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LOBBYING REPORT

Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (Section 5) - All Filers Are Required to Complete This Page

1. Registrant name	
Organization	Baker Healthcare Consulting, Inc.
2. Address <input type="checkbox"/> Check if different than previously reported	
Address 1	One American Square Suite 2000
City	Indianapolis IN Zip Code 46282 Country US
3. Principal place of business (if different than line 2)	
City	State Zip Code Country
4a. Contact Name	b. Telephone number
Prefix Full Name	c. E-mail
Mr. Dale E. Baker	317-631-3613 bakerheathcare@yahoo.com
5. Senate ID #	5164
7. Client Name <input type="checkbox"/> Self	6. House ID #
United Hospital Center, Clarksburg, WV	33560

TYPE OF REPORT 8. Year 2004 Midyear (January 1-June30) OR Year End (July 1-December)

9. Check if this filing amends a previously filed version of this report

10. Check if this is a Termination Report ⇨ Termination Date 2/10/05 11. No Lobbying Act

INCOME OR EXPENSES - Complete Either Line 12 OR Line 13	
12. Lobbying Firms	13. Organizations
INCOME relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period was:	EXPENSES relating to lobbying activities for this reporting period were:
Less than \$10,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Less than \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/>
\$10,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> ⇨ \$ <u>21,000.00</u>	\$10,000 or more <input type="checkbox"/> ⇨ \$ <u>21,000.00</u>
Provide a good faith estimate, rounded to the nearest \$20,000, of all lobbying related income from the client (including all payments to the registrant by any other entity for lobbying activities on behalf of the client).	14. REPORTING METHOD. Check box to indicate appropriate accounting method. See instructions for description of options.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Method A. Reporting amounts using LDA definitions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Method B. Reporting amounts under section 6033(b)(1) Internal Revenue Code
	<input type="checkbox"/> Method C. Reporting amounts under section 162(e) of Revenue Code

Form C

Printed Name and Title Dale E. Baker, President

Dale E. Baker 2/10/05

Registrant Name Baker Healthcare Consulting, Inc.

Client Name United Hospital Center, Clarksburg

Information Update Page - Complete ONLY where registration information has changed.

20. Client new address

Address
 City State Zip Code Country

21. Client new principal place of business (if different than line 20)

City State Zip Code Country

22. New general description of client's business or activities

LOBBYIST UPDATE

23. Name of each previously reported individual who is **no longer** expected to act as a lobbyist for the client

	First Name	Last Name	Suffix		First Name	Last Name
1				3		
2				4		

ISSUE UPDATE

Find the code to select below.

24. General lobbying issues that **no longer** pertain

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AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

25. Add the following affiliated organization(s)

Name	Address	Principal place of Business (city and state or country)
	Address C/S/Z	City State Country
	Address C/S/Z	City State

26. Name of each previously reported organization that is **no longer** affiliated with the registrant or client

1	2	3
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FOREIGN ENTITIES

27. Add the following foreign entities

Name	Street Address City	Address State/Province Country	Principal place of business (city and state or country) City State Country	Amount of contribution for lobbying activities	Other

28. Name of each previously reported foreign entity that **no longer** owns, **or** controls, **or** is affiliated with the registrant affiliated organization

1	3	5
2	4	6

Add a page for more

Printed Name and Title Dale E. Baker, President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the 2000 census data which was finalized by the Office of Management Budget on June 6, 2003, Morgantown, WV (along with nearby Preston County WV) was named a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) for the first time. The population of the urbanized area within Monongalia County barely exceeds the population threshold to become a metropolitan area. The only reason that Morgantown reaches the 50,000 threshold within the urbanized area for population is because of West Virginia University (WVU) and a student population in excess of 21,000 students. Students generally in the age bracket from 15-24 use very few hospital services in comparison to the older age groups (most notably those 65 and older). Monongalia County's population, as a result of WVU has a much higher percentage of 15-24 year olds and a considerably lower percentage of those over age 65 than other areas of West Virginia. By examining the use rates for these various age groups (from CDC United States level of detail data) it is obvious for the purposes of hospital services Morgantown looks much more like a rural area than it does a metropolitan area.

Designating Morgantown as a metropolitan area has several detrimental impacts on payment levels for West Virginia hospitals. First, the rural wage index would be recomputed downward, leaving out WVU and Monongalia General Hospitals from the rural data. This results in a decrease in payment to all of the rural West Virginia hospitals (except those that are reclassified). Additionally, because of the new metropolitan area United Hospital in Clarksburg would no longer be eligible to be reclassified to Pittsburgh and would receive a lower Morgantown wage index as a result of a reclassification. Lastly, depending upon an administrative interpretation of rural referral centers that are now in an MSA it is possible that both WVU and Mon General could lose their reclassifications to Pittsburgh. The end result could reduce payment to West Virginia hospitals by as much as \$3,538,000.

We believe that the unique nature of a smaller urban "college town" such as Morgantown is such that it merits exclusion from being considered an MSA for the purposes of determining the Medicare wage index. Thus, preservation of Monongalia County as a part of rural West Virginia would be a more appropriate treatment for Medicare wage index purposes than simply accepting the MSA status as used by the U.S. Census Bureau.

