

DONALSONVILLE HOSPITAL, INC.

COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

FYE 6/30/2013

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1. Introduction and Overview

The Hospital

Donalsonville Hospital is a not-for-profit general, acute care hospital owned by the corporation and governed by a five-member governing body, the Donalsonville Hospital Board of Directors. The hospital is served by a seventeen member medical staff, which includes ten active staff members and seven courtesy staff members.

The hospital has 61 inpatient and 4 obstetrical/postpartum beds. The facility offers diagnostic radiology and laboratory services to both inpatients and outpatients, and operates a 24-hour physician-staffed emergency department. National Emergency Services provides coverage seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day. The hospital provides both inpatient and outpatient surgery in general, and gynecological, as well as outpatient endoscopy. The hospital provides physical and occupational therapy to inpatient and outpatient groups. Donalsonville Hospital also contracts with Gary Smith, PhdMHP, to provide mental health services as well as support to patients with psychological needs. Seminole Manor Nursing Home is also owned and operated by Donalsonville Hospital. The seventy-five bed long term care facility is a hospital-based nursing home that provides care to both skilled and intermediate care patients.

As of March 23, 2013, Donalsonville Hospital had 252 full-time-equivalent employees, composed of 230 full-time and 22 part-time employees – including 162 registered, licensed, and/or certified physicians/clinical personnel. FY 2011/2012 salaries and wages paid to employees totaled \$10,823,000 or 40% of total expenses. Seminole Manor Nursing Home had 65 full-time employees, composed of 52 full-time and 13 part-time employees – including 59 registered, licensed, and/or certified clinical personnel. FY 2011/2012 salaries and wages paid to employees totaled \$1,538,000 or 40% of total expenses.

Perceptions. As of May 2013, the perceptions of the hospital medical staff and the community are positive. The most notable perceptions from the medical staff are:

1. The communication is good with the management of the hospital and nursing home.
2. The hospital is responsible to the needs of the community and the medical staff and is experiencing positive growth with ER and Women's and Children Center.
3. Patient care has continued to improve over the last three years.
4. "Customer service" has improved as well over the last three years.

The physicians predict that their admissions will either increase slightly or remain the same due to the positive image of the hospital and new facilities.

2. DONALSONVILLE HOSPITAL VISION STATEMENT

In 2018, Donalsonville Hospital will be as it currently is, a not-for-profit entity governed by the Donalsonville Hospital Board. However, it will have one or more strong network alliances, making it a part of a larger delivery system that will provide a broad continuum of health care services, including comprehensive rehabilitation and hospice care, and enable the hospital to participate in capitated and non-capitated managed care contracts.

In 2018, the Hospital's primary geographical service will be as it is today, Seminole County but with an increase emphasis on the "growth areas" of the County. In conjunction with the Medical Staff, the Hospital will possible operate a satellite clinic near Lake Seminole.

The second geographic service area will be those counties contiguous to Seminole – particularly, Early, Miller, Decatur, and areas immediately adjacent in Florida, which have hospitals in declining positions. Donalsonville Hospital will meet the non-trauma acute care needs of tourists and travelers passing through or staying in our county.

The service priorities of the hospital in 2015 will be:

1. Emergency Center
2. Diagnostic
3. Inpatient surgery, outpatient surgery, and endoscopy
4. Inpatient acute and chronic care
5. Health education and illness prevention
6. Obstetrics

The physical plant pertaining to and the capital equipment within the areas providing these priority services will have been upgraded significantly from their 2008 status.

Our level of care will be primary and secondary. Primary care will emphasize geriatrics and include pediatrics and obstetrics, especially in the Emergency Center. Our emergency center will be Level I. It will not be a trauma center.

Primary care physicians on our medical staff will be family practice, pediatrician, internal medicine, and family practice / general surgery. Obstetrics, gynecology, radiology, and emergency medicine will represent specialists on the medical staff. Most medical specialists will be members of the courtesy or hospital-based categories of the medical staff. The active staff will consist of primary care physicians and at least three general surgeons, internal medicine, three pediatricians and two OB-GYNS'.

