



**Linden Lodge Foundation, Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 4153**  
**Pinehurst, NC 28374**  
**910.528.6820**

Dear Health Care Professionals,

Everything in the health care world is changing – except for the care of those suffering with a mental/brain illness and their families. As always, funds to meet today's demands in North Carolina fall short in funding many programs but none are always at the forefront of budget cuts as those dollars for mental health programs and needs.

We are asking that you join with other leading citizens in this area in demanding that the NC State Legislative reject the cuts in mental health services that are before them now. An example of just one of these cuts is a \$5,000,000 and \$11,000,000 cut in mental health drugs by requiring prior authorizations before physicians can prescribe them. It is, in our opinion, in desperate need of not being passed as these cuts most certainly would not be considered for someone requiring medication for heart disease, diabetes, cancers, to name but a few.

Another area that is of **immediate** great concern is there will be no personal care funds available to group home providers as of 30 June 2013. These dollars are used to provide adequate staff in these very necessary housing situations for the serious and persistent mentally ill. Should this Bill be allowed to pass, the possibility of 1,500 individuals currently residing in NC group homes for the serious and persistent mental illness will be displaced – in addition to the 3,000 mentally ill individuals that must vacate assisted living facilities due to an agreement between NC DHHS and the Department of Justice. Justice – it is anything but that! We will find these individuals homeless, on our streets, in the emergency rooms, in jails and prisons. We consider this to be inhumane and intolerable treatment for the most discriminated population in our Nation.

We always espouse that we are a caring Nation so we now need to correct the wrongs that are being proposed by the NC legislature. Your immediate consideration in joining us in the same fight that Dorothea Dix fought so hard for over 100 years ago would go far in influencing those in Raleigh. By your signing this letter and returning it to us, we will be able to provide our legislature with evidence that not only are every day citizens appalled by these proposals, but our medical community is as well.

Thank you in advance for any consideration you might give this request.

Only together can we make a difference,

Marianne P. Kernan  
Chairman, Linden Lodge Foundation  
[www.lindenlodgenc.org](http://www.lindenlodgenc.org)

By signing this statement I acknowledge that those experiencing mental health issues in NC are at further risk of lack of adequate care due to current legislative proposals.

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Signature of Health Care Professional

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date