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**VDH COVID-19 Letter - Emergency Licensed Bed Capacity Option - 3.24.2020 - Executive Order 52**

1 message

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'Welch-Flores (Zufall), Mary E.' via COPN (VDH) <copn@vdh.virginia.gov>

Tue, Mar 31, 2020 at 4:32 PM

Reply-To: "Welch-Flores (Zufall), Mary E." <mzufall@valleyhealthlink.com>

To: "COPN (VDH)" <copn@vdh.virginia.gov>

Cc: "Welch-Flores (Zufall), Mary E." <mzufall@valleyhealthlink.com>, "Rucker, Chris" <crucker2@valleyhealthlink.com>

Attached please find Winchester Medical Center's request for Emergency Licensed Bed Capacity Option - 3.24.2020 - Executive Order 52.

Thank you.

**Mary E. (Zufall) Welch-Flores, MHSA, MBA**  
*Business Development Manager*

*Planning & Business Development*

220 Campus Blvd., Ste. 210  
Winchester, VA 22601

540-536-2504 Direct Line

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**MAR 31 2020**  
**VDH/OLC**

 **ValleyHealth**

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 **VDH COVID-19 Letter-3-31-2020.pdf**  
124K



March 31, 2020

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA  
State Health Commissioner  
Virginia Department of Health  
109 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219  
[Norm.oliver@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:Norm.oliver@vdh.virginia.gov)

Erik Bodin, Director  
Division of Certificate of Public Need  
Virginia Department of Health  
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**Re: Winchester Medical Center's request to increase the authorized bed capacity pursuant to Executive Order 52.**

Dear Dr. Oliver and Mr. Bodin:

Pursuant to Governor Northam's Executive Order 52 and subsequent guidance provided by Dr. Oliver, State Health Commissioner, Valley Health Winchester Medical Center (WMC) requests authorization to **expand licensed bed capacity by 50 beds** as set forth below to meet the anticipated surge in inpatient need for services resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. WMC presently anticipates that the need for beds may greatly exceed WMC's licensed capacity and requests the Commissioner's approval to add beds as requested below.

The additional beds will be located as follows.

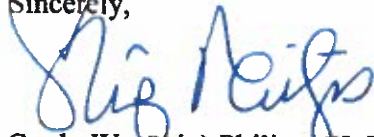
1. WMC is prepared to add up to 50 beds at its existing hospital facility, located at 1840 Amherst Street, Winchester, VA 22601. The 50 additional beds will operate as CCU beds; therefore, the proposed bed addition will bring the total number of CCU beds at WMC to 98.
  - a. The 50 additional licensed beds will be used to supplement WMC's existing bed capacity to accommodate the anticipated COVID-19 patient surge. The 50 additional beds will be located in the Surgi-Center of Winchester, which operates as a department of WMC and is physically attached to the main hospital.
  - b. Patient care areas within the Surgi-Center, including pre-operative, post anesthesia care, and operating rooms, will be converted to inpatient rooms to accommodate the 50-bed addition.
  - c. The Surgi-Center of Winchester space meets life safety requirements.

Facility	Facility Address	Current Beds	Licensed	Number of Beds Requested	Total Licensed Beds After Increase
Winchester Medical Center	1840 Amherst Street, Winchester, VA 22601	Med/Surg.: 329 CCU: 48 Total (All Types): 495		CCU: 50 Total Increase: 50	545

2. WMC is actively planning to meet the staffing needs for the requested beds. WMC, similar to most hospitals across the country, has significantly reduced operating room cases, elective ambulatory procedures, and clinic services to preserve personal protective equipment and meet the social distancing safeguards required to best contain the spread of COVID-19. As a result, WMC is planning to re-deploy significant ambulatory and perioperative services employees to support the requested additional beds to meet surge capacity and patient demands.
3. The Lord Fairfax Health District (the entirety of which represents WMC's primary service area) presently has identified 27 COVID-19 positive patients in the community. We are currently seeing an increase in both PUIs and COVID-19 positive patients that may require additional critical care bed capacity.
  - a. Winchester Medical Center is presently caring for 13 COVID-19 positive patients or persons of interest and has screened and/or tested many more patients for COVID-19.
  - b. Winchester Medical Center is currently at approximately 75% occupancy.
  - c. Valley Health is a 6-hospital system with 4 hospitals in Virginia. Our adopted plan has been to consolidate the care for all COVID-19 positive patients at Winchester Medical Center.

WMC is committed to serving its community and meeting the needs of patients in the Shenandoah Valley and nearby communities. I respectfully request the Commissioner grant the additional licensed bed capacity as requested above so we may be prepared to expand our capacity when needed. Please contact me with any questions regarding this request at (540) 536-8021 or [gphilips@valleyhealthlink.com](mailto:gphilips@valleyhealthlink.com).

Sincerely,



Grady W. (Skip) Philips, III, FACHE  
Senior Vice President, Valley Health  
President, Winchester Medical Center

cc: Piero Mannino, Supervisor, Virginia Division of Certificate of Public Need (via email)