

NHRMC Future: Fact Sheet

September 17, 2019

- The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners has voted to allow our community to explore the best way to secure the future of healthcare for this region.
- The majority vote by Commissioners on September 16 enables the solicitation of proposals from other health systems interested in partnering with New Hanover Regional Medical Center to advance healthcare services in southeastern North Carolina.
- The exploration comes at a time in which all healthcare organizations are working to adapt to the reinvention of the industry from one focused on solely providing sick care to one that also promotes wellness through better access to care, more affordable care options, and the elimination of health disparities.
- To successfully transition to a new model of health care and meet the needs of a rapidly growing population, New Hanover Regional Medical Center must carefully consider options for obtaining additional personnel, financial, and structural resources.
- The Resolution of Intent to Sell approved by the County Commissioners September 16 allows for consideration of a potential sale but does not direct or confirm a sale. Other partnership options could be proposed and considered along with an evaluation of whether NHRMC should remain independent and county owned.
- The resolution approved by County Commissioners authorizes the establishment of a Partnership Advisory Group to help develop priorities for the Request for Proposal (RFP), evaluate the proposals received, and provide a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners and NHRMC Board of Trustees.
- The Partnership Advisory Group will be appointed by NHRMC President and CEO John Gizdic and New Hanover County Manager Chris Coudriet. It will include county, hospital, physician, nonprofit and community leaders and be reflective of our community's diversity of individuals and interests.
- The Partnership Advisory Group will be a public body, subject only to applicable protections under state law, which means most of its meetings and documents will be public.
- The Advisory Group will solicit and consider feedback from our community, medical staff and NHRMC employees as it works with NHRMC leadership and a national healthcare advisory firm to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) that will be shared with the public and potential partners.

- The RFP will require respondents to address how they would work with NHRMC on key priorities, including employee and medical staff retention, quality and patient safety, growth in service offerings, and commitment to the local communities.
- Because NHRMC is strong, clinically, operationally, and financially, and is nationally recognized for its quality and as a top place to work, we can expect there will be a number of forward-looking organizations interested in partnering with NHRMC to further advance and develop the medical care NHRMC offers.
- Responses to the RFP will be considered by the Advisory Group and made public. The Advisory Group will recommend whether any of the proposals should be considered further based on their ability to advance key priorities and the healthcare needs of the region.
- The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners will hold public hearings on the proposals and the Advisory Group's recommendations before deciding whether to move forward with a potential partnership or change in ownership structure for NHRMC.
- If it's determined a partnership or change in ownership structure is what is best for NHRMC and the community, there will be several months of additional due diligence, negotiations, and regulatory filings before any agreement is finalized. The whole process could take a year or more.
- NHRMC's priority will continue to be providing exceptional care to our patients and the community we serve. This process will not affect our daily operations.