

State of New Jerzey DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH PO BOX 358 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0358

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KAITLAN BASTON, MD, MSC, DFASAM Commissioner

In Re Licensure \	/iolation:
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MEDFORD CARE CENTER

(NJ Facility ID# NJ60313)

REVISED NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUMMARILY SUSPEND

TO: Richard Pineles, Administrator Medford Care Center 185 Tuckerton Road Medford, New Jersey 08055 RPineles@tandemmanagement.com

On November 15, 2024, the Department of Health (Department) issued Medford Care Center (Medford or facility) a Notice of Intent to Summarily Suspend (Notice) its long-term care facility license due to Medford's serious financial issues as well as immediate health and safety violations that were found at the facility during the Department's November 2024 recertification, complaint investigation, life safety code and state licensure survey, which remains ongoing. Relevant here, the Department identified in the Notice the facility's failure to ensure that it had hot water on a consistent basis, as required by N.J.A.C. 8:39-31.7 (h), due to a malfunctioning water boiler, concerns regarding the facility's food supply due to the facility being on a cash-on-delivery basis with food vendors, and serious financial problems involving the facility. As a result, and consistent with N.J.S.A. 26:2H-14 and N.J.A.C. 8:43E-3.8, the Department required Medford, within 72 hours of the Notice, to provide it with following corrective actions to avoid the summary suspension of its license:

 Evidence that the water boiler has been repaired and was consistently providing hot water to the building as required by <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-31.7(h) (Mandatory Safety Requirements);

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY Lt. Governor

- 2. Proof of contracts with food vendors, which are not based on cash-on-delivery, that provide for delivery through December 31, 2024 of sufficient food to meet all residents' food requirements;
- 3. Proof of the facility's ability to meet payroll for the next 30 days; and
- 4. Proof of the facility's ability to meet all of its operating expenses, including but not limited to medication, supplies and other contracted services, to ensure continuity of care and delivery of services to residents until December 31, 2024.

More than 72 hours has passed since the issuance of the Notice, yet Medford has failed to provide the Department with evidence of the above. Accordingly, the Department is issuing Medford this Revised Notice of Intent to Summarily Suspend its license and ordering the facility to submit the following within 72 hours:

- 1. A fully executed contract for repair of the water boiler setting forth a specific date by which the repair will be completed.
- 2. Proof that that the facility has sufficient funds available to pay the deposit and the balance upon completion of the repair work for the water boiler.
- 3. Proof that the water system is consistently providing hot and cold water to the entire facility within the regulatory guidelines delineated in <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-31.7(h).
- 4. Proof of fully executed contracts (not invoices) with food vendors, which are not based on cash-on-delivery, that provide for delivery through December 31, 2024, of sufficient food to meet all residents' food requirements.
- 5. Proof of the facility's ability to meet all of its operating expenses, including but not limited to medication, supplies and other contracted services, to ensure continuity of care and delivery of services to residents until December 31, 2024.
- 6. Proof of the facility's ability to meet payroll for the next 30 days.

If Medford fails to implement the above corrective action within 72 hours and it continues to pose an immediate threat to the health, safety or welfare of the public or the residents of the facility, then the Department will issue a notice of summary suspension of Medford's license and order immediate correction of any violations as a prerequisite to reinstatement of the license.

RIGHT TO HEARING

In the event that the Department issues a summary suspension of Medford's license, the Facility will have a right to a hearing consistent with <u>N.J.S.A</u>. 26:2H-14.

NOTIFICATION OF RESIDENTS

The facility shall be prepared to notify residents, family members and legal representatives, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 26:2H-126, and be prepared to enact its emergency plan, pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:39-31.6, to effectuate an orderly transfer of residents in the event the Department moves forward with a summary suspension.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Lisa King, Office of Program Compliance, at Lisa.King@doh.nj.gov.

Sincerely,

m tombh

Gene Rosenblum, Director Office of Program Compliance Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing

GR:JLM:nj DATED: November 22, 2024 E-MAIL REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED Control #X24127

c. Order Distribution List