



News Release

County Manager's Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WAKE BOARD APPROVES AGREEMENT WITH UNC HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

Wake County Commissioners, during their regularly scheduled meeting today, **October 15, 2012**, approved an agreement with the University of North Carolina Health Care System (UNCHCS) which details the plan for the provision of services at Wake County's WakeBrook Campus.

"The agreement emphasizes the county's commitment to ensuring continuity of care for Wake County residents" said Wake County Manager David Cooke. "I'm confident this partnership with UNC will result in the best possible outcomes."

Beginning January 1, 2013, UNC will assume management of Crisis and Assessment Services and The Recovery Center, a voluntary inpatient substance abuse program, currently provided at WakeBrook Campus. UNC will also begin operating a new 16-bed inpatient psychiatric program during 2013. UNC's approach to the management of these programs will allow for a stable transition for consumers and will provide for a higher level of services locally for mental health and substance abuse needs.

"We view this agreement with Wake County as an important first step toward improving mental health services available in Wake County," said Jack Naftel, MD, Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs, Department of Psychiatry, UNC School of Medicine. "UNC Health Care is committed to assuming operations at the WakeBrook campus, expanding services at the facility, and enhancing the care provided for behavioral health patients."

Community stakeholders played an important role in the development of the agreement. "This is an important step to providing services that are needed in our community," said Ann Akland, development director and past president of National Alliance on Mental Illness- Wake County Chapter. "NAMI is pleased to see the partnership move forward, and I look forward to continuing to work with Behavioral Health Partnership."

[Click here](#) to view agendas and minutes of the Wake County Board of Commissioners meetings or to watch video of the meetings online.

Media Note: Please see the additional media contacts listed below.

UNC Health Care: Jennifer James, 919-966-7622 or 202-210-4180

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