
Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee

Recommendations to the North Carolina State Health Coordinating Council

October 2, 2019

The Long-Term and Behavioral Health Committee met once after the August Council meeting, on September 5.

Following is an overview of the Committee's recommendations for the Long-Term Care Facilities and Services, Chapters 10-16, of the *2020 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)*. For all chapters, inventories have been updated to reflect any changes, and data tables include placeholders where applicable. All inventories and need determinations are subject to change.

Chapter 10: Nursing Care Facilities

The Agency received no petitions relating to nursing care facilities.

Data Updates

There are no significant updates to the tables in this chapter. Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in no draft need determinations.

Chapter 11: Adult Care Homes

The Agency received no petitions relating to adult care homes.

Data Updates

The application of the adult care home methodology based on data and information currently available results in the following draft need determinations for 320 adult care home beds, broken down as follows:

- 100 beds in Gates County
- 90 beds in Pamlico County
- 50 beds in Surry County
- 80 beds in Tyrell County

Chapter 12: Home Health Services

The Agency received one petition related to this chapter.

Petition: Fair Haven Home, Inc.

- **Request:** Fair Haven Home, Inc. (Fair Haven) requests an adjusted need determination for one Medicare-certified home health agency or office in Rutherford County in the *North Carolina 2020 State Medical Facilities Plan (SMFP)*. The Agency received one letter opposing the petition.
- **Committee Recommendation:** The standard methodology determined that there is no need for a new Medicare-certified home health office in Rutherford County. The Petitioner asserted that a locally owned home health agency would provide services that would not be available from home health agencies who are part of a larger company based outside the county or state. Neither intrinsic values nor location are elements used in the calculation of the standard methodology. Based on information reported on 2019 LRAs, 11 agencies serve patients who are residents of Rutherford County. Two agencies are located in Rutherford County. Furthermore, the Petition provided no clear evidence that the needs of the residents of Rutherford County are not being currently met by existing agencies providing home health services in Rutherford County. The committee concurred with the Agency's recommendation to deny this Petition.

Data Updates

The application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in no draft need determinations.

Chapter 13: Hospice Services

The Agency received two petitions related to this chapter.

Petition: Novant Health Hospice and Trellis Supportive Care

- **Request:** Novant Health Hospice (Novant) and Trellis Supportive Care (Trellis) each submitted a petition, requesting the removal of a need determination for a hospice home care office for Rowan County from the *Proposed 2020 SMFP*.
- **Committee Recommendation:** The standard methodology determined a need for one hospice home care agency or office in Rowan County. The need determination can be directly attributed to increases in the county's death rate per 1,000 population, estimated county population, and an increase in the statewide median percentage of deaths served. The Petitioners claim that low volumes during an organizational transition created the need determination. The 2020 Proposed SMFP uses hospice patient deaths reported in the 2019 Hospice Annual Data Supplement, for the 2018 reporting year. To adjust for lower hospice deaths during the transition period, the Agency substituted the reported number of hospice patient deaths for the 2017 reporting year for Rowan County, kept all other values constant, and then ran the methodology. Even with this adjustment, a need determination remains. The committee agreed with the Agency's recommendation to deny this Petition.

Data Updates

Application of the methodologies based on data and information currently available results in draft need determinations for one new hospice home agency or office in Rowan County and 8 hospice inpatient beds in Cumberland County.

Chapter 14: Psychiatric Inpatient Services

The Agency received no petitions or comments for this chapter.

Data Updates

Since the last LTBH Committee meeting, there have been updates and corrections made to the data in the Tables for this chapter. This has changed the needs for child/adolescent beds. Currently there are draft need determinations for a total of 89 for child/adolescent psychiatric inpatient beds in the following LMC-MCOs:

- 11 in Alliance
- 28 in Eastpointe
- 10 in Partners
- 16 in Sandhills
- 24 in Vaya Health

The state now has need for 2 adult psychiatric inpatient beds in the Sandhills Center LME-MCO.

Chapter 15: Substance Use Disorder Inpatient & Residential Services (Chemical Dependency Treatment Beds)

The Agency received one petition for this chapter.

Petition: Addiction Recovery Care Association

- **Request:** Addiction Recovery Care Association requested an adjusted need determination for 32 additional residential substance use disorder treatment beds in the Central Planning Region, specifically Forsyth County. Although not explicitly stated, the petitioner appears to be requesting adult beds. The Agency received five letters of support for this petition. This petition was filed last year, also, but there no CON applications were received to develop the beds.
- **Committee Recommendation:** The Petitioner focused on high patient in-migration from other regions and high demand for access to services by the indigent population. The Agency found that two of the Central Region's LME-MCOs have some bed availability, but the majority of facilities are highly utilized within the Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Solutions LME-MCO, which includes Forsyth County. The Agency also notes that the majority of treatment programs in the Central Region that serve indigent persons are in the Cardinal LME-MCO, and generally, beds in those treatment programs are highly utilized as well. The Committee concurred with the Agency's recommendation to approve an adjusted need determination for 32 adult substance use disorder treatment beds in the Central Region, specifically for Forsyth County. The Committee further recommends that the need determination stipulate that CON applicants must commit to establishing a contract with the Cardinal Innovations Healthcare Solutions LME-MCO to treat underserved populations, specifically the indigent and/or uninsured.

Data Updates

Application of the methodology based on data and information currently available results in a draft need for 20 child/adolescent beds in the Central Region and 3 beds in the Western Region. The Eastern Region has a need for 1 adult bed.

Chapter 16: Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

The Agency received no petitions, comments, or data updates related to this chapter.

Recommendations Related to All Chapters

The Committee recommends to the State Health Coordinating Council approval of Chapters 10 - 16: Long-Term Care Facilities and Services, with the understanding that staff is authorized to continue making necessary updates to the narratives, tables, and need determinations as indicated.