

Safety and Placement Plan for Residents of the Beatrice State Developmental Center who are Medically Fragile

On January 31, 2009 the Chief Medical Officer issued an order limiting the license of the Beatrice State Developmental Center (BSDC). The order prevents the facility from caring for medically fragile residents because of potential risk of death or serious physical harm. BSDC met the 5:00 p.m., February 6 deadline for moving all residents who are medically fragile that was imposed by the order.

A total of 45 individuals were transferred from BSDC between February 2 and February 6.

- 2/3: 14 clients transferred
- 2/4: 11 clients transferred
- 2/5: 10 clients transferred
- 2/6: 8 clients transferred
- 2 BSDC residents being treated at the Beatrice Community Hospital at the time of the order will be temporarily transferred to nursing homes.

Community hospitals and providers quickly responded to the need for placements:

- 19 to Lincoln hospitals
 - 14 to BryanLGH Medical Center
 - 5 to St. Elizabeth Regional Medical Center
- 19 to Omaha hospitals
 - 6 to Alegant Health Systems
 - 8 to Creighton University Medical Center
 - 5 to University of Nebraska Medical Center
- 2 to Community Health System in Cozad
- 1 to Good Samaritan Center in Scribner
- 2 to DD community-based programs
- 2 were at the Beatrice Community Hospital at the time of the order. They have been stabilized and will be temporarily transferring to nursing homes.

The main focus during this transition phase is the safety of the individuals.

Each individual is being given a full medical needs assessment. The Division of Developmental Disabilities Service Coordinators are also working to identify what services the hospitals can provide including speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, etc. Hospitals are working with Service Coordinators and providers to identify what habilitative day services can supplement the hospital care.

This transition phase may continue for a few days, weeks or months, depending on how quickly long-term services can be found for each individual. Some individuals have already identified new homes and will be moving soon. Again, the main focus is on safety and ensuring the appropriate level of care to meet the individual needs.

The Division is also working on a long-term plan for services.

The Division is working with all willing providers so that individuals can be served safely and appropriately in the community. It may take several weeks or months for providers to expand capacity so they can serve individuals transferred from BSDC. Some providers may be purchasing or building new homes or facilities to allow them to expand capacity. We had a call last week with all providers and will continue to do weekly calls to facilitate placements.