



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

May 10, 2024

Leigh Hickman
Leigh.hickman@caromonthealth.org

Exempt from Review – Acquisition of Facility

Record #: 4445
Date of Request: April 8, 2024
Facility Name: Hospice of Gaston County
Type of Facility: Hospice
FID #: 943869
Acquisition by: CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC.
Business #: 3824
County: Gaston

Dear Ms. Hickman:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency) determined that the project described above is exempt from certificate of need (CON) review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(a)(8). Therefore, the above referenced business may proceed to acquire the health service facility identified above without first obtaining a CON. The Agency's determination is limited to the question of whether the above referenced business would have to obtain a CON if the current owners of the health service facility do in fact sell it to the business listed above. Note that pursuant to G.S. 131E-181(b): "*A recipient of a certificate of need, or any person who may subsequently acquire, in any manner whatsoever permitted by law, the service for which that certificate of need was issued, is required to materially comply with the representations made in its application for that certificate of need.*"

If the business listed above does acquire the facility, you should contact the Agency's Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section to obtain instructions for changing ownership of the existing facility.

It should be noted that this Agency's position is based solely on the facts represented by you and that any change in facts as represented would require further consideration by this Agency and a separate determination regarding whether a certificate of need would be required. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Bradford, Project Analyst

Micheala Mitchell Chief

cc: Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification 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

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MAUREEN DEMAREST MURRAY
Direct No: 336.378.5258
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April 8, 2024

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Health Service Regulation
Health Planning and Certificate of Need Section
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Attention: Cynthia Bradford cynthia.bradford@dhhs.nc.gov
Mike McKillip Mike.McKillip@dhhs.nc.gov

Re: Notice of Exempt Acquisition of Hospice of Gaston County, Inc.
License # HC0812
Facility FID # 943869

Dear Ms. Bradford and Mr. McKillip:

We are writing on behalf of CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 131E-184 (a)(8), CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC hereby gives prior written notice of its plan to acquire the existing licensed hospice and home care agency, which is currently owned and operated by Hospice of Gaston County, Inc. and known as Gaston Hospice (“HOGC”), including any equipment owned by HOGC at the time of acquisition. HOGC is an existing licensed health service facility that is located at 258 E. Garrison Boulevard, Watertower Place, Gastonia, NC 28054.

As an existing licensed hospice and home care agency, HOGC is a hospice as defined in N.C.G.S. § 131E-176 (13a), which is included within the definition of health service facility in N.C.G.S. § 131E-176 (9b). Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 131E-184 (a)(8), the Agency shall exempt from certificate of need review acquisition of an existing health service facility if it receives prior written notice from the entity proposing to acquire the existing health service facility.

CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC anticipates completing the acquisition sometime in 2024. CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC will become the licensed owner and operator of the existing hospice and home care agency and will apply for a newly issued license at the appropriate time when the transfer will become effective. CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC wishes to acquire HOGC as part of an effort to include several hospice entities under a new umbrella organization to enhance its services and seek to accomplish efficiencies of operation.

A Pennsylvania Limited Liability Partnership

We look forward to receiving from you written acknowledgment of the exemption. Please let us know if you have any questions.

With kind regards,



Maureen Demarest Murray

Encls.

MDM:/trh

From: [Mckillip, Mike](#)
To: [Stancil, Tiffany C](#); [Bradford, Cynthia L](#)
Subject: FW: [External] Notices of Exempt Hospice Acquisition by CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC.
Date: Tuesday, May 7, 2024 4:32:32 PM
Attachments: [HOGC Notice of Exempt Acquisition Letter to CON Section.2.24\(155518652.3\)-C.pdf](#)
[Robin Johnson House Notice of Exempt Acquisition Letter to CON Section.2.24\(155519229.3\)-C.pdf](#)

Hi Tiffany and Cindy,

These two exemption request evidently fell through the cracks. Can you long them in? Cindy, can you prepare exemption letters for them? Thanks.

Mike

Michael Mckillip

Team Leader, Certificate of Need
Division of Health Service Regulation, Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need
[NC Department of Health and Human Services](#)

Office: 919-855-3877 (I am in the office on Wednesday and Friday, and can best be reached by email on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.)
mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov

809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton
2704 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

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From: Murray, Maureen Demarest <MMurray@foxrothschild.com>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 5:06 PM
To: Bradford, Cynthia L <cynthia.bradford@dhhs.nc.gov>; Mckillip, Mike

<mike.mckillip@dhhs.nc.gov>

Subject: [External] Notices of Exempt Hospice Acquisition by CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC.

You don't often get email from mmurray@foxrothschild.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Cynthia and Mike,

Hope that your week is off to a good start.

Please see the attached notices of exempt acquisition of existing licensed hospice entities by CaroMont Serious Illness Partners, LLC..

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any other information to acknowledge that these anticipated acquisitions are exempt from CON review.

We appreciate your help and prompt consideration.

Kind regards, Maureen

Maureen Demarest Murray

Partner

Health Care Practice Co-Leader

[Redacted]

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