In 2015, major areas of commitment for the hospital will include:

1. Organizational Improvement
2. Employee Relationships and Development
3. Relationships with Seminole County Business Community

3. DONALSONVILLE HOSPITAL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Donalsonville Hospital is to provide, at the direction of our Medical staff, a uniform level of such high-quality curative and palliative health care and diagnostic services as are within our Scope of Services to all who seek our aid, and to refer those whose needs cannot be met within our Scope of Services to other qualified and competent providers of care, while striving continuously to improve the quality of care and service, and preparing always to evolve as an organization as the nature of health care in the nation and our geographic locality changes.

4. Community Profile

The primary geographical unit that is served by Donalsonville Hospital is Seminole County and surrounding counties. As a private not-for-profit corporation, the Hospital was built to meet the needs of the citizens of Seminole County; ownership of the facility is vested in the corporation and is represented by the board of directors who have one vote. The Governing Body has determined that the Hospital's service area will also consist of several adjoining counties, including but not limited to, Decatur, Miller, Early, and the north Florida counties adjacent to Seminole County. In CY 2012, out of 1952 inpatients for the top five demographics, Donalsonville Hospital's inpatient origins were as follows:

1022 were from Seminole County
393 were from Decatur County
175 were from Miller County
231 were from Early County
53 were from other counties in Georgia
78 were from the states of Florida and Alabama

Service demographics show that the hospital's patient base includes significant percentages of black patients (37% of inpatients) and of "senior" patients (30% of inpatients were 65+ years old).

"Special factors" which affect the definition of our service area, the composition of patient base and the level of our patient's needs are:

1. Nursing Home – members of our medical staff serve on the Medical Staff at Seminole Manor Nursing Home. As a result, large portions of our inpatients, outpatients, and emergency patients are of advanced age and have "multi-system" problems. They may also have communication difficulties resulting from blindness, deafness, Alzheimer's disease, or other impairments.
2. Lake Seminole, a 37,000-acre lake located 18-20 miles southwest of Donalsonville, is a growing area. In the spring of 1995, it was listed in a Georgia tour guide as one of the top 10 retirement communities in the state and continues to grow. Several new subdivisions are under construction and will attract new residents to Seminole County.
3. Administration recruited two OB/GYN physicians in order to reintroduce that service to the community. Since implementation in October 2001, it has broadened our patient base.

4. Secure additional land for new Amb Surgical Center near hospital, which could house multiple doctor offices, pharmacy, gift shop & cafeteria.

a. Level of Patient Needs

Patient needs require that Donalsonville Hospital provide general-acute primary and secondary care. Our inpatient and outpatient populations are primarily adult, with the inpatient population having a heavy geriatric emphasis. Our level of care does not require an intensive, cardiac, or other special care unit. Our patient mix and level requires that we make special provisions in terms of furniture, equipment, and supplies for treating pediatric patients, but does not require a specialized pediatric inpatient unit.

Patient needs require that our Level I Emergency Center provide care.

b. Patient Satisfaction

Patient satisfaction with an input into decisions regarding their care and treatment at Donalsonville Hospital is a major concern of this facility. Patient rights and organizational ethics are considered in all levels and phases of organizational planning and in the decisions made regarding the care and treatment of specific patients. Donalsonville Hospital has adopted the CMS Guidelines for Patient Rights. Employees are educated on Patient Rights as part of the new Employee Education Program and during Annual Education updates. Patients are presented a copy upon admission.

Donalsonville Hospital distributes patient satisfaction surveys and analyzes the information obtained, thereby improving organizational performance and patient care. Among the means of obtaining feedback are the following:

1. Distribution of patient surveys to inpatients and outpatients treated at Donalsonville Hospital.
2. Patient satisfaction surveys are available in the Emergency Center for all patients presenting to the Emergency Center.

Information from the surveys is analyzed and presented to appropriate managers and committees, including the Governing Body, the Medical Staff, and the Quality Improvement Steering Committee in order to improve patient care.

