



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services
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Michael F. Easley, Governor
 Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Michael Moseley, Director

August 21, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Legislative Oversight Committee Members
 Commission for MH/DD/SAS
 Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs
 State Consumer Family Advisory Committee Chairs
 Advocacy Organizations and Groups
 North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
 County Managers
 County Board Chairs
 North Carolina Council of Community Programs
 NC Association of Directors of DSS

State Facility Directors
 Area Program Directors
 Area Program Board Chairs
 DHHS Division Directors
 Provider Organizations
 MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups
 MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups
 Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders

From: Mike Moseley 



Re: Communication Bulletin #078
State Operated Facilities

On July 5, 2007, Governor Mike Easley signed HB 625 into law. This legislation made changes to the names of several of the facilities operated by the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services. It clarifies that the hospitals are psychiatric hospitals, updates the designation of Caswell, Murdoch and J. Iverson Riddle to developmental centers and specifies that Whitaker and Wright Schools are residential programs for children. Most importantly, it created a new type of institution to be known as neuro-medical treatment centers. Three of the Division’s institutions have been designated as neuro-medical treatment centers. These facilities provide medical, mental health and developmental services to adults with multiple complex neuro-cognitive and medical needs.

The new designation of neuro-medical treatment center applies to Black Mountain Neuro-Medical Treatment Center in Black Mountain, Longleaf Neuro-Medical Treatment Center (formerly North Carolina Special Care Center) in Wilson, and O’Berry Neuro-Medical Treatment Center in Goldsboro.

The Division believes that realigning the functional mission of these facilities will provide better services to consumers by creating opportunities to:

- develop specialized services targeting populations with specific co-occurring diagnoses that are both complex and increasing in prevalence;
- optimize the regional availability of professional expertise and resources to serve these specific needs; and
- align the facilities and staff who serve similar patient populations to share professional expertise, research resources, and service strategies.



Black Mountain and Longleaf Neuro-Medical Treatment Centers will continue to provide care to the specialized populations for which they have established services. O'Berry has embarked on a transition process to move from providing ICF/MR services to a model of specialized services similar to Black Mountain Center. The transition of O'Berry to a neuro-medical treatment center is planned to be complete by 2010.

If you have questions, please contact the State Operated Services Section of the Division at (919) 855-4700.

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom
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