

April 10, 2008

Dear NF/MH Administrator:

This letter is to inform you that, effective April 7, 2008, the regulatory and survey oversight of nursing facilities for mental health have been assigned to the Licensure and Certification Division of the department's Licensure, Certification, and Evaluation Commission. This change is prompted by recent staff retirements and organizational restructuring.

There are **no** new licensing or certification regulations affecting your facility. The impact of this change is that licensure and certification survey activity will be completed by staff from one of the Licensure and Certification Division's six district offices. A map of the districts with names and phone numbers of each Regional Manager is enclosed for your information.

Facilities located in the Northeast or Lawrence district will be surveyed with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Quality Indicator Survey (QIS) process. Kansas has been a pilot state for this process since late 2005. The regulatory requirements under QIS remain the same; only the survey processes have changed. Facilities located in the other districts will continue receiving the "traditional" survey process until such time those districts begin using the QIS process.

Should you have questions regarding your surveys, you may contact your designated Regional Manager. Other questions may be directed to Greg Reser, Director, Licensure and Certification Division. We hope this change leads to agency efficiencies which will lead to improved services for facilities and residents.

Sincerely,