

July 8, 2021

Via E-Mail

Sherman Lohnes, Esq., Director
Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

Re: Steward Good Samaritan Medical Center, Inc. – Second Response to DPH Regarding Closure of Norcap

Dear Attorney Lohnes:

This submission is in response to the Department of Public Health's (the "Department") letter, dated June 28, 2021, concerning Steward Good Samaritan Medical Center's (the "Hospital") plan for the closure of Norcap Lodge ("Norcap"). In compliance with the regulatory requirements at 105 CMR 130.122(G), the Hospital offers the following response to the Department's additional question below.

- 1. In your response dated June 18, 2021, you noted that the exact closure date of Norcap and the opening of a 32-bed Level 4.0 SUD unit at Morton Hospital ("MorCap") is not finalized because Morton Hospital is still obtaining regulatory approvals. The Department requests the Hospital provide additional information on the steps it has taken to date, and when those were taken, as well as the steps that it will take, along with its anticipated timing on those steps in conjunction with its plan to close down Norcap once it has completed both the essential services process and obtained the necessary regulatory approvals for the opening of MorCap. We specifically ask for confirmation that the statement in Hospital's response that "the new facility at Morton Hospital, the opening of which will coincide with the closure of Norcap..." means that there will be no gap in timing or services between the closure of Norcap and opening of MorCap.**

On March 24, 2021, the Department issued plan approval to renovate Morton Hospital ("Morton") to establish MorCap. In addition to the regulatory approvals required by the Department's Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification ("DHCFLC"), Morton is also in the process of obtaining licensure approval from the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services ("BSAS"). Morton will be filing a licensure application with BSAS in mid-July 2021. As you are aware, MorCap will be permitted to open to patients once it obtains all regulatory approvals from DHFCLC and BSAS.

In addition, Good Samaritan Medical Center provided notice to BSAS of Norcap's closure on June 3, 2021. The Hospital also will follow the requirements with respect to notice to patients as set forth in the BSAS regulations as the date of closure becomes firm, as the date of closure

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is tied to the licensure and opening of MorCap. The Hospital and Morton will ensure that the closure of NorCap and the opening of services at MorCap occur at the same time so that there will be no gap in timing or services between Norcap's closure and MorCap's opening. At this time, we are projecting that MorCap will open on approximately 9-15-21 and the closure of Norcap will be coordinated with the opening of MorCap.

We thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 898-4379, if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Andrew S. Levine

cc: C. Bloom, Esq.
M. Callahan, Esq., DPH
D. Calvert, BSAS
S. Carlson, DPH
S. Davis, DPH
R. Kaye, Esq., DPH
E. Kelley, DPH
N. Hibble, Esq., Steward
M. Marrero, M.D.
A. Marx, Steward
W. Mackie, DPH
B. McLaughlin, Esq., BSAS
R. Rodman, DPH
M. Smith-Mady, Esq.