Additionally, there is a structured process for patient complaints that encourages dissatisfied patients to voice their concerns and that allows for investigation of and feedback concerning the complaint. Inpatients are furnished information on the procedures for registering complaints upon admission, and such information is available in the Emergency Center and outpatient areas of the hospital. Data regarding patient complaints is tracked and information is presented to the Quality Improvement Steering Committee, the Medical Staff, and appropriate Department Heads.

The Patient Liaison position was created in an attempt to reduce the number of complaints received from patients by addressing, prior to discharge, any issues or concerns that the patient and/or their family members may report. The Patient Liaison serves as the organization's liaison for complaints, complaint documentation and required responses based on state, federal and accreditation requirements.

As part of the Patient Liaison responsibilities, daily rounds are made on all patients to encourage patient satisfaction surveys and to troubleshoot issues that may have developed regarding hospitalization. The Patient Liaison assists with the development and implementation of policies and procedures, collection and analysis of risk related information, and also facilitates and advises departments in designing risk management programs. The Patient Liaison works closely with Department Supervisors, QI Coordinator, Infection Control Nurse, and the Safety Officer to promote safe quality care for our patients.

c. Scope of Services

Donalsonville Hospital provides the following Scope of Services on site:

1. Medical
2. Surgical
3. Dietetic
4. Diagnostic Radiology
5. Emergency
6. Respiratory
7. Pharmaceutical
8. Social Work
9. Pathology and Clinical Laboratory
10. Physical Therapy
11. Occupational Therapy
12. Speech Therapy
13. Mobile Magnetic Resonance Imaging
14. Nuclear
15. Obstetrical

We provide pathology through a contract: a great deal of the service is provided at a site other than the hospital. In addition, some clinical laboratory tests are sent to a reference laboratory. (Lists of off-site and reference procedures and tests are available in the Laboratory Policy and Procedure Manual.) All off-site work meets all applicable Joint Commission standards as is evidenced by the providers being Joint Commission and / or College of American Pathologists accredited. The Medical Advisor of the Laboratory is a member of the Medical Staff.

Our patients are transferred to Southeast Alabama Medical Center, which meets Joint Commission standards.

Our Dietary services utilize a contracted licensed dietician.

All physical therapy, both inpatient and outpatient, is provided on-site. Patients needing physical rehabilitation services and occupational services are stabilized and transferred to off-site providers.

Points of care at Donalsonville Hospital include one inpatient medical-surgical unit (with ability to have 16 telemetry monitored beds), Emergency Center, surgery, and outpatient services.

Each point shall, at all times, be adequately supplied with personnel. Equipment and supplies are to meet the needs of the patients receiving care there, including the age-specific needs of the pediatric and geriatric patients treated. Detailed information relating to staffing, supplies and equipment is found in the policy and procedure manuals located in the various points of care.

d. Integration of Care

We believe that patient care is most effectively and efficiently provided by means of a fully integrated, multi-disciplinary approach. Therefore, we systematically provide opportunities for the integration of departments and services. These opportunities include multi-disciplinary makeup of the Leadership Group, structured medical staff and service input the development of the capital budgeting process, multi-disciplinary medical records review, multi-disciplinary interaction with the Medical Staff Executive Committee, multi-disciplinary quality improvement teams, and specific purpose multi-disciplinary meetings.

The inter-relationships of the hospital's departments and services are specified in our organizational chart.

e. Recruitment Scholarship/Loan Program

The Physician Loan program has been one of the best programs implemented by the hospital. Currently four of the nine existing physicians on staff were recipients of the physician loan program. Two physicians who received loans that chose for personal reasons not to return to Donalsonville repaid their obligations.

1. Currently Donalsonville has four physicians in medical school under the scholarship/loan program. Jake Holley is a second year medical school student at Medical College of Georgia
2. Luke Williams has finished medical school student at Saint Matthews University and will be starting residency in Savannah at Memorial Hospital June 2012.
3. Geary Bush has finished residency at the Medical College of Georgia. He has returned to Donalsonville and started a general surgical practice.
4. Kristen Payne, D.O. who finished her Pediatric Residency in July 2011 has joined the Donalsonville Hospital Women and Childrens practice in October 2011.
5. Ryan Shingler finished his first year of D.O. school in West Virginia plans to return to start a family practice.
6. Desmond Henry started school at St. Matthews in June of 2011.
7. Heather Elliott is starting her second year of St. Matthews in June of 2011.

