



Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

March 25, 2013

Stefan Gildemeister
Director, Health Economics Program
State Health Economist
Minnesota Department of Health
85 E Seventh Place, Suite 220
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Mr. Gildemeister,

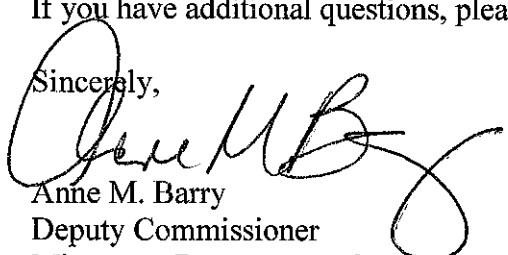
Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with an updated agency position on the request for additional acute psychiatric beds in Perham, Minnesota. Although in January you received a letter of support from one of our behavioral hospital programs, we have since done additional review and have determined that there was a misunderstanding about the level of care that would be provided by the new beds under consideration for review by MDH.

Our apologies for the initial letter of support and any confusion that may have been caused about the DHS position on the request for additional acute psychiatric beds. It remains the position of DHS that there are an adequate number of acute hospital psychiatric beds and any additional service development should come in the area of non-acute services.

We look forward to continued work to assure the appropriate level of mental health service availability across the state of Minnesota.

If you have additional questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,


Anne M. Barry
Deputy Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Human Services