

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ACHC Approved for Ongoing Home Health and Hospice Licensure Surveys by State of Maryland

Cary, NC- Accreditation Commission for Health Care (ACHC) has been approved by the Maryland Department of Health, to perform accreditation surveys in lieu of ongoing state licensure survey for Home Health agencies and Hospices, in accordance with state law.

"This approval from the Maryland Department of Health means that home health agencies and hospices who are accredited by ACHC will no longer receive ongoing state licensure surveys," said Teresa Harbour, ACHC's Program Director for Home Health, Hospice, and Private Duty programs. "We appreciate the value Maryland Department of Health sees in accreditation and we applaud their willingness to work with us to offer ACHC accredited agencies an alternative to ongoing licensure surveys."

The Maryland Department of Health has reviewed ACHC's Accreditation Standards and survey process and confirmed that they meet the state's licensure requirements. On December 12, 2017, Dr. Patricia Tomsko Nay <u>announced</u> that home health agencies and hospices accredited by ACHC are deemed to comply with Maryland State licensure requirements and are exempt from routine licensure surveys conducted by the Department.

To remain licensed, deemed Home Health agencies and Hospices must continue to submit a renewal application and comply with applicable Maryland Health Care Commission requirements. With the application, the licensee seeking deemed status for state licensure proposes, must submit its currently applicable ACHC inspection results and all supporting documentation.

ACHC is a nonprofit accreditation organization that has stood as a symbol of quality and excellence since 1986. ACHC offers nationally recognized accreditation services for home health, hospice, and private duty agencies. The organization has CMS deeming authority for Home Health, Hospice, and Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS), and a Quality Management System that is certified to ISO 9001:2008. ACHC's consultative approach to accreditation is designed to improve the quality of patient care while enhancing business efficiencies through service-specific standards and industry-based best practices. Throughout the entire accreditation process, ACHC is dedicated to delivering the best possible experience. For more information on ACHC's Accreditation programs, or to download ACHC Accreditation Standards, please visit www.achc.org or contact customerservice@achc.org or 855-937-2242.

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