MAYOR
DAVID R. MARTIN

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ROBERT MISLOW, MHA, LNHA
TEL: (203) 322-3428
FAX: (203) 977-5524
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CITY OF STAMFORD
SMITH HOUSE
SKILLED NURSING FACILITY
88 ROCKRIMMON ROAD
STAMFORD, CT 06903-2817

October 20, 2015

Dear Residents, Guardians, Families, Responsible Parties and/or Conservators:

As you know, The Smith House Skilled Nursing Facility has been operating at a loss for many years. Despite the best efforts of our elected leaders, public and private professional managers, City and nursing home staff, and a dedicated board of directors, The Smith House operating deficit continues to grow. This year, the projected shortfall is close to $6,000,000. It is with a heavy heart that I must inform you that, after having considered all options, today we requested a Certificate of Need package from the State in order to request the permanent closure of The Smith House.

We did not come to this decision easily. Because we understood the impact that seeking a closure would have on patients/residents, families and employees, we drew back from making this decision year after year, even as the deficits continued to rise. Now that the decision has been made to request a Certificate of Need package, our top priority will be to work with you, our residents and your families to ensure minimum disruption in your lives. We are committed to working one-on-one with each and every resident, providing support and resources as necessary.

We are sure that you will have many questions. To begin this process, five Resident and Family meetings have been scheduled at Smith House, as follows:

- Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the Garden Room
- Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Garden Room
- Saturday, October 24, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the Garden Room

You are encouraged to attend one of these meetings.

Additionally, you may address any questions or concerns with any of the following resources:

- Smith House administrative staff
- Connecticut Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Systems at the Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman. The Ombudsman, whose name and number is listed below, is also an excellent resource for information about resident rights and placement options

Please take notice of the following information:

1) We project that we will be filing our certificate of need application with the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS) on or about November 16, 2015. Please note that only DSS has the authority to either grant, modify or deny the application and that DSS has up to 90 days to grant, modify or deny the certificate of need application.

2) The City is requesting a certificate of need package from the State due to severe and increasing financial losses at The Smith House.

3) No patient shall be involuntarily transferred or discharged within or from the facility pursuant to state and federal law because of the filing of the certificate of need application.

4) All patients have a right to appeal any proposed transfer or discharge.

5) Below please find the name, mailing address and telephone number of the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman and the local office of Connecticut Legal Services.

   Kimberly Massey
   1057 Broad Street
   Bridgeport, CT 06604
   Kimberly.Massey@ct.gov
   (203) 597-4181

   Connecticut Legal Services
   20 Summer Street
   Stamford, Connecticut
   (203) 348-9216

I hope to be able to join Executive Director Robert Mislow at one of the Resident and Family meetings to help answer any questions you might have. For targeted assistance or questions pertaining to specific individual situations you should contact Christine Hemenway, Smith House Director of Social Services or Marlys Youngberg, Smith House Director of Admissions. They may both be reached at (203) 322-3428.

Sincerely,

David R. Martin
Mayor

cc: Mr. Christopher A. Lavigne
Director of Reimbursement and Certificate of Need,
Department of Social Services, State of Connecticut

cc: Ms. Kimberly Massey
Office of Long Term Care Ombudsman
State of Connecticut

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October 20, 2015

Ms. Kimberly Massey
Office of Ombudsman Western Region
1057 Broad Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Dear Kimberly,

This letter is to inform you that the City of Stamford has submitted a letter of intent to the State of Connecticut in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 17b-352 requesting a Certificate of Need package to pursue the closing of The Smith House. Attached please find a copy of the letter which was sent to all patients/residents. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Robert Mislow, Executive Director of The Smith House at 88 Rockrimmon Road in Stamford at (203) 322-3428.

Sincerely,

David R. Martin