

APPLICANT QUESTIONS

Responses should be sent to DoN staff at DPH.DON@State.MA.US

1. The facility provides long term care, post-acute and short rehabilitation, specialized memory care and end of life care.
 - a. Provide the current number of residents broken down by short-term and long-term stay, and the number of residents in the special care dementia unit.
 - b. Explain how patient care may be disrupted around construction and how you will minimize those disruptions.
2. Provide the current square footage of the facility.
3. The application states the day rooms and dining spaces, currently separated by partitions, will be combined to be used as dining and activity spaces.
 - a. Will combined spaces have any new uses or alter the patients served in these spaces?

Responses:

1 a – We currently have 98 residents at the long term care facility which is comprised of 33 dementia care residents, 59 long term care residents and 6 short term resident stays.

1 b. - During the renovation of Notre Dame Long Term Care (LTC) patient care will be disrupted as minimal as possible to ensure their safety and well-being. Disruption will be minimized by installing several construction control methods. The main method will be to install temporary plastic zip walls to isolate construction zones from the rest of the facility. These areas will be marked with signage to designate “construction personnel only”. The construction zip walls are frosted to block others from viewing into the construction zone as well as ensuring that no dust or debris escapes the construction zone into the adjacent occupied spaces. Construction personnel will be mandated to limit the amount of times they enter and exit the construction zone, so they do not interrupt the active facility’s operations. All trash/debris will be placed into carts within the construction zone during working hours and will be removed at the end of the day to be disposed in dumpsters as applicable. This will also minimize the amount of traffic into and out of the construction area.

Great communication and planning will take place with staff and ownership of the facility to determine the appropriate times of the day to move temporary construction controls to the next phase of work. Logistics plans will be created to show when areas will start and complete work as well as when and where temporary construction controls will be placed. These plans will be distributed to all applicable parties to illustrate where temporary construction controls/barriers will be placed and their duration.

If there are any abnormally loud or vibratory activities that need to take place during construction, the facility staff will be made aware well in advance so they can plan on keeping patients away from those areas.

Notre Dame Health Care Center, Inc.
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2 – Square footage for the facility – Please see the attached square footage breakdown.

3 a - The combined spaces of dining and day rooms will continue to serve the same functions as required by DPH. However, by having them be combined, the spaces will have the ability to be multifunction, rather than having individual purposes that could be underutilized at various points during the day. It will also allow the staff to provide different programs and activities for the residents during the day, by having more space for residents, which also allows for lessened “density” of residents while the space is in use. In the case of the Memory Care unit, having the spaces combined also allows better visual management for the staff, which allows for better care for the residents, in addition to different activities and programs.

