



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality
Determination of Need Program
250 Washington Street, Boston MA 02511

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VIA EMAIL: hatiras_spiros@holyokehealth.com

November 10, 2020

Mr. Spiros Hatiras
President and CEO
Holyoke Medical Center
575 Beech Street
Holyoke, MA 01040

RE: Notification for Holyoke Medical Center Substantial Change in Service Related to COVID-19 State of Emergency

Dear Mr. Hatiras:

The Department received the notification above from Holyoke Medical Center, on October 30, 2020 to modify two (2) existing inpatient units to increase adult inpatient psychiatric bed capacity from the current twenty (20) beds to thirty-eight (38) and create a nine (9) bed child and adolescent unit to accommodate the needed increase in psychiatric beds.

The increased inpatient psychiatric bed capacity will be used to address a need for inpatient psychiatric services that has become more critical as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic as demonstrated by increased demand for these services. The increase in demand has been experienced in general, and particularly among patients who have contracted the disease as well as those are at heightened risk to contract it who are at increased risk for adverse psychosocial outcomes.

In addition, the Applicant states, the hospital experiences challenges "providing care for people seeking treatment of possible COVID-19, and patients who are acutely ill" when the number of adult and pediatric psychiatric boarders continues to rise.

After review, DPH has determined the need for the Proposed Project relates to the State of

Emergency. As a result, you may commence the Proposed Project.

Since the Proposed Project does not appear to be temporary in nature and will remain in place after the termination of the State of Emergency, we may, at our discretion, direct Holyoke Medical Center to apply for a full Notice of Determination of Need, including all applicable Factors, upon termination of the State of Emergency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lara Szent-Gyorgyi'.

Lara Szent-Gyorgyi
Director, Determination of Need

c: Sherman Lohnes, Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification, DPH
Daniel Gent, Plan Review, DPH
Rebecca Rodman, Senior Deputy General Counsel, DPH
Elizabeth Kelley, Director Bureau of Safety and Quality, DPH