

120 Fisher Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02120
T 617-738-1500
F 617-738-6560

February 13, 2024

#### **VIA EMAIL**

Massachusetts Department of Public Health Attn: Walter Mackie, J.D, Stephen Davis Division of Health Care Facility Licensure & Certification Massachusetts Department of Public Health 67 Forest Street Marlborough, MA 01752

#### **RE:** NOTICE OF INTENT TO CLOSE

Facility: Edgar P. Benjamin Healthcare Center, Inc. d/b/a Benjamin Healthcare Center

License Number: 0785

Dear Mr. Mackie and Mr. Davis:

Please accept this Notice of Intent to Close submitted on behalf of Edgar P. Benjamin Healthcare Center, Inc. (the "Licensee"), the licensed operator of the nursing home known as Benjamin Healthcare Center located at 120 Fisher Avenue, Boston, MA 02120 (the "Facility"). The Licensee intends to voluntarily close the Facility on July 1, 2024, pending approval by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (the "Department") and pending completion of the regulatory process for voluntary closures of nursing homes in Massachusetts. Accordingly, attached hereto for the Department's review is the Facility's Proposed Closure Plan (the "Closure Plan"). A copy of this notice and the draft Closure Plan is being sent to the interested parties listed on Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Interested Parties").

This has been a difficult decision to make; however, due to persistent financial challenges, which were exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Facility will be closing.

The Facility's representative whom residents, family members, staff, and other interested parties may contact with questions regarding the proposed closure is:

Tony Francis, Administrator Email: tfrancis@epbhc.org

Phone Number: 617-738-1500 ext. 101

We will work with the Department to schedule a public hearing on the proposed closure of the Facility to be held at least 90 days in advance of the proposed closure at a location accessible to residents, family members and facility staff. A copy of the public hearing notice will be posted at the Facility and will be made available by the Facility's Administrator upon request. At least 14 days prior to the public hearing, the Facility will provide written notice of the public hearing to each of the Interested Parties. The notice shall include a statement that Interested Parties may file comments on the proposed closure and the draft Closure Plan with the Department up until the

date of the public hearing. Attached hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u> is the form notice of public hearing to be delivered to the Interested Parties.

The Facility and Licensee will work with residents, their families and representatives, the Department, employees, and Interested Parties to ensure the safe and orderly relocation of the Facility's residents upon the Department's approval of the Closure Plan. Upon such approval, the Interested Parties will be provided notice of the Department's approval of the Closure Plan, a copy of the approved Closure Plan, and notice that the Facility will close. In addition to the Interested Parties, the following parties will receive notice of the closure and a copy of the approved Closure Plan: (i)

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to working with the Department.

Sincerely,

Tony Francis Administrator

# **Exhibit A List of Interested Parties**

Notice Party	<b>Notice Method</b>	Notice Address
Resident	First Class Mail	Resident's permanent address on file
	Hand Delivery	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	Address on file
	Hand Delivery	In person at the Facility
	Email	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 Montaño
		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

## Form Notice of Public Hearing

[Date]

### VIA [FIRST CLASS MAIL / HAND DELIVERY / EMAIL]

[Addressee]

#### RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

<u>Facility</u>: Edgar P. Benjamin Healthcare Center, Inc. d/b/a Benjamin Healthcare Center License Number: 0785

Dear [Name],

We are writing as a follow-up to our letter dated [Date] regarding the voluntary closure of Benjamin Healthcare Center, the nursing home located at 120 Fisher Avenue, Boston, MA 02120. This letter is to inform you that the public hearing has been scheduled for [Date]. The date, time and place of the hearing are provided below. This information is additionally posted on the Facility's website: <a href="https://epbhc.org/">https://epbhc.org/</a>. You may also request it by contacting me by email: <a href="mailto:tfrancis@epbhc.org">tfrancis@epbhc.org</a>.

Date of Hearing:

Time of Hearing:

Place of Hearing:

As a reminder, you may file comments on the proposed closure and the draft closure plan with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (the "Department") up until the date of the public hearing. You may contact the Department via email at <a href="mailto:DPH.BHCSQ@massmail.state.ma.us">DPH.BHCSQ@massmail.state.ma.us</a>.

Sincerely,

Tony Francis Administrator