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 from the past year can be found at <u>https://www.mhalink.org/throughputreports/</u>

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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