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SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Division of Health Systems Development and Regulation

Health Protection

Licensure and Certification

Public Health Preparedness and Response

Rural Health

This correspondence is intended to provide notice of the availability of the nursing facility beds due to the impending closure of the Covington Care and Rehabilitation Center nursing facility in Sioux Falls. Pursuant to SDCL 34-12-39.6 (see below), a new law passed this year via SB 61, all 109 moratorium beds from the Covington facility shall be held by the Department of Health for up to 18 months from the date of closure and shall be available for use by licensed nursing facility providers. The official date of closure for the facility is August 5, 2019. These available beds can be located within 15 miles from the current facility.

Any licensed nursing facility providers interested in obtaining authority for use of some or all of these moratorium beds are asked to submit a brief proposal containing the following information:

- Name and contact information for the entity submitting the proposal;
- Total number of beds being requested;
- Proposed location (address) of where the requested beds would be housed and utilize;
- Estimated timeframe for the requested beds to become available for use;
- A brief description of the extent to which the provider intends to use all or a portion of the requested beds to meet the long-term care needs of Medicaid recipients, special populations, etc.

Proposals for these beds will be accepted up to 18 months from the date of closure, or until such time all of the beds have been reallocated for use. Proposals should be submitted to:

Lynne Valenti
Deputy Secretary
SD Department of Health
600 E. Capitol Ave
Pierre, SD 57501

Providers are reminded that in addition to these beds, authorization for additional nursing facility beds can also be obtained through the established nursing facility bed redistribution process. For further information about the availability of these beds, or information on how to obtain authority for additional beds through the redistribution process, please contact Lynne Valenti at (605) 773-3361 or via email at Lynne.Valenti@state.sd.us.

34-12-39.6. Closure of existing nursing facility--Availability of authorized beds. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, if an existing nursing facility ceases operation, the authorized beds from that existing facility shall be held available by the department for eighteen months from the date the facility closes and shall be available for use by an entity licensed to operate a nursing facility pursuant to this chapter.