Donalsonville Hospital and Seminole Manor Nursing Home also have a very aggressive nurse, Lab, X-Ray, and ultrasound technician loan/scholarship program. Currently we have three students in the lab and xray department that have been or are in the academic stage of the scholarship program. There are currently 5 R.N.s and 5 LPN working or in the academic stage of the nurse scholarship program. Donalsonville Hospital also has a very active free ACLS, PALS, and ATLS training program for R.N.s, physicians and any interested qualified participants.

5. Community Health Needs Assessment Panel

Mr. Herman Brookins
Chairman of the Board
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.
Local Business Owner
Community Leader

Mr. Bill Burke
Board of Director
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.
Local Business Owner
Non Profit Involvement

Mr. Broaddus Simpson
Board of Director
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.
Local Business Manager
Community Leader

Mr. Mitch Blanks
Board of Director
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.
Local Business Manager
Community Leader
City Council Member

Mr. Charles Orrick
Board of Director
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.
Community Leader
Seminole County Commissioner

Mrs. Brenda Peterson
Seminole County Commissioner
Co-Pastor
Vision Faith Outreach Ministries

Mrs. Dottie Brown
Director
Seminole County Health Department

6. Community Health Needs Assessment Process and Methodology

Donalsonville Hospital started the process of assessing the needs of the community by getting input from the local physicians. Donalsonville Hospital has 13 active physicians on staff that consist of a variety of primary care physicians; there are 4 Board Certified General Surgeons, 2 OB-Gyns, 3 Pediatricians, 2 Family Practice, and 1 Dermatologist. DHI Management and Medical Staff work closely together to provide the best medical treatment available at our facility. Management of the hospital has always had an extremely close working relationship with the Medical Staff. One key component of assessing the needs of the local community is to get input from the medical staff. All physicians have been willing to give feedback and input on the health needs of the community. The hospital board of directors has a broad range of community involvement and leadership roles. There are five (5) members of the board two (2) are involved with local county and city governments. Two other members are involved with other nonprofits organizations and are active community leaders. The other board member has a vast knowledge and experience in the agricultural area, which makes up a major part of industry and residents of Seminole County. The board of directors suggested there should be 2 additional members added to the CHNA panel, this would help with assessing the needs of the community. A local county commissioner, Brenda Peterson, is a Co-Pastor of Vision Faith Outreach Ministries. She has access and contact with a large portion of individuals that are minority, underserved and needy. The board of directors also consulted with the local Health Department Director, Mrs. Dottie Brown. The hospital has worked with Ms. Brown for years addressing the needs of the local health department by providing funds for specific programs she presented for medical help for needy local residents.

First, statistics were gathered from our internal database examining the patients that have visited Donalsonville Hospital in the past 2 years. The data gathering included information that tracked the top diagnoses for patients that visited the hospital. These reports were evaluated and the CHNA panel utilized them along with statistics gathered from GHA, U. S. Census Bureau, American Diabetes Association, The Georgia Department of Community Health, The Georgia Department of Public Health, Seminole County Health Department and National Cancer Institute. These stats were used to determine what the health needs of Seminole County residents are and to determine which needs could the hospital be successful at implementing some strategy to improve. Donalsonville Hospital board members have worked closely with the CHNA panel to identify and examine the needs of the residents of Seminole County. Donalsonville Hospital has committed its mission and strategic plan to assist in implementing solutions to improve the identified health issues of this community. The needs identified were chosen after input from the panel and other local committee meetings. The needs identified were chosen based on the number of incidents in the county, the severity of the

needs and the availability of resources used in addressing the needs. The FYE 6/30/2013 Donalsonville Hospital Community Needs Assessment and Implementation plan identifies the following areas as needs in our community that could be improved by the hospital input:

