

*Arnold House Nursing Home
490 William Street
Stoneham, MA 02180
781-438-1116
Jil Sullivan, RN BSN DON
arnoldhouseh@verizon.net*

May 25, 2023

VIA E-MAIL AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Mr. Stephen Davis
Licensure Unit Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

Re: Notice of Intent to Close: Arnold House Nursing Home

Dear Mr. Davis:

Please accept this Notice of Intent to Close Arnold House Nursing Home, (Arnold House, INC or the “Facility”) located at 490 William Street, Stoneham, MA 02180, effective on or about September 22, 2023, following completion of the regulatory process for voluntary closure of a long-term care facility required by the Department of Public Health. Attached please find our draft Closure and Relocation Plan (the “Closure Plan”).

This has been a difficult decision on behalf of our family, each of whom has assisted in running the facility over the past 74 years and has devoted countless hours to, and has taken great pride in, the wellbeing of the older generation, the residents, who became part of our family. Equally challenging has been the prospect of saying goodbye to our dedicated staff who take their responsibilities to the Arnold House residents seriously and with great affection. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unseen losses for so many businesses, especially the healthcare industry. We have spent thousands of dollars to retain and hire new staff, but have been unsuccessful in obtaining healthcare staff. Many people we interview do not agree with the mandated COVID vaccine requirement. We thought this would also turn around when the COVID monetary incentives stopped paying people to stay home. But September 2021 came and went, few came back to the healthcare field. Another unexpected loss we suffered was two beds had to be taken out of service due to the four-bed ruling, leaving Arnold House with only 20 licensed beds, a big financial loss to a small home. This two-bed shortage is just not feasible. As of today, our census is nine (9) residents in house (due to staffing), we are not taking new

admissions. Along with notifying the required (and impacted) parties to this notice of intent to close. On behalf of my family, I want to thank the Department of Public Health for understanding and offer my deepest gratitude to our employees, the town and state officials, and other organizations that have supported us over the past 74 years. More importantly, I want to thank all of the residents and the families who have resided at Arnold House and have entrusted us with their care.

The Facility's representatives whom residents, family members, staff or other interested parties may contact with questions they may have regarding the proposed closure are:

Jil Sullivan, Director of Nursing at The Arnold House Nursing Home, 490 William Street, Stoneham, MA 02180, 781-438-1116 or email Arnoldhousesnh@verizon.net.

We request that the Department of Public Health coordinate with Arnold House, for the scheduling of a public hearing on the proposed closure of the nursing facility, which will be held at least 90 days prior to the proposed closure date. At least 14 days prior to the public hearing, Arnold House will provide (i) a copy of the draft closure plan and (ii) written notice regarding the date, time, and place of the hearing to each person who is receiving this Notice of Intent to Close. The draft closure plan and notice of the hearing will each be in a format approved by the Department of Public Health and will be available in the Facility. A copy of the draft Closure Plan will be made available to each of the individuals who are required to receive notice. Interested parties may file comments on the proposed closure and the draft closure plan with the Department of Public Health up until the date of the public hearing.

We will be working with residents and their families, with our employees and with the state agencies, including the Department of Public Health, throughout this process to assure the orderly transition of care for our residents.

Copies of this notice and draft closure plan are being sent simultaneously to the following:

- Each resident of the Facility and where applicable, each resident's legal Representative;
- The designated family member of each resident;
- Each resident's primary care physician
- Each staff member of the facility;
- The Office of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman;
- The Office of the Local Long Term Care Ombudsman;
- The members of the General Court who represent the Town of Stoneham; and
- A representative of the local officials of the Town of Stoneham.

Please note that the Facility does not have a family council, nor do they have a labor organization representing its workforce at the time.

The Licensee will work with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to schedule a public hearing on the proposed closure, which shall be scheduled at least 90 days prior to the proposed closure date at this location, 490 William Street, Stoneham, MA 02180. Once scheduled, the Public Hearing will be distributed to all interested parties, and also posted in the Facility.

Written comments concerning the proposed closure and the draft closure plan may be submitted to the Department of Public Health, Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification, Attn: Closure Coordinator, 67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752.

Arnold House Nursing Home is Private pay only. We do not have the Medicaid or Medicare program.

Copies of the draft Closure Plan will be posted in the Facility.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Jil Sullivan, RN BSN

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