



Division of Behavioral Health Services

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August 15, 2017

Ms. Kay Terry
Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration
Office of Personnel Management
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 201
Little Rock, AR 72201

Subject: DHS, DBHS Request for Continuation of Hazardous Duty Pay

Dear Ms. Terry:

The Division of Behavioral Health Center is requesting continuation of Hazard Duty Pay for the Arkansas Health Center at Haskell, Arkansas, Nursing Home facility for job classifications and positions that are assigned to a work environment in designated units that expose employees to increased risk of personal injury and direct and unavoidable hazards with patients.

The Arkansas Health Center request to pay at the current rate up to 6% for the following units:

- Aspen Unit
- Cedar Unit
- Elm Unit
- Willow Unit

Approval to maintain Hazardous Duty pay would allow us to better staff and appropriately compensate employees to the above mentioned acute units who care for a very difficult population. These staff members are exposed to a very high level of assault and violence.

We have attached data over the past few years that clearly demonstrates the continuous exposure to violent behaviors from the patients they experience on a daily basis.

Your assistance with establishing this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jay Hill
Director, Division of Behavioral Health

