



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Date: August 23, 2013

To: All Residents of Homeplace of Columbus Personal Care Home, Family Members of Residents, and/or Responsible Parties/Contacts for Residents

From: Mary Lawrence Gervin, Bureau Director, Non-Long Term Care  
Mississippi State Department of Health, Bureau of Health Facilities License and Certification

On November 27, 2012 and December 28, 2012, a Hearing Officer, appointed by the Mississippi State Department of Health, State Health Officer presided over hearings to revoke the license of Home Place of Columbus for failure to comply with regulatory Requirements as set out in the Mississippi State Department of Health's *Minimum Standards for Personal Care Homes - Residential Living*, Rule 48.9.1. Resultant of the hearings, the Hearing Officer recommended to the State Health Officer that the license issued to Homeplace of Columbus be revoked due to willful non-compliance with Minimum Standards of Operation for Personal Care Homes. The State Health Officer concurred with the findings of the Hearing Officer and issued an order to revoke the license of Home Place of Columbus Personal Care Home. The facility appealed the Order of the Hearing Officer. By filing such an appeal, the "status quo" was preserved.

The Department of Health was notified by a representative of LPP Mortgage, Ltd, the mortgage holder for the property upon which Homeplace of Columbus is located, that the property is in foreclosure and that a foreclosure sale is impending. On August 12, 2013, based on concerns for the safety and well being of the residents, a hearing was held in the Chancery Court of Lowndes County regarding the matter of maintaining the "status quo" for Home Place of Columbus during the appeal. Based on the evidence presented, the Court lifted the "status quo" requirement and authorized the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) to relocate all residents from Home Place of Columbus Personal Care Home. According to the Order, all residents of Homeplace of Columbus should be relocated **within thirty days of the Order**. The Order was entered on **August 20, 2013**.

Please feel assured that the Department understands that this transfer is troubling to the residents and/or families of Homeplace of Columbus. Moving residents from their chosen location was an option of last resort for the Department; however, it is the only viable option available given the impending foreclosure proceedings against Homeplace of Columbus. Unfortunately, this foreclosure proceeding is outside of the control of you or the Department. The action taken by the Department to lift the status quo was necessary to assure that each resident was allowed the appropriate time and opportunity to find an alternative location to meet the needs of each individual resident. To address further questions, representatives of the Mississippi State Department of Health have scheduled a meeting at Homeplace of Columbus for August 29, 2013. At 4:00 p.m.

Attached, please find copies of the referenced Court Order that establishes the maximum timeline of 30 days for completing the transfer of the residents of Homeplace of Columbus and a listing of the facility names, addresses, contact information and bed availability of licensed healthcare entities in your surrounding area. The Department will work with the management of Homeplace of Columbus in assuring the transfer of residents from HomePlace of Columbus to an alternative location that can provide the services required for each resident. The ultimate goal is for these transfers to occur as safely, as smoothly and as expeditiously as possible.

If you have questions related to this matter, please call Ann Kavanaugh, Executive Nurse for Personal Care Homes, at 601-364-2708. The main switchboard number for the Bureau of Health Facilities is 601-364-1100.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.