PUBLIC NOTICE

HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
Keys Amendment Certification

Take notice that the Keys Amendment to the Federal Social Security Act requires an annual certification by states that there are standards for facilities where significant numbers of Social Security Income (SSI) recipients reside. The publication of a summary of standards also is required.

Pursuant to legislation passed in 2006, the Department of Children and Families was created out of the Department of Human Services to focus on child protection, welfare, education and permanency, child behavioral health, and abuse prevention. Therefore, four New Jersey State Departments now have licensing and enforcement authority for facilities housing significant numbers of SSI residents in New Jersey. Each Department maintains standards for the facilities in which SSI recipients reside. The Department of Human Services is designated by the Governor to submit the certification.

The Department of Human Services’ (DHS) Office of Licensing has licensing and enforcement authority for facilities housing persons with mental illness; developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injury. The DHS Office of Licensing has two operational units, as described below: Developmental Disabilities Licensing and Mental Health Licensing.

- The Developmental Disabilities Licensing unit maintains standards for group homes, community care residences, supported living, and supervised apartments for persons with developmental disabilities and traumatic brain injury. The unit also inspects and licenses private residential facilities for persons with developmental disabilities. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 10:44A, 10:44B, 10:44C, and 10:47, or by contacting the following office:

  New Jersey Department of Human Services
  Office of Licensing
  PO Box 707
  Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0707

- The Mental Health Services Licensing unit maintains standards for group homes, family care homes, apartments, supportive housing residences, and supportive housing programs for mentally ill adults. Full texts of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 10:37, 10:37A, and 10:37D, or by contacting the following office:
The Department of Children and Families’ (DCF) Office of Licensing has licensing and enforcement authority for facilities housing children, including facilities for children in out-of-home placement. The DCF Office of Licensing has two operational units, as described below: Child Care/Youth Residential Licensing and Resource Family Licensing.

- The Child Care and Youth Residential Licensing unit maintains standards for residential child care facilities; children's group homes, including group homes, supervised transitional living homes, treatment homes and psychiatric community homes for children; and children’s shelters. The unit also licenses residential facilities, group homes and community care residences for children with developmental disabilities and residential facilities for children with substance abuse disorders under state legislation mandating a transition of these services from the Department of Human Services to the Department of Children and Families. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 10:127, 10:128, 10:124, 10:47, 10:44A, 10:44B, and 10:161A or by contacting the following office:

  New Jersey Department of Children and Families
  Office of Licensing
  Child Care and Youth Residential Programs Licensing
  PO Box 717
  Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0717

- The Resource Family Licensing unit licenses resource families, including children's foster homes, relative care homes and adoptive homes. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 10:122C, or by contacting the following office:

  New Jersey Department of Children and Families
  Office of Licensing
  Resource Family Licensing
  PO Box 717
  Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0717

The Department of Community Affairs licenses rooming houses Class A, and B, C, D, and E boarding homes. The Bureau of Rooming and Boarding House Standards is mandated to evaluate annually the physical and social conditions of all rooming and boarding houses as defined under N.J.S.A. 55:13B-1 through 16, the Rooming and Boarding House Act of 1979. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 5:27, or by contacting:
The Department of Community Affairs licenses free-standing residential health care facilities and enforces standards through annual inspections. The standards are the same as those promulgated by the Department of Health for residential health care facilities. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 5:27A, or by contacting:

New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
Bureau of Rooming and Boarding House Standards
PO Box 804
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0804

The Department of Health's Office of Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure unit licenses residential health care facilities that are attached to other long-term care facilities and enforces standards through inspections. Full text of the standards can be found in N.J.A.C. 8:43, or by contacting:

New Jersey Department of Health
Office of Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure
PO Box 358
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0358

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Elizabeth Connolly, Acting Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Human Services

Date: 12/14/16