1. Diabetes/Hypertension Disease
2. Obesity in Adults
3. Cancer
4. Basic Community Healthcare Needs

7. Community Health Needs Identified in Assessment

a. Community Healthcare Need #1 - Diabetes / Hypertension Disease

Data was gathered and analyzed by Dottie Brown and her staff at the Seminole County Health Department. She determined that there is a tremendous need for healthcare and education for citizens of Seminole County with Hypertension and Diabetes. Problems identified include the lack of education and knowledge of how these diseases harm the body. Poor eating habits and lack of proper diet planning also contributes to the onset of these diseases. Annually, Dottie Brown and her staff submit a funding request to Donalsonville Hospital that consists of a plan for addressing and treating as many Seminole County residents as possible that do not have the insurance coverage or the funds for obtaining treatments. The FYE 6/30/2013 request is as follows:

Priority #1 Health Problem: Hypertension/Diabetes
(FY 2013 - **July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013**)

Goal: The program goal is to reduce cardiovascular risk for heart attack and stroke by improving healthy behaviors and increasing access to education, screening, and treatment for high blood pressure. SHAPP uses a population-based, clinical approach that allows partnerships between public and private health care providers to coordinate medication and lifestyle modifications.

Target Population: This includes Seminole County residents who have diabetes and/or hypertension and are uninsured, under-insured, and on fixed incomes. As of October 2012, there were 108 active patients enrolled in the hypertension/diabetes program at the Seminole County Health Department.

Community Need: According to the 2009 Cardiovascular Disease Summary, CVD accounted for one third of deaths in Georgia. In 2006, Georgia's CVD death rate was 9% higher than the national rate. The average charge per CVD hospitalization in Georgia was \$32,800 in 2007. Total hospital charges for CVD increased by \$1.4 billion between 2003 and 2007.

Effectiveness of Program: SHAPP clinics have varying blood pressure control rates, ranging from 52% to 83% with a median control rate for all clinics of 66%. Private health plans in Georgia had a range of control rates from 47% to 68% with a median control rate of 60% for patients treated in a private setting. Seminole County Health Department's SHAPP program has a median control rate of 68%.

Request: \$21,537.00 is needed to continue the program for FY 2013. This funding will provide medications, education, laboratory tests, case management and collaboration with the patient's attending physician.

TOTAL REQUEST FOR HYPERTENSION / DIABETES: \$21,537.00
 Dottie Brown, Director-SEMINOLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
 Hypertension/Diabetes Control Program
 FY 2013 Operating Projectors

SEMINOLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

PERSONNEL:	
Nurses	\$7,387.00
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
Supplies	400.00
Printing	150.00
Education Equipment/Materials	350.00
Hypertension meds(includes pharmacy contract) 11,400.00	
Lab	1,500.00
Postage	350.00
Total:	\$21,537.00

b. Community Healthcare Needs #2 - Obesity in Adults

The Donalsonville Hospital Board and the CHNA identified obesity as the #2 health need in the community. Residents are not educated and knowledgeable of the negative effects on the body caused by obesity. Problems with improper diet and sedentary lifestyles also contribute to obesity. The lack of a structured family environment encouraging exercise also contributes. While Seminole County is not the worst County in the State when it comes to Obesity, it is still estimated that approximately 30% of the adult resident of the County fall into the obese category. This figure comes from a Department of Community Health fact sheet in January 2010 of Adult obesity by county. Obese individuals have an increased risk of morbidity and premature mortality.

The hospital has worked with the CHNA panel to start measures to prevent and attack the problem of obesity in the county. During the past year, Donalsonville Hospital hired a consultant to implement a Wellness program for the employees. The Consultants report the Wellness program is estimated to reduce the employee health insurance costs by 9-12% and decrease the number of missed days of work due to illness. The program conducted health screenings that consisted of checking blood pressure, blood sugar levels, HDL, LDL, cholesterol and tested for tobacco use. All employees were given a written copy as well as access to the results online for their analysis. Each employee is given a score based on each category and an overall score to use for setting goals for future improvements, if necessary. A constant online resource is available to all participating employees as well as a 24 hotline for asking questions by phone and inquiring of individual needs. The hospital is analyzing and testing the current Wellness program with plans of communicating to the entire community the benefits of implementing such a plan. Discussions have already been made with the Seminole County Administrator about implementing a similar Wellness plan with the employees of Seminole County government. Also, the local school system has been given information and is looking at the possibilities of implementation in their system. The Donalsonville Hospital board and the CHNA panel are looking to continue to inform the businesses and citizens of Seminole County about the benefits of implementing. A Wellness Plan in their workplace. Such a Wellness Plan would be a great tool in helping reduce obesity in Seminole County.

