

DRAFT CLOSURE AND RESIDENT RELOCATION PLAN
Benjamin Healthcare Center

Dated: February 13, 2024

On February 13, 2024, Edgar T. Benjamin Healthcare Center, Inc. (the “Licensee”), the current licensed operator of the nursing home known as Benjamin Healthcare Center, located at 120 Fisher Avenue, Boston, MA 02120 (the “Facility”) issued a Notice of Intent to Close to the Massachusetts Department of Health (the “Department”). This is the draft Closure Plan referenced in that Notice of Intent to Close, which is currently pending the Department’s approval.

1. Closure date. The proposed date of the Facility closure is **July 1, 2024**, subject to the Department’s approval, the satisfaction of all regulatory requirements for a nursing home closure, and the safe and orderly relocation of all residents.
2. Person responsible for carrying out the Closure Plan. The person responsible for carrying out this Closure Plan and responsible for ensuring the safe and orderly transition of residents will be the Facility’s Administrator, Tony Francis. Mr. Francis’s contact information is provided below. If there are any questions about the Facility closure, they may be directed to Mr. Francis.

Tony Francis, Administrator
Email: tfrancis@epbhc.org
Phone Number: 617-738-1500 ext. 101

3. Required notifications.
 - a. Notice of the Intent to Close was provided to the Department and Interested Parties listed on Exhibit A simultaneous with the delivery of this draft Closure Plan.
 - b. The Licensee will work with the Department to schedule a public hearing on the proposed closure, which will be held at least 90 days prior to the proposed closure date, and which will be held at a location accessible to residents, family members, and facility staff.
 - c. Once the date of the public hearing is known, the Licensee will provide notice of the date, time, and location of the public hearing, and such notice will be provided at least 14 days in advance of the public hearing date. The Notice of Public Hearing will include a statement that comments on the proposed closure may be filed with the Department up until the date of the public hearing.
 - d. At least 90 days before the closure date, the Licensee will notify MassHealth that it will be closing its nursing home business.
 - e. Once the draft Closure Plan has been approved by the Department, the Licensee will provide each of the Interested Parties notice that the Department has approved its Closure Plan, a Notice of Closure, and a copy of the approved Closure Plan. In addition to the Interested Parties, the Licensee will provide a Notice of Closure and a copy of the approved Closure Plan to the following parties: (i) the Facility’s

Medical Director, (ii) each resident's primary physician, (iii) MassHealth, (iv) vendors, (v) community partners, (vi) hospitals, (vii) home health agencies, (viii) dialysis facilities and (ix) other providers with a relationship with the Facility.

- f. At least fourteen days prior to the date of the closure, the Licensee will publish a notice of closure in the local newspaper, in accordance with Medicare requirements.
 - g. The Notice of Intent to Close, Notice of Public Hearing, and Notice of Closure will be published on the Facility's website. Additionally, the draft Closure Plan and Approved Closure Plan will be published on the Facility's website. The Facility's website is: <https://epbhc.org/>.
4. Psychological preparation or counseling of each resident. The Facility will announce the closure to its residents on February 14, 2024, and will have a Resident Council meeting that day to discuss the proposed closure. The Director of Social Services, Director of Nursing, Assistant Director of Nursing, and the nurse management team and/or designee will be available to discuss the closure announcement with each resident and/or their legal representative in the resident's room at a time convenient for the resident and/or their legal representative. Facility staff will also be available to meet with family members of each resident either in-person or via phone call. Facility staff will make every possible effort to lessen transfer trauma for residents and will ensure assessments are conducted throughout the closure process when transfer trauma is identified in residents.
5. Resident relocation efforts. The Facility will not initiate relocation efforts for residents until after the Department approves the Closure Plan; however, if prior to the Department's approval of the Closure Plan the resident or resident's legal representative initiates relocation efforts on their own accord, the Facility will assist in the relocation as described herein.

Each resident relocation will be designed to minimize risks and ensure optimal placement of each resident. The Facility will work with each Resident, their legal representative and designated family member, the Local and State Ombudsman, and local public and private social services agencies to ensure that each resident is placed in an appropriate facility capable of meeting that individual resident's needs, taking into consideration the needs and best interests of each resident and the resident's and family's choice of new facility. Further, Facility staff will be available to assist residents and or their representatives with obtaining information required to make an informed decision about facility relocation. A listing of facilities in the area is attached hereto as Exhibit B and can serve as a starting point for residents, but Facility staff will be available to schedule meetings with every resident to discuss potential facilities that the resident may be placed. Absent Department approval, no more than 5 residents will be relocated per day.

6. Family Meetings. The Facility will hold a town-hall style meeting for resident families and residents on February 16, 2024 at 6:00pm and February 22, 2024 at 6:00pm. The meetings will be held at the Facility's lower-level dining room. In addition to the town-hall meeting, families may reach out to the Facility Administrator to schedule a meeting to discuss their loved ones' relocation.

