



REPRESENTATIVE
DENISE C. GARLICK
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NEEDHAM, DOVER, MEDFIELD

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1054

CHAIR
JOINT COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH,
SUBSTANCE USE AND RECOVERY
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December 14, 2017

Dear Avery Manor Residents, Family Members and other Interested Parties,

As your State Representative, I want to ensure that you have as much information as possible as Kindred proceeds through the process of giving notice of the proposed closure of Avery Manor-Kindred Transitional Care and Rehabilitation-Avery. I will be available at Avery Manor on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM to hear your concerns, answer questions and provide additional resources as we process the intended closing of what I know is your home.

I also want to share with you the following information has been provided to me from the Department of Public Health, which is the oversight agency for the closure:

Process and timeline for voluntary closure of a long-term care facility:

- A facility is required to notify the Department and impacted parties, including residents, family members, the facility's resident and family councils, staff, labor organizations, the offices of the local and state Long Term Care Ombudsman, local representatives to the State Legislature, and city officials, of the voluntary closure 120 days in advance of the proposed closure date, per the voluntary closure guidelines found at 105 CMR 153.023. Facility ownership should engage with those impacted parties, exploring alternatives to closure and further development of closure plan.
- Upon receipt of the initial 120 notice of intent to close, the Department is required to schedule a public hearing at least 90 days in advance of the proposed closure date.
- The Facility must prepare and distribute a draft closure plan and notice of the date, time, and location of the public hearing at least 14 days prior to the public hearing. A copy of the draft closure plan and notice of public hearing must be posted in the facility and provided to each party initially notified of the closure.
- Within 14 days following the public hearing, the Department will complete its review of the closure plan and the public comments received at the hearing and either issue approval or, if necessary, request additional information from the Facility about the draft closure plan.

- Upon Department approval of the closure plan, and at least 60 days prior to the closure, the facility must freeze new admissions to the facility and provide each party that received initial notice of intent to close with notification of the Department's approval, the approved closure date, and notice the facility will close. This must also be posted in the facility.
- At that time, the facility can begin the transfer of residents in an orderly manner. The facility will work with residents and/or the resident legal representatives to find alternative placement for the residents, and is responsible for maintaining safe, high-quality care for all of its residents during this transition.

Who should constituents contact with concerns:

<u>Nature of concern:</u>	<u>Who To Contact:</u>
Seeking information about when the closure will occur, how to search for bed for resident.	Facility administrator and/or social worker.
Seeking assistance to advocate for resident's needs at current facility.	Kindred Transitional Care & Rehab – Highgate in Dedham: Susan Morrison of HESSCO Elder Services, at 781-784-4944 x240 Kindred Transitional Care & Rehab – Avery in Needham: Gretchen Hahn of Springwell, at 617-607-1183 Kindred Transitional Care & Rehab – Harborlights in South Boston: Marietta McCarthy of Ethos, at 617-522-6700 x315 Kindred Transitional Care & Rehab – Tower Hill in Canton: Susan Morrison of HESSCO Elder Services, at 781-784-4944 x240
Conditions exist which constitute a threat to resident's health or safety at current facility.	DPH Complaint Unit (617-753-8150)
Facility is not following closure process as required by regulation (for example, notice is not provided to residents or other listed individuals).	DPH Licensure Unit (617-753-8000)

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Again, I will also be available at Avery Manor on December 19, 2017, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM.

Yours in service,



Denise C. Garlick
State Representative