

State of Maryland

2006 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
1344	SB131	1345	HB194	Creation of a State Debt – Howard County General Hospital
3. Senate Bill Sponsors				House Bill Sponsors
Sen. Kasemeyer, et. al.				Del. Elizabeth Bobo, et. al.
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)				5. Requested Amount
Howard County				\$325,000
6. Purpose of Bill				
Authorizing the creation of a State debt to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of Howard County General Hospital, Inc. for the planning, design, renovation, expansion, repair, construction, and capital equipping of the Behavioral Emergency Unit of Howard County General Hospital				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
This bill requires a matching fund which may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of the Act. No part of the matching fund may consist of real property or in kind contributions.				
8. Special Provisions				
None.				
9. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)				
<p>Howard County General Hospital: A Member of Johns Hopkins Medicine is a private, not-for-profit, community health care provider, governed by a community-based Board of Trustees. Opened in 1973, the original 59-bed, short stay hospital has grown into a 185 bed comprehensive, acute-care medical center specializing in women's and children's services, surgery, cardiology, oncology, orthopedics, gerontology, psychiatry, emergency services, and community health education. This is the broadest scope of services of any community, non-teaching hospital in the State of Maryland. In July of 1998, Howard County General Hospital(HCGH) joined Johns Hopkins Medicine.</p> <p>As the sole community hospital in Howard County, its mission is to provide the highest quality of care to improve the health of the entire community through innovation, collaboration and unsurpassed service. HCGH provided services to over 100,000 individuals in each of the past four years and 80% were Howard County residents. HCGH staff includes more than 1,700 full and part-time employees making it one of the five largest employers in the County.</p> <p>More than 72,000 visits were made to HCGH's adult and pediatric emergency departments in FY 2005 by people from Howard County and surrounding communities. The volume of emergency department psychiatric evaluations has increased by 40% over the past two years. The proposed Behavioral Emergency Unit will directly support the hospital's ability to treat patients experiencing psychiatric emergencies.</p>				

10. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

HCGH plans to construct a four bed addition to the Emergency Department for the purpose of providing improved care to patients experiencing psychiatric emergencies. The purpose of the Behavioral Emergency Unit is to increase access to a safe and secure location for patients in mental health crisis, allowing for improved evaluation and treatment processes. At this time, HCGH, the sole provider of emergency services for the County has experienced greater than 20% increase in volumes over the past 3 years, and a 40% increase in emergent psychiatric evaluations. At the present time all psychiatric patients are evaluated in the currently existing department. The Emergency Department and Psychiatry staff will continue to provide services and the unit will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. HCGH proposes new construction of 1920 square feet of space for relocation of psychiatric evaluation services.

In the proposed model, patients experiencing mental health crises will be escorted on arrival to the dedicated Behavioral Emergency Unit. The philosophy of the emergency psychiatric service is to provide timely, appropriate and efficient evaluation and treatment to patients experiencing a mental health crisis. Construction of a dedicated evaluation unit serves to address the following goals:

- Increase safety for patients and staff by providing a secure environment that allows patients more liberty within the care area
- Decrease the risk of patient elopements. During 2004, there were 11 psychiatric emergency elopements. The Behavioral Emergency Unit would allow HCGH to decrease this number to meet the goal of zero psychiatric patient elopements in the Emergency Department
- Improve patient privacy during emergency interventions for injurious behavior
- Increase efficiency of the evaluation process by concentrating resources into one location
- Increase capacity to deliver care

While the project does not introduce a new service to HCGH, construction of a Behavioral Emergency Unit enhances access, safety and quality of patient care thereby serving to improve the hospital's ability to respond to increasing mental health needs in the community.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

11. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	none
Design	\$84,100
Construction	\$546,150
Equipment	\$69,750
Total	\$700,000

12. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
MHA Bond Project: State Funds	\$325,000
Howard County General Hospital Funds	\$375,000

A. Will the grantee <u>own</u> or <u>lease</u> (pick one) the property to be improved?		own	
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?		no	
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?		no	
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	0		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	0		
New GSF	1920		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion		2002	
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			
Existing Emergency Department was constructed in 2002, the proposed Behavioral Emergency Unit will be an addition to the existing building.			