

# New Regulations About Adult Homes: How Do They Affect You?

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# What are the new regulations?

On January 16, 2013, the State Department of Health (DOH) issued new rules about some adult homes. These new rules affect "transitional adult homes." Transitional adult homes are large adult homes where at least 25% of the residents have a serious mental illness. Unless they are granted a waiver, these adult homes cannot admit new residents who have a serious mental illness. They also require the homes to create compliance plans. The plans must reduce the number of people with a serious mental illness in an adult home by placing them in housing in the community.

# Is my adult home affected by these regulations?

The DOH lists the following New York City homes as transitional adult homes that are subject to the regulations:

Belle Harbor Manor

Brooklyn Adult Care Center Central Assisted Living, LLC

Elm York LLC

Garden of Eden Home

Harbor Terrace Adult Home and

Assisted Living

Kings Adult Care Center

Lakeside Manor Home for Adults Mermaid Manor Home for Adults

New Gloria's Manor Home for Adults

New Haven Manor

Oceanview Manor Home for Adults

Park Inn Home

Parkview Home for Adults Queens Adult Care Center

Riverdale Manor Home for Adults

Rockaway Manor HFA

S.S. Cosmas and Damian Adult Home

Sanford Home

Seaview Manor, LLC

Surf Manor Home for Adults

Surfside Manor Home for Adults

Wavecrest Home for Adults

New South Shore Manor

West 74<sup>th</sup> Street Home

West Side Federation for Senior and

Supportive Housing

# Will adult homes close because of these regulations?

No adult homes have closed because of these regulations. Over the years, some adult homes have closed for a variety of reasons. If an adult home were to close, there is a process to make sure that the residents are provided with other housing.

#### If my adult home is a transitional adult home, will I have to move?

If you are a person with a serious mental illness, the adult home's compliance plan should provide you with other housing options. Depending on the plan, you might have to move eventually. This process could take several years. The regulation does <u>not</u> require the adult home to move <u>all</u> residents with serious mental illness.

#### Where will residents move?

Transitional adult homes have to plan to move some residents to community settings. These settings could include supported housing apartments, supported single room occupancy, supportive housing,

community residences, apartment treatment, senior housing, enriched housing, or other housing alternatives.

# What should an adult home compliance plan look like?

The plan should state:

- how the adult home will reduce the number of residents with serious mental illness;
- how long it will take the home to reduce the number of residents with serious mental illness;
- how the home plans to meet the needs of its residents while carrying out the plan, including how to:
  - help residents develop independent living skills
  - o ensure resident access to quality mental health services,
  - o encourage resident involvement and integration in the community, and
  - o foster a homelike atmosphere.

# When will people start moving?

There is no set date when people will start moving. Adult homes have until May 16, 2013 to come up with compliance plans. The DOH has until August 14, 2013 to review the plans and decide whether to approve them. Once approved, adult homes must implement the plans over a reasonable period of time.

# What if an adult home doesn't submit a compliance plan?

The DOH will make a compliance plan for the adult home.

#### Who is involved besides the adult home?

The DOH, including its community transition coordinator; housing providers; and staff from health plans will be involved in the transition. The adult home must provide space for residents to meet with these people or groups. The adult home should not discourage residents from meeting with outside groups.

#### What should I do if I want to move to another place?

Tell your case manager. If you have a health home or managed long term care plan, talk to them. Call MFY toll-free at (877) 417-2427 and we can provide updates on the process.

# What if someone tells me that I shouldn't move or that I'm unable to live more independently and I disagree?

If you are being discouraged from seeking other housing, call MFY toll-free at (877) 417-2427.

#### What if I DON'T want to move to another place?

If you are approached by housing providers or your health plan, you can tell them that you do not want to move. If you feel comfortable, you may want to tell them why you don't want to move. You can also call MFY toll-free at (877) 417-2427 if you want to discuss your concerns confidentially.

#### Why were these regulations issued?

The State Office of Mental Health decided that housing large numbers of people with serious mental illness in adult homes is "not conducive to the recovery or rehabilitation of the residents."

MFY Legal Services, Inc. provides free legal services to residents of adult homes in New York City. If you have a question about your rights, you can call us at toll-free at (877) 417-2427.