**Everest Hospital, LLC**

Determination of Need Application

Transfer of Ownership of

***Vibra Hospital of Western Massachusetts – Central Campus***

(111 Huntoon Memorial Highway, Rochdale, Massachusetts)

October 29, 2024

# Proposed Project

## Transfer ownership of Vibra Hospital of Western Massachusetts – Central Campus (the “LTCH”)

* + Current Operator: Vibra Hospital of Western Massachusetts, LLC (“Vibra”)
  + Proposed New Operator: Everest Hospital, LLC (“Everest”)

## Who is Everest?

* + An experienced team with expertise in long term care administration.
  + Local operators who will be involved in day-to-day operations.
  + Our team will also acquire the Meadows (the “SNF”) which is located on the same campus as the LTCH.
  + Our Aim: Enhanced care coordination through a shared campus, leading to improved patient outcomes.
* Transferring ownership of the LTCH requires approval from the Department of Public Health through the Determination of Need (“DoN”) review process.
* Part of this process is to engage with our community in a meaningful discussion about the Proposed Project and receive input and feedback.

# Need for Proposed Project

## Hospital throughput has been and continues to be a challenge for the Commonwealth

* + The Massachusetts Hospital Association (“MHA”) June 2024 report1: 260 patients across 38 Massachusetts hospitals awaiting discharge to a long term acute care hospital or inpatient rehab facility.
  + 23% of those patients were waiting 30+ days.
  + Part of larger problem in the care continuum: 888 patients await discharge to nursing facilities.
  + A trend that MHA has monitored since 2021.

## The LTCH is an important link in the care continuum.

* + LTCH patients have medically complex needs and require specialized care.
  + The hospital backlog prevents patients from reaching their appropriate care settings.
  + LTCH patients can gradually step down from acute care settings while receiving care for chronic conditions.
  + Keeping the LTCH and the SNF on the same campus under the same ownership provides care coordination opportunities to improve patients’ transition through the care continuum.

1 [MHA Throughput Survey Reports](https://www.mhalink.org/throughputreports/) from the past year can be found at <https://www.mhalink.org/throughputreports/>

# Next Steps

* Gather community input through this presentation
* Timeline of approval and construction
  + Filing likely deemed “complete” in coming weeks
  + Then, a 4-month DON review period follows
  + If approved, we hope to complete the transfer in early 2025

We welcome your questions and feedback

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Thank You!

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