

Board Committee Report

Submitted To: PSFDH Board of Directors
Submitted by: Dr. Morell
Re: Chief of Staff Report to the Board of Directors
Date: February 24, 2026

Key Messages:

1. Capacity & Bed Flow Challenges

Bed shortages continue to be a significant operational challenge across the organization. High census levels have constrained patient throughput and impacted several service lines.

- **Surgical Services Impact:** On multiple occasions, overflow has required the use of the Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) to house admitted patients awaiting inpatient beds.
- This has resulted in periodic delays or constraints in scheduled surgical cases due to limited recovery capacity.
- Ongoing coordination between Nursing Leadership, Surgical Services, and Bed Management is focused on mitigating disruptions while maintaining patient safety.

We continue to evaluate both short-term surge strategies and longer-term capacity planning solutions.

2. Obstetrics (OB) Service Disruptions

OB closures remain an ongoing concern. During the past month, several temporary OB service interruptions occurred.

- **Primary Cause:** Staffing shortages.
- These closures are typically short-term but create strain on regional partners and may affect community perception and access to care.

Recruitment Update:

Recruitment efforts for a new OB/GYN provider are ongoing.

- Four candidates have been interviewed to date.
- The search remains active, and leadership is working to expedite candidate evaluation and onboarding where feasible.

Ensuring stability in OB coverage remains a high priority.

3. Mortality Review Process Enhancement

The Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) has approved a revised approach to inpatient mortality chart reviews.

New Process:

- Nursing staff will complete an initial chart review within 72 hours of a patient's death.
- Reviews will follow standardized, evidence-based criteria to identify cases that warrant further clinical scrutiny.
- Cases meeting flag criteria will be referred for a more detailed multidisciplinary review of care.

Objectives of the Revision:

- Improve timeliness of review.
- Standardize screening criteria.
- Enhance early identification of quality-of-care concerns.
- Support continuous quality improvement efforts.

Implementation planning is underway, including education and workflow alignment

Summary

Operational pressures related to bed capacity and OB staffing continue to require active management. At the same time, improvements to the mortality review process represent a meaningful step forward in strengthening our quality oversight and accountability framework.