

Genesis HealthCare is being served a 30-day notice today informing the company it will no longer manage Sullivan County Health Care.

The future management of the facility remains uncertain.



Claremont "I'm working on a strategy plan," Sullivan County Manager Ed Gil de Rubio said Tuesday.

Sullivan County Commissioner Ethel Jarvis announced the change during a public hearing on the county budget in Claremont Tuesday night.

"We are not renewing the managing budget for Genesis," Jarvis said. "We feel it is time to manage our own nursing home again."

The money used to pay the \$450,000 Genesis management fee will remain in the budget and be used to pay for nurses and staffing, according to Jarvis.

"Genesis management really helped us figure out our billing," Sullivan County Commissioner Jeff Barrette said. "Over the past 10 years we have made a lot of progress."

In January 2005, Genesis signed a contract with the county to serve as a consultant for the nursing home. Prior to the arrival of Genesis, the nursing home ran deficits of more than \$1 million.

In 2000 and 2001, the nursing home ran deficits of \$1.5 million for each year. Money problems became worse in 2002 and 2003 when there was a \$1.7 million deficit for each year.

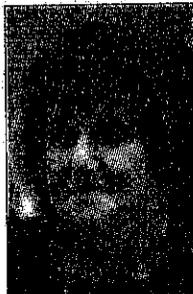
For fiscal 2005, Genesis reduced the deficit to just over \$200,000. By the end of fiscal 2006 under the management of Genesis, the nursing home showed a surplus of \$38,000, according to county officials.

Barrette said the reason the commission chose to keep the Genesis money in the budget was to increase the quality of care at the facility.

"The purpose of shifting those dollars was for staff development and adding three positions," Barrette said.

Sullivan County delegate Rep. Carla

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Jarvis

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Genesis gets the pink slip

Sullivan County Health Care management plans unclear

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Skinder, D-Cornish, asked the commission why the budget showed a large increase in salaries for nurses.

"We're trying to find and grow our own staff," Sullivan County Commissioner Ben Nelson said.

As recently as March, Sullivan County Health Care administrator Scott Wojkiewicz reported the nursing home was running \$58,974 in the red. The reason given at the time was there were a number of empty beds.

There were few questions from the delegation

after the proposed \$27.6 million county budget was presented to the delegation.

The budget will now go before the executive finance committee. After it is reviewed, the budget will then be discussed at the county convention at 9 a.m., Tuesday, June 29, in the Lou Thompson room at the technical center in Newport.

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