TLC Health receives approval on hospital bed decertification
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TLC Health Network has received state approval to decertify 60 nursing home beds at its Lake Shore Health Care Center, part of a larger effort to restructure services and transform the Irving hospital into an outpatient and specialty services campus.

The system in September announced five separate projects for the hospital, including decertifying the residential health care beds on the first and second floor and converting the second floor space into a 20-bed behavioral intervention unit.

Only 11 such BI units exist across New York, providing temporary care for residents from other nursing homes who experience abnormal behavior. The program works to identify the source of the behavior, treat it and return them to the referring facility.

Transforming TLC Health’s facilities is part of a larger effort with Brooks Memorial Hospital and Kaleida Health to improve health care in the Southern Tier and throughout Western New York. With $57 million in state funding, the three groups are forming an integrated delivery system, with the Irving campus focusing on ambulatory services and specialty care, including mental health, chemical dependency, behavioral intervention and sub-acute rehab. Brooks Memorial will focus on traditional inpatient services, with plans underway to build a brand new 29-bed hospital in the Dunkirk/Fredonia area.

Other plans at Lake Shore include a 20-bed inpatient chemical dependency unit and an expanded musculoskeletal outpatient clinic.

The facility is located on routes 5 and 20, about 35 miles southwest of Buffalo.