7. Communication with the transferee facility. When an appropriate facility has been identified for a resident, the Facility will take steps to alleviate the effects of transfer trauma, and such steps may include, as appropriate, reviewing the resident's care routines, needs, and preferences with staff at the receiving facility who will be caring for the resident. The Facility will ensure all resident records are received by the transferee facility and will ensure all of the resident's personal belongings are transferred to the transferee facility. In addition, the Facility will coordinate the completion of the MassHealth Resident Relocation Form, if applicable.
8. Information for Facility Staff. All Facility staff were provided a Notice of Intent to Close and a copy of the draft Closure Plan on February 14, 2024. A Staff town hall meeting will be held on February 15, 2024 at 2:00pm in the Facility's lower level dining room and ongoing weekly meetings will be scheduled to provide updates on the status of the closure. The Licensee is committed to working with its employees to explore job opportunities at other facilities in the area as operations wind down, including contacting the Massachusetts Dislocated Worker Center and the Massachusetts Career Center. Employees will continue to be paid and will continue to receive all of their benefits while employed during this wind-down until the closure date or their last date of employment, whichever is earlier. Employees may direct any questions to Tony Francis, the Facility's Administrator, with any questions about this Closure Plan or the closure generally.

Of paramount importance, the Licensee will ensure there are sufficient and adequate staff to carry out each resident's care plan during this closure process, and will ensure that there are sufficient and adequate staff to assist in each resident relocation.

9. New Admissions and Readmissions. In accordance with MassHealth requirements, the Facility will not admit any MassHealth members once the Licensee submits its voluntary withdrawal notice to MassHealth, which will occur at least 90 days prior to the closure date. For all other residents, no new residents will be admitted after the formal Notice of Closure, which will be sent out at least 60 days prior to the closure date. Residents of the facility who become eligible for MassHealth after the notice of withdrawal, MassHealth members who are hospitalized when the notice was sent, and members who are on nonmedical leaves of absence at the time the notice was sent are not considered new admissions. These residents will continue to be readmitted to the Facility pending the date of their safe and orderly relocation.
10. Resident Records. Copies of all medical records will be provided to the transferee facility at the time of each resident's relocation. All medical records will be maintained electronically by PointClickCare and hard copies will be stored with Iron Mountain for seven years after the closure. Any questions about resident records can be directed to Tony Francis, the Facility's Administrator.
11. Revisions to this Closure Plan. The Licensee may revise this Closure Plan to provide additional information in response to public comments, resident and family comments, and its ongoing communication with state agencies including the Department.

12. Ongoing Communications. The Facility will work with the residents, their legal representatives and family members, and other Interested Parties to ensure the safe and orderly transition of each resident and the safe closure of the Facility. Information will be posted at the Facility on a regular basis and advance notice will be provided in the event of any additional group meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Francis". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "T" and a cursive "Francis".

Tony Francis
Administrator

Exhibit A
Interested Parties

Notice Party	Notice Method	Notice Address
Resident	First Class Mail Hand Delivery	Resident's permanent address on file In person at the Facility
Resident's Legal Representative	First Class Mail	Legal Representative's address on file
Resident's Designated Family Member	First Class Mail	Designated Family Member's address on file
Resident Council	Hand Delivery	In person at the Facility
Family Council	Hand Delivery	In person at the Facility
Employees and Staff	First Class Mail Hand Delivery Email	Address on file In person at the Facility Email address on file
Labor Organizations	Email	Lena Rodriguez, Vice President – LTC 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East 108 Myrtle St. 4th Floor Quincy, MA 02171
State Ombudsman	First Class Mail	Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program One Ashburton Place, Room 517 Boston, MA 02108
Local Ombudsman	First Class Mail	Ethos 555 Armory Street Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Members of the General Court	First Class Mail	Senator Liz Miranda 24 Beacon Street Room 519 Boston, MA 02133 Representative Samantha Montañó 24 Beacon Street Room 443 Boston, MA 02133
Representative of the Local Officials	First Class Mail	Mayor Michelle Wu 1 City Hall Square, Suite 500 Boston, MA 02201-2013

Exhibit B

List of Area Facilities

Sherill House,
135 S. Huntington Ave
Boston, MA 02130
617-731-2400
<https://www.sherrillhouse.org/>

Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
431 Pond St.
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617-522-2600
<https://awwainc.org/armenian-nursing-rehabilitation-center/>

Laurel Ridge Rehabilitation Center
174 Forest Hills Street
Jamaica Plain, 02130
617-522-1550
<https://laurelridgerehab.com/>

CareOne at Brookline
99 Park Street
Brookline, MA 02446
617-991-2774
<https://www.care-one.com/locations/careone-at-brookline/>

Saint Joseph Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
321 Centre Street
Dorchester, MA 02122
617-825-6320
<https://www.stjosephrehab.com/>