Currently our dietary manager is available Monday – Friday for dietary consultations for in-house patients and any individual from the community. Local physicians send their patients to the hospital for dietary consults on an outpatient basis.

Donalsonville Hospital is performing those consultations for free and is planning to host classes and actual participative sessions where individuals from the community can come

and learn how to cook healthier meals. We are planning to host classes in the hospital dining room open to the public to teach techniques for cooking healthier meals according to the American Dietetic Association.

Local physicians offer weight loss consultations for patients. One program used by a local physician involves an initial visit where the patient is examined and medical history reviewed. Their weight and height are taken for their BMI calculation. Based on the BMI results, the patient is counseled regarding their diet and given educational information on nutrition and how certain foods affect the body. They are consulted on the importance of exercise and how various types of exercise burn calories in different ways. They are asked to maintain a food and activity diary listing the date and time of each meal and the specific foods eaten, as well as the specific activities in which they participated daily. They are given educational information listing “food weight loss tips.” (Source - American Medical Association) There has been a good response to these programs offered by our local physicians. The CHNA panel is committed to supporting these programs offered through our local physicians and contributing funds for advertising and promotion of these programs. There will be numerous ads and promotions occurring on an ongoing basis in 2014 and beyond to make the public aware of the programs available by the local healthcare providers. The Hospital is allowing the use of their facilities for meetings and presentations so the public will have a resource for participating in an event to help them learn about how to manage their diet and exercise activities.

c. Community Healthcare Need #3 - Cancer

Cancer is a major health problem in the state of Georgia as well as in our community. The Georgia Department of Public Health shows that Cancer is ranked 5th in the cause of death for residents of Seminole county. Cancers of all types have been treated at Donalsonville Hospital. Patients are often diagnosed by physicians and immediately treated with surgery or other methods that are necessary. Our medical staff has a great working relationship with the surrounding regional referral centers. Patients that might need more specialized care are referred to a specialist in Dothan, AL, Albany, GA, Thomasville, GA, Tallahassee, FL, and Atlanta, GA.

In October of 2011 Donalsonville Hospital purchased a new Hologic Digital Mammography machine and CAD system. Studies show that for certain age groups of women, the digital testing is more effective in finding cancer than with film testing. The CAD (Computer Aided Detection Device) adds an extra set of eyes looking for abnormalities and issues. Donalsonville Hospital will continue to aggressively promote and advertise the availability of the Digital Mammography machine through the Donalsonville Hospital Website, local newspaper and radio advertising.

In October of 2012, Donalsonville Hospital sponsored a breast cancer program in honor of breast cancer awareness month. Newspaper and radio ads were done to encourage women to contact their local physician and schedule a free mammogram during the month of October. The enormous response prompted the Hospital to continue the free mammogram screenings through November 15, 2012. Donalsonville Hospital will continue to offer free mammogram screenings to encourage women to have their annual screenings or diagnostic testing. The hospital will be offering free mammogram screenings on a quarterly basis.

Donalsonville Hospital has historically offered free PSAs through various health fairs in the community. These free lab tests have proven to detect multiple prostate cancer incidents in men locally. Donalsonville Hospital will offer free PSA screenings to the public as well as to employees of local businesses during their annual health fairs.

This will continue to prompt those individuals in the community that do not ordinarily stay current with their healthcare visits. It will allow residents that are not financially able to afford the test, the opportunity to get the test without the stress of being concerned with how to pay for it.

