



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

SEP 02 2016

Dear Personal Care Home Provider:

Use of the term "assisted living" to identify services provided by a personal care home provider is not permitted, effective January 18, 2011 in accordance with 55 Pa. Code Chapter 2800 (relating to assisted living residences). A letter was sent to providers on November 7, 2011 clarifying and directing the use of "assisted living" as part of the entity's name. As you are aware, Act 56 of 2007 identifies that "no person, organization, or program shall use the term 'assisted living' in any name or written material" unless the person, organization, or program is a licensed assisted living residence.

The Department of Human Services (Department), Bureau of Human Services Licensing (BHSL) is responsible to enforce this requirement. If the Department determines that a provider has violated 55 Pa. Code §2600.18 (relating to applicable to health and safety laws) by using the term "assisted living" in the name of the personal care home, a regulatory violation will occur. Personal care home providers may apply for licensure as an assisted living residence or may change their name of the personal care home by contacting BHSL at 717-783-3670.

Ensuring that all personal care home providers are in compliance with this requirement is important, not only because it falls under regulation, but in order for prospective residents, current residents and their family members to be informed and clearly understand the nature of the service provided. This letter is a reminder that it is the personal care home providers' responsibility to ensure that all marketing and advertising materials, internet and website reference to their facility is correct in identifying as a personal care home and not as an assisted living residence. It is recommended that providers recheck their marketing, advertising, forms, and to cross-reference their facility name on the internet to identify correct reference to the facility as a personal care home. If a reference to the personal care home is incorrect and identifying the personal care home as an assisted living residence, be sure to resolve this issue to reflect the accurate licensing as a personal care home.

Your assistance in complying with this requirement and your ongoing collaborative partnership in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of individuals is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Rowe".

Jacqueline L. Rowe  
Director