



STATE OF MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
NOTICE TO APPLICANT

APPLICANT'S NAME

Federal Law (Section 1919(b) of the Social Security Act) requires a mental health screening for all persons seeking admission to a Medicaid certified nursing home. The purpose of this law, known as the Nursing Home Reform Act, is to ensure persons with mental health related conditions are placed in appropriate living arrangements where both their physical and mental health needs may be treated.

You are seeking admission to a Medicaid certified bed. Even though you may have completed screenings required by Missouri Division of Health Standards and Licensure Missouri Care Options program, the nursing facility may **not** admit you to a Medicaid certified bed until all required mental health screenings are done.

The mental health screening is divided into two parts. The first screening (Level I) is done by the nursing home as part of the admission process or by a hospital before a patient is discharged. If the Level I screening suggests that you have a mental health need, a full evaluation (Level II) must be done by the Department of Mental Health.

This notice is to tell you that your Level I screening indicates that you may have a mental health service need. This means:

- 1. You may **not** be admitted to the nursing facility until there is a determination that nursing home placement is appropriate.
- 2. Due to the seriousness of your physical illness, you may be admitted to the nursing home. A full evaluation will be done later to determine if nursing home placement is appropriate.
- 3. Due to your need for **Respite Care**, you may be admitted to the nursing facility for no more than 30 days without a full evaluation if nursing home placement is appropriate.
- 4. Due to your need for **Emergency Care** for protection, you may be admitted to the nursing facility for no more than 7 days without a full evaluation to determine if nursing home placement is appropriate.
- 5. Your physician has certified that you are likely to require less than 30 days of nursing facility services for the condition for which you are currently receiving hospital care. If it becomes apparent that you will stay longer than 30 days, a full evaluation must be done at that time to determine that continued nursing home placement is appropriate.

Full Mental Health Evaluation

If a full mental health evaluation must be done, persons employed or contracted by the Department of Mental Health will contact you. The purpose of the full evaluation is to see if you:

- 1) have a mental health condition as defined by the Nursing Home Reform Act,
- 2) need nursing home level of care or another living arrangement, and
- 3) need special mental health services that the nursing home is unable to provide, or
- 4) need lessor intensity mental health services that the nursing home is mandated by law to provide.

You, or your legal representative, will be given the results of the full evaluation and appeal rights. If the results show that nursing home care is not right for your physical and mental health needs, the Department of Health and Senior Services and Department of Mental Health will give you information about other services that may better meet your needs.