The CHNA panel has determined that this community needs further assistance in fighting breast cancer and prostate cancer. Also, with the proper implementation of services free of charge to the public, some cancers will be discovered.

d. Community Healthcare Need #4 - Mental Health

Donalsonville Hospital has a long-standing relationship with Dr. Gary Smith, Psychotherapist, located in the Wiregrass Medical and Surgical building. He has been an asset to the local healthcare community in counseling and assisting in the treatment of individuals with mental health issues. Dr. Smith is called to the hospital on average 15 times per month to consult with mental health patients in the emergency room. He assists in transferring the patients to the proper mental health facility for further IP treatment, when necessary. Previously, Dr. Smith referred patients to GA Pines/State Mental Health Inpatient facility. Announcements regarding the closing of Thomasville facility started back in April 2011, according to the Atlanta Journal Constitution article dated April 11, 2011. On May 22, 2013 Georgia Health News reported that the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities announced that the Thomasville facility that treats people with mental illness and development disabilities, and those housed in the facilities forensic unit will be closing by the end of 2013. The closing of the hospital continues the revamping of the state's services for people with mental illness and developmental disabilities in the wake of Georgia's landmark 2010 agreement with U.S. Department of Justice, which aims to move people from mental hospital into community living situations. This news solidified the decision of the Donalsonville Hospital board of

directors to move forward with pursuing the Geriatric-Psychiatry units as well as looking into the requirements needed to convert empty Nursing Home skilled beds into a 10- 12 bed Alzheimer's unit.

Donalsonville Hospital has realized that there is a need in the community for a facility to treat the local mental health patients. Studies performed by an independent consulting firm shows that there is a need for Geriatric-psychiatry beds in this community. (Horizon health studies dated January 4, 2012, May 24, 2013) These studies show that there is a minimum bed need of 12. An aging demographic in the U.S. has created increased demand for geriatric-specific health services, including behavioral health. Advances in geriatric psychopharmacology have greatly increased positive patient outcomes and sustained post discharge improvement. With the recent announcements of the closing of a state mental health facility in Thomasville, GA, Donalsonville Hospital has committed to moving forward with the C.O.N. process. The Donalsonville Hospital board is planning to have a geriatric-psychiatry unit open and running by July 1, 2014.

Located on the same campus with Donalsonville Hospital is a 75 bed nursing home. Historically, the nursing home has averaged 60 residents per day. The Donalsonville Hospital board feels as though the 15 bed vacancy is available for other service areas. Studies performed at the nursing home and input from local physicians show that there is a need for Alzheimer beds in this community. Donalsonville Hospital/Seminole Manor Nursing is moving forward with investigating the Certificate of Need process to see what is needed to convert 10 to 12 of the current skilled nursing home beds into Alzheimer beds. Kerry Dunning, Healthcare consultant with GPS Healthcare Consulting Group is currently researching the state regulations to make sure of total compliance in starting the new Alzheimer's unit.

8. Community Health Needs Assessment Summary

The Donalsonville Hospital Community Health Needs Assessment panel reviewed and discussed data gathered from outside sources, input from local Medical Staff, employee meetings, input from local government, input from local businesses as well as internal data. In utilizing these sources, the panel established the specific needs of the community based on the following criteria: severity, # of cases, impact on community and the organization's ability to implement a solution to improve the need.

Donalsonville Hospital is dedicated to sustaining a state of the art facility that is capable of meeting the primary healthcare needs of the community. The hospital is focused on continuing to assess the needs of the community and strives to keep the healthcare in the community stable and ongoing. In the next two years the hospital will be moving forward with the implementation of the strategies for meeting the health needs identified in this study.

9. Community Health Needs Assessment Resources

Georgia Department of Community Health

Georgia Department of Public Health

Georgia Health News

Georgia Hospital Association

GPS Healthcare Consulting Group

American Medical Association

American Dietary Association

National Cancer Institute

Horizon Health Consultants

Capstone Benefits Consulting

Healthy Merits Wellness Program

Donalsonville Hospital Medical Staff

Donalsonville Hospital Administrative Staff

Dan McCarthy, CPA

Vice President of Business Development – Horizon Health

Education:

University of Southern California

Auburn University

BS Accounting

Certified Public Accountant

17 Years of Healthcare experience

14 Years of Healthcare Development Experience