



NORTH CAROLINA
COUNCIL OF
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS

Proposed NC Council Legislative Agenda
2010 Legislative Session

- **Support DHHS Expansion and Retention of Psychiatric Beds in Local Hospitals**

The statewide initiative to increase local inpatient beds available and appropriate for consumers with MH/DD/SA needs broadened the local capacity to assist consumers and keep them in the communities they know. DHHS proposes continued funding of existing beds and an expansion to fund additional local hospital beds.

- **Support Extension of the Involuntary Commitment Pilot**

The pilot expanded consumer access to professionals who can assist consumers in dire crisis—those needing to be involuntarily committed to receive necessary treatment. Several LMEs have already seen positive outcomes with the pilot, which is due to sunset if legislative action is not taken. The legislation should be extended to allow those LMEs that have already benefited from the pilot to continue and should be expanded to allow other LMEs to participate in this initiative.

- **Support Restoration of \$40 million in Service Dollars**

The MH/DD/SA system has undergone many changes in the past years and is still fragile. It is critical to restore the cuts that were made to the available dollars to serve those North Carolinians who desperately need the MH/DD/SA system and have no means to pay for their services.