

Summary of Nation-wide Review of Hospital Planning

Of 35 states responding to requests for information regarding planning for psychiatric hospitals, twenty have/are replacing their old institutional facilities. The trend is:

1) Development of community-based approaches for treatment of mental illness to replace institutional models of care.

2) Smaller facilities. For example, Mississippi is building 50-bed units, expandable to 100 beds. (See appendix for all states responding and for information about Mississippi facilities.) Ward/unit size is smaller for new facilities - approximately 25 beds.

3) Development of regional inpatient programs which would be convenient to patients throughout the state while at the same time continuing to develop necessary community resources which will in combination meet the mental health needs of their population.

4) New construction cost for these newer facilities have so far been identified from \$145 to \$165 per square foot.

One common factor in the decision to build for each of those states that are constructing new inpatient facilities was the problem of dealing with antiquated sites with many buildings, large landholdings, and declining patient populations (i.e. quality and capital issues). These factors and the accompanying budget problems seem to be the driving forces in the decisions to build new facilities.

For states building new facilities the average construction cost was approximately 28 million dollars and the average square footage was 160,000.