



State of Rhode Island  
**Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families**

November 30, 2023

St. Mary's Home for Children  
c/o: Carlene Casciano-McCann, Executive Director  
420 Fruit Hill Ave.  
North Providence, RI 02911

Dear Ms. Casciano-McCann:

As discussed earlier today with Director Deckert, this letter serves as official notice informing you that the Department has issued an immediate hold on all referrals and intakes for the following programs: **St. Mary's Home for Children: ARTS, Hope, Horton, Hills and Mauran Units located at 420 Fruit Hill Ave. North Providence, RI 02911.**

At this time, the census is as follows: ARTS/Harding (3 DCYF youth), Hope (6), Horton (7), Hills (6) and Mauran (4). As individual youth are discharged, those beds will remain vacant.

Since May 2023, the Department has conducted intensive weekly unannounced visits to the campus. During those visits, Licensing has completed such visits alongside your residential managers and supervisors to provide weekly feedback. In addition, a recent in-person meeting occurred with your director of nursing to address ongoing medication concerns. Such visits will continue during this hold period. Additionally, on October 23, 2023, the Associate Director of CSBH outlined a number of concerns related to PRTF care and recommendations for addressing such concerns.

In closing, the Department will provide a formal update as to any/all next steps on or before January 2, 2024.

Sincerely,

Lori A. DAlessio  
Administrator, Family and Adult Services  
Division of Licensing & Resource Families

Ashley Deckert, DCYF Director  
Secretary Richard Charest, OHHS  
Misty Delgado, DCYF Chief of Staff  
Brandi DiDino, DCYF Deputy Director  
Damaris Teixeira, DCYF Public Information Officer  
Domenic Lancellotta, DCYF Assistant Director Child Protective Services  
Deb Buffi, DCYF Associate Director  
Deb Palumbo, Acting DCYF Executive Legal Counsel  
Chris Strnad, DCYF Associate Director CSBH  
Katelyn Medeiros, Office of the Child Advocate  
Chief Judge Forte, Family Court