition by UNC Hospice to increase the need determination for inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County in the State Medical Facilities plan for 2013. Increasing the number of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham will help hospice providers to give the patients this extraordinarily-important care.

Therefore, I strongly urge that this petition for six additional hospice beds be approved.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lawrence B. Marks, M.D.



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Mrs. Kathleen Barker

Clinical Director, Post Acute Services

UNC Hospice

P.O. Box 1077

Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker,

I am writing this letter in strong support for the allocation of six hospice inpatient beds to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. As a practicing radiation oncologist, I frequently rely on the high level of quality care that hospice provides my patients near the end of their lives. Frequently patients require more intense care that is just not achievable in their home, and is best delivered in the setting of an inpatient unit. Unfortunately, patients sometimes remain in acute care facilities when these beds might be better occupied with patients with more acute/"fixable" problems.

I think that the addition of at least 6 inpatient hospice beds will allow us to better take care of our sick patients, which is what helps us distinguish UNC from other facilities.

I welcome any additional questions if you would like to speak with me. Thank you kindly. I remain,

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Zagar

Assistant Professor

Dept. of Radiation Oncology

NC Clinical Cancer Center

101 Manning Dr.

Chapel Hill, NC 27599

zagar@med.unc.edu

Tel: 919-966-0400 Fax: 919-966-7681



UNC
HEALTHCARE

PITTSBORO FAMILY
MEDICINE

June 8, 2012

Kathleen Barker

Clinical Director, Post Acute Services

UNC Hospice

PO Box 1077

Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Ms. Barker

I am writing in support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six inpatient hospice beds to be located in Chatham County. I have practiced family medicine in Pittsboro for over fifteen years and have been pleased with the services that UNC Hospice has provided to our patients. Unfortunately, some of my patients have been unable to avail themselves of their services because of the lack of family members to be in attendance at home. The hospice inpatient unit will rectify this problem and allow our patients to die with dignity in a pleasant facility.

In addition, I am the medical director of the Laurels of Chatham skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility in Pittsboro. Some of our patients at the Laurels may also be candidates for admission to the inpatient hospice facility.

I urge the approval of the petition for the inpatient hospice unit. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

John Corey, MD

Ms. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
PO Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted need determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham Co

Dear Ms. Barker,

I am the retired former clinical supervisor for UNC Hospice and am pleased the thought of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham Co. could become a reality. There were so many times, I had wished for that opportunity for terminal care of UNC Hospice's patients in our own facility, rather than transferring the person to another hospice and its' facility. Additionally, this care involved driving long distances to reach the facility. With this care available, the patient would receive the continuity of care so desired for every patient. It would also be such a blessing to have respite care for families who just "need a break" from the difficult and tiring day to day care of a loved one.

Currently there is no facility in Chatham Co., and it is a much needed service to provide care to the increasing numbers of Chatham Co. residents who seek hospice care at the end of life. As one of our patients said, "I want to have hospice care so I can have a soft landing". UNC Hospice does its' best to provide a gentle end of life.

I am in strong support of the petition by UNC Hospice to have the six inpatient beds in Chatham Co. be included in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

Hopefully, this six inpatient facility will become a reality.

Sincerely,


Linda K. Textoris, RN



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

RICHARD H. FEINS, M.D.
Professor of Surgery

THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL

DIVISION of CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY
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F 919.966.3475

June 7, 2012

Ms. Catherine Barker
Clinical Director, Post-Acute Services
UNC Hospice
PO Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Dear Ms. Barker:

I am very glad that plans are moving forward to make an inpatient Hospice facility in Chatham County a reality. As a Thoracic Surgical Oncologist working at UNC Hospitals, it has been proven to me time and time again to me that Hospice care is an integral part of comprehensive cancer care. In addition, there are a significant number of patients who because of their overall medical condition cannot be cared for at home. This is the result of the significant burden it will place, not only on the patient, but his/her family. The ability of Hospice care to not only provide the appropriate level of comfort to the patient but also to allow loved ones and family members to deal with the circumstances in a way that allows them to most productively carry on in the future is beyond question. I would see an inpatient Hospice facility in Chatham County as not only delivering the essential Hospice care to that group of patients who cannot be cared for at home, but also serving as a resource center for all Hospice care.

