



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL

Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner

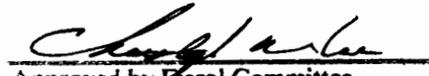
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Lori A. Shibinette  
Chief Executive Officer

January 11, 2018

The Honorable Neal M. Kurk, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

  
Approved by Fiscal Committee 2/20/18 Date

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, Additional Revenues, the Department of Health and Human Services, New Hampshire Hospital seeks authorization to accept and expend Trust Funds in the amount of \$772,000 from the NH Hospital Trust Funds to replace deteriorated patient furnishings and further authorize the funds to be allocated as follows effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approvals. 100% Other Funds.

05-95-94-940010-71180000-HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, HHS: NEW HAMPSHIRE HOSPITAL; GROUP A TRUST FUNDS.

Class/Object	Class Title	Current Authorized Budget	Increase (Decrease) Amount	Revised Budget
<b>Revenue</b>				
005-404109	Private Local Funds	\$155,910	\$772,000	\$927,910
<b>Expenses</b>				
054-500526	Trust Fund Expenditures	\$155,910	\$772,000	\$927,910

**EXPLANATION**

This request is for authorization to accept and expend an amount not to exceed \$772,000 to cover the cost of replacing patient furnishings on two units within New Hampshire Hospital's Acute Psychiatric Facilities. Funds are available from various trust funds that were made expressly for the benefit of patients at the NH Hospital through numerous bequeathals. These resources, categorized as Private Purpose and Permanent Funds in the state Comprehensive Financial Audit Report, are legally restricted to the extent that principal and earnings may be used for purposes that benefit the patients in accordance with the bequests. Through conservative spending and prudent investment management, the trust portfolio is in a unique position to contribute to the patient experience in a positive and necessary manner.

The facility was originally furnished in 1989, much of which is still in use although far exceeding their useful life. The current conditions pose safety and environmental concerns to patient and staff. This initiative is part of a redesign of NHH to respond to the changing needs of care management, patient safety and regulatory requirements.

Risks are inherent in the psychiatric health environment because of the unpredictable and often violent nature of the clientele. The furnishings in psychiatric facilities are under constant duress not present in traditional hospital settings. The best way to manage these risks is through a systematic approach that involves proactive evaluation of the harm that could occur. Beginning in March 2017, the Joint Commission began emphasizing assessment of ligature, suicide, and self-harm observations in psychiatric hospitals and inpatient psychiatric patient areas in general hospitals. Each observation of a ligature or self-harm risk will be considered a requirement for improvement (RFI). NHH is taking a proactive approach to comply with these requirements prior to the next Joint Commission review to mitigate the findings and improve the patient experience.

Additional concerns must be addressed when designing behavioral health facilities for child and adolescent patients, patients with medical care needs, geriatric patients, or some patients with dual diagnoses such as substance abuse and eating disorders. These furnishing will focus on the child and adolescent needs as well as geriatrics which represents a rapidly expanding and challenging population.

In anticipation of the questions "Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request?" and "Can portions of the funds be utilized for other purposes?" the Division offers the following information: The Department has submitted Capital Budget requests to replace patient furnishing for the bienniums FY 2016-2017 and FY 2018-2019. The Legislature did not approve those requests. And secondly, trust funds earnings may only be used for the express purposes as per the bequests.

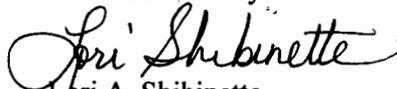
Area served: Patients at Acute Psychiatric Facilities

Source of funds: 100% Other Funds

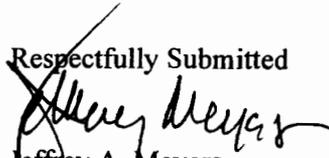
In the event that these Other Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

I look forward to addressing any of your committee's questions regarding this request.

Recommended by

  
Lori A. Shibinette  
Chief Executive Officer, NHH

Respectfully Submitted

  
Jeffrey A. Meyers  
Commissioner, DHHS

NHH – Child & Adolescent Furniture Needs

Description	# Units	Cost
Pediatric Platform Beds & Mattresses	22	\$72,400
Pediatric Medical Bed & Mattresses	1	\$9,690
Wardrobes	21	\$15,435
Nightstands	21	\$12,390
Desks	21	\$14,740
Desk Chairs	21	\$13,230
Café Tables	8	\$6,300
Café Chairs	24	\$12,500
Café Bench	4	\$3,960
Lounge Seating	32	\$36,660
Treatment/Activity Room Tables	8	\$6,300
Treatment/Activity Room Chairs	20	\$10,420
TV Cabinets/Storage	4	\$18,000
Gliders	6	\$12,600
Bookcases	14	\$18,240
Standard Tables & Chairs	48	\$25,525
White Boards	2	\$1,700
Play Equipment/Furniture		\$6,000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$296,090</b>

NHH – Older Adults & Medically Frail Furniture Needs

Description	# Units	Cost
Medical Bed & Mattresses	25	\$196,610
Double Wardrobes	30	\$44,700
Medical Grade Recliners	10	\$29,000
Nightstands	30	\$17,700
Lounge seating	27	\$40,250
Gliders	25	\$52,500
Treatment/Activity Room Tables	23	\$18,150
Treatment/Activity Room Chairs	68	\$35,500
End Tables	22	\$10,000
TV Cabinets/Storage	7	\$31,500
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$475,910</b>

SUMMARY:

Child & Adolescent Furniture Needs	\$296,090
Older Adults & Medically Frail Furniture Needs	\$475,910
<b>TOTAL REQUEST</b>	<b><u>\$772,000</u></b>