[AGENCY LOGO]

March 18, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The (nurse, therapist, direct care worker) holding this letter should be permitted into your facility, as provided by federal and state guidance relating to emergency management. (S/he) is providing necessary care to a facility resident and is not subject to general restrictions on visitation.

This agency is licensed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health under the Health Care Facilities Act, and the employee seeking to enter your facility to provide care has provided (his/her) identification badge.

On March 6, 2020, pursuant to the provisions of Subsection 7301(c) of the Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. § 7101, et seq., Governor Tom Wolf issued an Emergency Disaster Declaration in response to the rapid escalation of COVID-19.

Through additional guidance published by the Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel L. Levine, the Commonwealth has established that healthcare is an essential service in Pennsylvania. Our agency provides (health, therapeutic, and/or personal assistance services) and therefore, the services that this employee provides are essential.

On March 13, 2020, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) revised its guidance on the restriction of visitors in nursing facilities (Ref: QSO-20-14-NH). Although the guidance imposes restrictions on visitation at these facilities, it also provides for exceptions for health care workers.

Under the guidance, facilities are instructed to permit healthcare workers to enter facilities, provided that they meet CDC guidelines. Although the CMS guidance does not apply to Assisted Living Facilities or Personal Care Homes in Pennsylvania, access to those facilities should not be more stringent than this guidance. This is especially true in light of Governor Wolf’s executive order and subsequent state guidance establishing healthcare as essential.

Thank you for allowing this individual into your facility to provide necessary care to your resident. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that Pennsylvania’s seniors continue to receive critical care and services during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

[Agency Management]