It is also no doubt that an inpatient Hospice alternative is the standard of care for a significant amount of comprehensive cancer care in this country.

I fully support an inpatient Hospice facility of at least 6 beds in Chatham County and I look forward to the approval of the petition for these beds. Thank you very much and please don't hesitate to call me if I can be of any further help in this very important initiative.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Feins, MD
Professor of Surgery
Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery



UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

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T 919.966.5996
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Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice
Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Gynecologic Oncology Division at the University of North Carolina. Our division frequently utilizes the inpatient palliative care services at UNC and our patients often require referral for both inpatient and outpatient hospice services. While outpatient hospice services are phenomenal for those patients and families who only require at home services, many of our patients and/or their families require more acute services and needs. In this setting, inpatient hospice referral may be necessary. In this area, our options are limited as the Rex facilities may not be convenient to many of our patients and the other sites (Meadowlands and Houck Pavilion) often have waiting lists and the delay in transfer can be very distressing to our patients and their families. As practicing oncologists in Orange County, I am writing this letter on the behalf of the Gynecologic Oncology Division, in support of the petition by UNC Hospice for six hospice inpatient beds to be allocated to Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has been a great benefit to many patients and families in our community. The UNC hospice staff is highly skilled and most caring and compassionate.

The growth of hospice services will increase in future years as more patients are now documenting their end-of-life choices in the form of advanced directives. An increasing number of our patients in Orange, Chatham and surrounding counties do not

Gynecologic Oncology Attendings

VICTORIA BAL-JUMP, MD, PhD
JOHN L. BOGGESS, MD
WENDY R. BREWSTER, MD, PhD
DANIEL L. CLARKE-PARSON, MD
WESLEY C. FOWLER, JR., MD
PAOLA A. GEHRIG, MD
JOHN E. SOPER, MD
LINDA VAN LE, MD

Gynecologic Oncology Fellows

AMANDA JACKSON, MD
JOSHUA KELGORE, MD
EMILY KO, MD
KEVIN M. SCHULER, MD
ANUJ SURI, MD

Oncology Nurse Clinicians

ANNE DUNLAP, RN
LYN FILIP, RN
BECKY KIRCHNER, RN
LYNNA M. WOODS, RN

Clinic Director

PAT BUTTERTON, RN, NP

Clinical Trials Data Manager

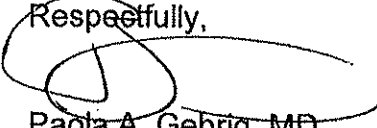
ELIZABETH HILL

have local relatives to assist in hospice home care. The lack of inpatient hospice beds in this area is a hardship for the patients as well as causing some extended lengths of stay in our acute care hospitals. UNC Hospice currently serves the majority of hospice admissions for residents of Chatham and Orange Counties and many hospice patients residing in adjoining counties.

I am convinced that the development of an inpatient hospice facility with at least six inpatient beds would be the best option to provide a complete continuum of hospice services.

For these reasons and the justification provided in the petition by UNC Hospice, I urge the approval of the petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Respectfully,



Paola A. Gehrig, MD



UNC
HOSPITALS

June 6, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post - Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. UNC Hospice has an outstanding reputation for providing exceptional end of life care. Extending that quality of care to an inpatient hospice facility will provide a more comprehensive level of care in a home-like environment.

For the past several years the standard need methodology in the State Medical Facilities Plan has shown a deficit of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County. This year the deficit continues for Chatham; also, a shortage of inpatient beds exists in Orange County. Allocating six inpatient hospice beds to Chatham County will effectively eliminate these deficits and provide access to a complete continuum of hospice services.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tammy A. Allred, RN, OCN
UNC Cancer Center
Thoracic and Sarcoma Nurse Navigator
101 Manning Dr., Level B, CB#301
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
Phone: 919-966-1669
Fax: 919-843-9116

UNC
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

June 6, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

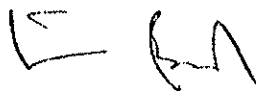
Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am a medical oncologist on the faculty of the University of North Carolina. I am also board certified in Hospice and Palliative Care. I have been in practice in this region of North Carolina for 31.5 years and during that time have previously served as the Medical Director of the Chatham County Hospice. I am extremely familiar with the current operation as I frequently have 2-3 patients enrolled in UNC Hospice (the successor organization). I also refer to hospices throughout central and eastern North Carolina and can informally compare this hospice to the other ones.

