



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Michael Traylor
Director

February 5, 2018

Dear Guardian, Friends and Family

This letter is being sent to you because you are a guardian for an individual residing in a state operated group home at the Arizona Training Program at Coolidge (ATPC). As you have been previously advised, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services have adopted new home and community-based service (HCBS) rules that do not allow for Medicaid funding of group homes located on the campus of an institution that has the effect of isolating individuals receiving Medicaid HCBS from the broader community of individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS. The Department of Economic Security and its Division of Developmental Disabilities (DES/DDD) conducted research and explored options for maintaining Medicaid funding and possibly keeping the group homes on the campus of ATPC. After multiple meetings with the group home members, their friends, family, and AHCCCS, it has been determined that continuing operations of the group homes on the campus of ATPC is no longer an option.

Since the original plan developed in 2015, current DES/DDD leadership has reconsidered its position. DES/DDD concluded members residing in the group homes may remain on campus and reside in an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) as long as the person centered plan and individual support plan demonstrate an ICF is medically necessary for the member.

DES/DDD contracted with the Sonoran University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) to provide trained facilitators to conduct person centered plans for each member residing in a group home at ATPC. The UCEDD in partnership with the DDD, is conducting information sessions for the family and guardians of the residents, as well as staff who work with residents who live in the group homes. The purpose is to provide an overview of the person centered planning process and answer questions you may have in preparation for the planning meetings. Person centered planning meetings will begin in February 2018 and will be conducted at ATPC. The information sessions will be held:

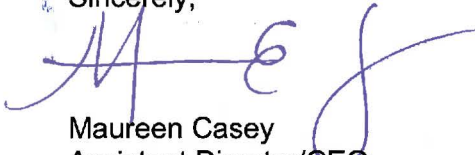
Date: Saturday, February 10, 2018
Times: 10:00 AM and again at 2:00 PM
Location: Arizona Training Program at Coolidge Administration Building

There is no plan to close the ICF programs located at ATPC. The plan is to utilize the space and buildings at ATPC for other compatible services and initiatives that will help the residents at the facility, while benefiting the state and the local community.

If you have any questions or are unable to attend, please contact the ATPC Superintendent Bruce McMorran at (520) 723-2600, or Director of Residential Services, Leah Gibbs at (602) 316-1485.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure a successful planning for your loved ones.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Casey', with a long horizontal stroke and a large flourish at the end.

Maureen Casey
Assistant Director/CEO
Division of Developmentally Disabled
Department of Economic Security