

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Emergency Certificate of Need

TO: Mohan Suntha, M.D., President & CEO
University of Maryland Medical System Corporation
250 W. Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

December 18, 2020
Date

Nathaniel Richardson, Jr., President & CEO
University of Maryland Capital Region Health System
3001 Hospital Drive
Cheverly, Maryland 20785

RE: Establishment of a Temporary 10-Bed Acute Inpatient
Psychiatric Unit for COVID-19 Positive Patients at the
Temporary Remote Location of UM Prince George's
Hospital Center at UM Laurel Medical Center

EM-H20-16-039
Docket No.

DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY PROJECT

This Emergency Certificate of Need authorizes Dimensions Health Corporation d/b/a University of Maryland (UM) Capital Region Health to establish temporary inpatient bed capacity consisting of ten acute inpatient psychiatric beds for COVID-19 positive patients at the temporary remote location of the UM Prince George's Hospital Center¹ at the facility currently known as UM Laurel Medical Center, 7400 Van Dusen Road, Laurel (Prince George's County), Maryland (the Site). The ten beds will be located on Unit 4A of the Site, which previously was used for behavioral health services prior to the conversion of the former UM Laurel Regional Hospital to a freestanding medical facility. The total project cost, including facilities work and purchase of equipment, is estimated to be approximately \$500,000, which UM Capital Region Health intends to fund with available cash. UM Capital Region Health anticipates that the ten acute inpatient psychiatric beds will be operational no later than January 15, 2020 and states that it will only operate the 10-bed inpatient psychiatric unit for COVID-19 positive patients only as long as the beds are needed.

¹¹ On March 22, 2020, the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC or Commission) issued an Emergency Certificate of Need (Docket No. EM-H20-16-004) to Dimensions Health Corporation d/b/a UM Capital Region Health for the establishment of a 135-bed temporary remote location of UM Prince George's Hospital Center at the facility previously known as Laurel Regional Hospital. The Emergency Certificate of Need was confirmed by the Commission at a public meeting on April 3, 2020.

ORDER

Upon consideration of the request of UM Capital Region Health, 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, Ben Steffen, MHCC Executive Director, determined that the lack of sufficient inpatient bed capacity at Maryland general hospitals resulting from COVID-19 presents a hazard to patients and/or employees, as provided in COMAR 10.24.01.20A.

Therefore, it is, on December 18, 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 UM Capital Region Health file an application for Certificate of Need for the inpatient 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.

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 the OHCQ or other divisions of the Maryland Department of Health to operate inpatient 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 January 21, 2021. This Emergency Certificate of Need initially 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. The Emergency CON may be extended beyond that date for good cause shown.

CONDITION OF EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE OF NEED

Because it is important that the Maryland Health Care Commission and the Office of Health Care Quality know when the inpatient beds approved in this Emergency Certificate of Need are available for patients, it is further

ORDERED that UM Capital Region Health shall advise MHCC staff and OHCQ staff when the inpatient beds become operational at the Site, disclosing: (1) the number of beds in this Emergency CON that become available for patients; and (2) the date the beds become available. The hospital shall: notify MHCC staff by sending an email with this information to ruby.potter@maryland.gov; and notify OHCQ staff of this temporary increase in its licensed bed

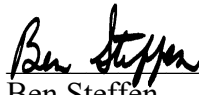
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capacity by completing OHCQ's Application for Temporary Adjustment of Hospital Beds, which is located at: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c7e6598943c84dd2ba9e39859a9f3383>.

MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION



Ben Steffen
Executive Director

cc: Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary of Health
Patricia T. Nay, M.D., Executive Director, Office of Health Care Quality
Renee Webster, Deputy Director, Federal Programs, Office of Health Care Quality
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director, HSCRC
Ernest L. Carter, M.D., Health Officer, Prince George's County
Thomas C. Dame, Esquire
James C. Buck, Esquire
Mallory Regenbogen, Esquire