

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Emergency Certificate of Need

TO: Regina Figueroa, LNHA, MHS
Chief Administrative Officer
Stella Maris, Inc.
2300 Dulaney Valley Road
Lutherville-Timonium, Maryland 21093

May 10, 2020
Date

RE: Stella Maris, Inc.
Establishment of 11 Comprehensive Care Facility
Beds in a COVID-19 Unit

EM-NH-03-004
Docket No.

DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY PROJECT

This Emergency Certificate of Need authorizes Stella Maris, Inc. (Stella Maris), a comprehensive care facility (CCF) to establish up to 11 CCF beds in a unit that currently serves as a general inpatient hospice unit¹ on the fourth floor of the Pangborn Wing at Stella Maris, 2300 Dulaney Valley Road, Lutherville-Timonium (Baltimore County) (the Site). This unit, which will have 100% outside air and exhaust, will be used to isolate COVID-19 residents who need oxygen.² Stella Maris will restrict the single elevator that has access to the unit to be a COVID-19-only elevator. Stella Maris anticipates that 11-bed COVID-19 Unit can be operational within 24 hours.

ORDER

Upon consideration of the request of Stella Maris, suitably detailed information provided by the Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) and others, and consultation with the Chairman of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC), Ben Steffen, MHCC Executive Director, determined that, in accordance with COMAR 10.24.01.20A, this additional CCF bed capacity will lessen hazards presented to residents and/or employees because the additional beds will: (1) permit more private rooms, thereby lessening the opportunity for transmission of the novel coronavirus; (2) quarantine residents with mild COVID-19 cases; and/or (3) admit COVID-19 positive patients who do not (or no longer) require acute general hospital care.

Therefore, it is, on May 10, 2020, ordered by the Executive Director that an Emergency Certificate of Need issue for the project. It is further ordered that the requirement in COMAR 10.24.01.20C that Stella Maris file an application for Certificate of Need for the beds established in this Emergency Certificate of Need is suspended by the Executive Director pursuant to COMAR 10.24.01.10A(2) until at least 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020.

¹ The four hospice patients who currently reside in the fourth floor unit of the Pangborn Wing will move to an 11-bed general inpatient hospice unit with oxygen on the fifth floor. Stella Maris notes that it has been accepting fewer inpatient hospice admissions because of the pandemic.

² On April 9, 2020, the Executive Director issued an Emergency CON (Docket No. EM-NH-03-002) to Stella Maris to establish two COVID-19 units. Stella Maris has been unable to establish the approved 21-bed COVID-19 unit in the Sheehan Wing Auditorium due to of the unavailability of portable oxygen.

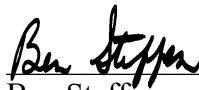
Approvals by Maryland Department of Health

This Emergency Certificate of Need does not constitute a license or replace any approvals for other aspects of the project that are required by OHCQ or other divisions of the Maryland Department of Health to operate CCF bed capacity at the Site.

Further Action

This Emergency Certificate of Need will be considered for confirmation by the Maryland Health Care Commission at its next scheduled meeting on May 21, 2020 or at an earlier meeting of which you will be notified. This Emergency Certificate of Need remains in effect for a maximum of 165 days, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20C, or until 30 days after the termination of the state of emergency declared by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. on March 5, 2020.

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION



Ben Steffen
Executive Director

cc: Robert R. Neall, Secretary of Health
Patricia T. Nay, M.D., Executive Director, OHCQ
David Cherry, Deputy Director, Long Term Care Unit, OHCQ
Gregory Wm. Branch, M.D., Health Officer, Baltimore County
Judith Weiland, Senior Vice President, Strategic/Capital Planning & Facilities,
Mercy Health Services, Inc.