



MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners

FROM: Wynee Hawk Chief, Certificate of Need

DATE: December 15, 2022

SUBJECT: Board of Child Care Certificate of Need for a four Bed Residential Treatment Center (RTC) in Baltimore County, Maryland (Docket No.) 22-03-2460

The Board of Child Care (BCC) is a private non-profit, located in Windsor Mill, Maryland (Baltimore County). BCC provides services throughout the Mid-Atlantic and is licensed to operate six group homes in Maryland as well as four outpatient centers for community-based programs. The Baltimore campus of BCC currently provides programs for high intensity group homes, treatment foster care and is home to the Strawbridge School.

The Maryland Children's Cabinet and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) identified a need to support youth experiencing extended and repetitive psychiatric stays in hospitals. In July 2021, MDH released a Notice of Funding Availability (NFA) to support the development of a program to meet these needs. Between January 2020 and July 2021, Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) reported a total of 628 DHS youth hospitalized in Maryland for psychiatric care and 84 (13 percent) of those hospitalized became overstay youth.

BCC responded to the NFA with a program proposed to address the hospital overstay crisis entitled the Bridge Residential Treatment Program (Bridge Program). The Bridge Program will provide stabilization services for youth upon discharge from the hospital. The applicant is proposing to obtain licensure as a four bed RTC to be in an existing cottage on the BCC Baltimore Campus. The applicant states that approximately 2967 square feet of interior space and 900 feet of exterior space will be renovated.

The program will serve youth needing psychiatric care who have co-occurring, behavioral, emotional, educational, and medical needs. BCC will provide services to male or female youth ages 14-20 years old. The Bridge Program will also provide placement support services. The proposed project has a total estimated cost of \$922,238. The proposed financing is a grant from MDH.

Based on the review of the proposed project's compliance with the Certificate of Need review criteria, and with the applicable standards in the State Health Plan, staff concludes that the project complies with the applicable standards, is needed, is a cost-effective approach to meeting the project's objectives, is viable and will have an impact that is positive with respect to the applicant's ability to provide residential treatment services to hospital overstay youth.

The condition of the CON is as follows:

The Board of Child Care shall document agreement to participate in The Healthy Kids Program, prior to First Use approval by the Commission as required by COMAR 10.24.07(g) Medical Assistance; [COMAR 10.24.07(g)].



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