



Pat Quinn, Governor

Michelle R.B. Saddler, Secretary

319 East Madison Street • Springfield, Illinois 62701

July 20, 2010

Mr. Trevor Clatfelter, Deputy Director
Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
703 Stratton Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Mr. Clatfelter:

Thank you for your support of the people living at Howe Developmental Center, their families and staff throughout the closure process. The last resident moved from Howe on June 21, 2010.

Since the Governor's announcement on August 28, 2009, the Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities ("Division") has worked diligently with residents, families, guardians, Howe staff and the Howe Closure Advisory Committee to ensure the smooth and successful transition of each resident. The Division also worked in cooperation with community providers and advocates throughout the system. The Howe Closure Advisory Committee included an exceptional representation of advocates from all aspects of the developmental disability service system. The Committee was formed to provide guidance and input on the transition process. Members met monthly to review data, address issues and make recommendations. Their recommendations and involvement improved the transition process for all residents at Howe.

The transition process and commitment to the individuals from Howe does not stop when they move to a new home. A thorough follow-up and monitoring process is in place, which includes weekly face-to-face follow-up visits for the first month, and monthly contact for the remainder of the first year for residents from Howe regardless of their new setting. Also, Division technical assistance is available to provide support to address critical situations as needed. We continue to work to remove barriers and provide support for people with developmental disabilities seeking transition to homes in the community.

The total number of individuals discharged from Howe since September 1, 2009 is 247. In the attached summary, we provide data on where the residents moved and on the relocation or lay-off of the more than 700 Howe staff.

We hope this information is useful to you. Feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Lilia Teninty, Director
DHS Division of Developmental Disabilities

CC: Secretary Michelle R.B. Saddler
Randy Wells, Director of Legislative Affairs



Illinois Department of Human Services

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HOWE DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER CLOSURE SUMMARY July 2010

On August 28, 2009, Governor Pat Quinn announced the State would close Howe Developmental Center in Tinley Park, Illinois. On June 21, 2010, the last resident transitioned to another home. The closure process required an extraordinary effort by residents, families, guardians and Howe staff. The Howe Closure Advisory Committee played a critical role by providing guidance and input, and making recommendations that improved the overall success of the transitions. The Committee met monthly and included a wide variety of advocates. Everyone involved in the process remained focused on the needs of the residents and their families.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) made a commitment to work with individuals, families, and guardians to ensure a smooth transition that would meet the needs of each individual. To facilitate successful transitions, a thorough follow-up and monitoring process was implemented. This process includes weekly face-to-face follow-up visits that occur in the first month, and monthly contact for the remainder of the first year for all individuals regardless of their new setting.

We are pleased to provide the following summary:

RESIDENTS

Total Transitions since September 1, 2009: 247*

<u>State-Operated Facilities</u>		<u>CILA, Private ICF/DD</u>	
Fox	8	CILA	45
Jacksonville	11	Family CILA	1
Kiley	19	ICF/DD	19
Ludeman	57	Out of state	1
Mabley	7		
Murray	14		
Shapiro	65		

*These numbers includes five people that died after transition to the new home.

STAFF

Many of the more than 700 Howe staff moved to jobs at other IDHS facilities and work locations. A total of 251 IDHS staff were laid off as a result of the closure, although all employees were offered opportunities in accordance with their respective master collective bargaining agreements.

Staff that moved to new work Locations (608)

DDD Central Office	2
Fox	9
Kiley	51
Ludeman	233
Mabley	1
Murray	1
Shapiro	197
DMH Central Office	1
Alton	1
Elgin	3
Chester	1
Chicago Read	7
Madden	14
Tinley Park	16
Administrative Services	8
Community Health & Prevention	3
Human Capital Development	38
Rehabilitation Services	22

Lay-Offs (251)

AFSCME	159 Howe staff, 79 non-Howe staff
Illinois Nurses Association	3 Howe
Trade Unions	6 Howe
Teamsters	2 Howe (layoff/retirement)
Merit Compensation	2 Howe

The Department of Human Services would like to express its thanks and appreciation to the Howe community and all involved in the closure process. The Division will continue to update the Howe Closure Advisory Committee on the status of individuals who transitioned from Howe.