



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality
Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

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August 18, 2021

Andrew Levine, Esq.
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Re: Review of Response Following Essential Services Finding
Facility: Anna Jaques Hospital
Services: 8 Bed Pediatric Service
Ref. #: 2006-367

Dear Attorney Levine:

On August 10, 2021, the Department of Public Health (the "Department") received from you, on behalf of Anna Jaques Hospital, a response to our July 27, 2021 letter indicating that Anna Jaques Hospital (the "Hospital") must file a plan with the Department detailing how access to services will be maintained following the discontinuation of its 8 bed Pediatric Service. Thank you for responding to our request in a timely and comprehensive manner.

Pursuant to 105 CMR 130.122(G) the Department has completed its review of the submitted access plan. As a result of this review, the Department has prepared the following comments:

- Pediatric Advisory Committee:** In your response dated August 10, 2021, you noted that the Pediatric Advisory Committee (the "PAC") included pediatricians, ENT surgeons and emergency physicians who are familiar with the diversity of the community served by the Hospital. The Department requests the Hospital clarify whether it has considered the feasibility of including individuals who reflect the diversity of the Hospital's service area as PAC members.

2. **Pediatric Patients in the Emergency Department:** Based on opening remarks given by the Hospital at the July 20th hearing, it is the understanding of the Department that the Hospital will continue to serve pediatric patients who present to the Emergency Department and will arrange transfers for pediatric patients who require inpatient admission. The Department requests additional information on the Hospital's ability to take care of pediatric patients in the Emergency Department, including those in need of a behavioral health evaluation.

Under the provisions of 105 CMR 130.122(G), the Hospital must submit a timely response to the comments of the Department. Please submit your comments within 10 days of your receipt of this letter to Walter Mackie at Walter.Mackie@Mass.Gov, Stephen Davis at Stephen.Davis@Mass.Gov and me at Sherman.Lohnes@Mass.Gov in order that we may complete our review of the pending closure.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this process. If you have any questions, please contact me at Sherman.Lohnes@Mass.Gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SL', written in a cursive style.

Sherman Lohnes
Division Director

cc: E. Kelley, DPH, BHCSQ
R. Kaye, DPH, OGC
M. Callahan, DPH, BHCSQ
S. Davis, DPH, DHCFLC
W. Mackie, DPH, DHCFLC