I find this hospice to be extremely responsive to patients and their families. They have consistently put care first and have worked hard to make this their first priority and have succeeded extremely well. Currently, however, their ability to care for patients and families in Southern Orange County and Chatham County is limited by the lack of inpatient hospice beds. While various "work-around" solutions are being used, I believe that their exemplary care can be further complemented by the addition of inpatient beds giving them the flexibility to provide respite care for families, and inpatient care for patients whose needs exceed what can be provided in the home, as well as other services that can only be provided within an inpatient facility.

Having inpatient beds that are under their direct control will ensure that patients from this region can be provided the full complement of modern hospice care as it is delivered elsewhere in central and eastern North Carolina. I urge that this CON be favorably reviewed to permit the patients and families of the region that UNC Hospice serves to have modern and complete care at End of Life. I would be happy to provide more information in support of this CON.

Sincerely,



Stephen Bernard, MD, FACP
Professor of Medicine
Co-Director, UNC Palliative Care Program
Medical Director, UNC Supportive Care Consultation and Outpatient Clinic Service

Division of Hematology/Oncology
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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UNC
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DANIEL CLARKE-PEARSON, MD
Robert A. Ross Professor & Chair

KIM SCHNEIDER, MPH, CMPE
Vice Chair, Administration
M. KATHRYN MENARD, MD, MPH
Vice Chair, Obstetrics

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

June 6, 2012

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the adjusted need determination for six hospice inpatient beds for Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan. I am a gynecologic oncologist at UNC and frequently have the opportunity to refer my patients and their families for hospice services. UNC Hospice has an outstanding reputation for providing exceptional end of life care. Extending that quality of care to an inpatient hospice facility will provide a more comprehensive level of care in a home-like environment.

For the past several years the standard need methodology in the State Medical Facilities Plan has shown a deficit of inpatient hospice beds in Chatham County. This year the deficit continues for Chatham; also, a shortage of inpatient beds exists in Orange County. Allocating six inpatient hospice beds to Chatham County will effectively eliminate these deficits and provide access to a complete continuum of hospice services.

I urge the approval of the UNC Hospice petition for six inpatient hospice beds. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Clarke-Pearson, MD
Robert A. Ross Distinguished Professor and Chair

Sara Donaldson
452 Powell Place
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312
919-542-5354
saradonaldson61@gmail.com

June 5, 2012

Mrs. Kathleen Barker
Clinical Director, Post Acute Services
UNC Hospice
P.O. Box 1077
Pittsboro, NC 27312

Re: Petition for Adjusted Need Determination for Hospice Inpatient Beds in Chatham County

Dear Mrs. Barker:

I am writing to support the petition by UNC Hospice to include the need determination for six inpatient beds in Chatham County in the 2013 State Medical Facilities Plan.

My family has had three experiences with UNC Hospice. In 2009, my mother in law was under Hospice care in our home as a result of cancer. Last year, my father-in-law began a sudden decline with Parkinson Disease and we were able to bring him to our home from an Assisted Living facility, with Hospice care. I had recently had major surgery and could not have traveled to another Hospice facility out of the county so our only option was to bring him home.

Most recently, our 58 year old cousin, Bruce, was battling cancer and made a specific request, "when the time comes, please take me to a Hospice Home. They waited too late for Steve." Allow me to explain. Steve was his brother, who at age 55, died with lung cancer in 2005. He was moved to the Hospice house in Hillsborough and died within a few hours of arrival. Bruce never married and was living at home with his wheel-chair bound mother. He wanted to go to a Hospice house so that his mother would not watch him die. She had already lost two children. We moved him to Chatham Hospital for a few days until we could find a bed for him. Bruce passed away peacefully at the Randolph County Hospice house on May 23rd. He was there for six days and it was a wonderful experience for him and for all of us. The distance was an issue being so far from home but we sacrificed to honor his request and not be at home.

UNC Hospice has wrapped their arms around our family and made a difficult time much easier to cope. Having a facility here in Chatham would only offer a much needed option for local families by being close to home during the end of life care. Another thought that came to me while spending a few days at Chatham Hospital...would there