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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September 21, 2023

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BY EMAIL ONLY

**Re: Review of Response Following Essential Services Finding**

 **Facility:** Baystate Medical Center

**Services:** Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Treatment Services and Partial Hospitalization Program

 **Ref. #:** 2339-O43

Dear Attorney Bloom:

On September 11, 2023, the Department of Public Health (the "Department") received from you, on behalf of Baystate Medical Center, Inc., a response to our August 24, 2023 letter indicating that Baystate Medical Center (the “Hospital”) must file a plan with the Department detailing how access to services will be maintained following discontinuation of the child and adolescent psychiatric treatment unit and the partial hospitalization program (“PHP”). Thank you for responding to our request in a timely 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:

1. **Mechanism to maintain continuity of care:** In your response dated September 11, 2023, you stated that with respect to PHP patients, care will be transitioned to Valley Springs Hospital or another PHP program of a patient’s choosing. The Department requests a detailed description of when, how and by whom patients will be informed about the discontinuance of services and how patients will be informed of available sites and providers. Please include mechanisms to manage discharge, referral, transportation, and scheduling for PHP services with alternate sites.

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 my attention, 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 Stephen.Davis@Mass.Gov.

Sincerely,

Stephen Davis

Division Director

cc: E. Kelley, DPH

 J. Bernice, DPH

 K. Fillo, DPH

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