

2654

Janice Staloski, Director
Bureau of Community Program Licensure & Certification
Department of Health
132 Kline Plaza, Suite A
Harrisburg, PA 17104
Fax: 717-787-3188

RECEIVED

July 2, 2008

2008 JUL 22 PM 2:23

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Staloski,

Please record that the undersigned Social Workers are opposed to the Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 regarding confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records.

The proposed changes will substantially weaken vitally important drug and alcohol confidentiality regulations that currently protect vulnerable people and their embarrassed families seeking help with drug and alcohol problems.

Alcohol and other drug addiction is a highly stigmatized disease. As social workers who work every day directly with chemically dependent people and their families, we are extremely concerned about the confidentiality of the information that is shared within the sanctity of the client/counselor relationship.

We note that numerous individuals and organizations representing people in recovery from this illness have written to the Department of Health to oppose the proposed regulation. The statewide Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance and the local recovery groups have joined over 140 groups, individuals and elected officials to express opposition.

The proposed changes will result in persons being asked unnecessary and highly personal questions about things such as historic trauma and detailed family history information that are not needed to approve funding under current placement criteria, regulations and laws. Forcing people to reveal such deeply personal information is inconsistent with the value we place on the dignity and worth of the individuals and families served.

Surely in this debate over privacy of personal information, the opinions of families afflicted with the illness must be honored, respected and given primacy over managed care and insurance companies.

We proudly add our names to those who are opposed to the proposed weakening of state confidentiality protections of drug and alcohol records.

We urge the Department to withdraw them.

Thank you,

cc: Scott Schalles, Independent Regulatory Review Commission
Fax: 717-783-2664

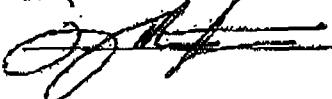
Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken the confidentiality of drug and alcohol addiction treatment patient records:

Name Lauren Henry Credentials LCSW
Street Address 277 Lake Warren Rd
City Upper Merion PA 15172
Signature Lauren Henry

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

Name ROSA DAVIS Credentials MSW, LSW
Street Address 7501 Penn Avenue
City Pittsburgh, PA
Signature Rosa Davis

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

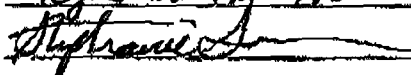
Name William Stauffer, LSW, CCS, CAC
Street Address 119 S. 16th St
City Allentown Pa 18102
Signature 

Name Erma Moore, MSW
Street Address 1601 W. South St
City Allentown, PA 18102
Signature Erma F. Moore, MSW

Name Catherine Morrissey, MSW
Street Address 4824 School Rd
City Slatington PA 18080
Signature Catherine Morrissey, MSW

Name Kasey Lynch, MSW
Street Address 2612 W. Columbia St.
City Allentown PA 18104
Signature Kasey Lynch, MSW

Name Carrie Baxter, BSW intern
Street Address 3620 Lenox Rd
City Bethlehem, PA 18020
Signature Carrie Baxter, BSW intern

Name Stephanie Gorman, MSW, CAC
Street Address 1030 Church St.
City Fogelsville PA 18051
Signature 

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

Name Shannon Waseel Credentials MSW intern
Street Address 1730 W. Union St #2
City Allentown, PA 18104
Signature Shannon Waseel

Name HOPE HOROWITZ
Street Address 3918 Manchester Rd.
City Allentown PA 18104
Signature *Hope Horowitz*

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Name Susan McDonald - private practice
Street Address 261 Butler Avenue
City Kingston PA 18704
Signature Susan McDonald

Name CATHY BAGINELLI
Street Address 21 ST. QUINCY ROAD
City MARION TOWNSHIP, PA 18494
Signature Cathy Baginelli

Name Ann D. Smith
Street Address 126 Cedarwood Drive
City Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Signature Ann D. Smith

Name Barbara Gierke
Street Address 15 MacGregor Pl
City Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
Signature Barbara Gierke

Name MICHAEL J. CULKIN
Street Address 13 Park Lane N
City MOUNTAIN TOP PA 18707
Signature Michael J. Culk

Name _____
Street Address _____
City _____
Signature _____

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

Name Phil Arnold Credentials MSW, LSW
Street Address 1835 W. Congress St.
City Allentown PA 18104
Signature Phil Arnold

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

Name Carrie Baskin Farquhar 950w Credentials MSW
Street Address 1352 Oakland Ave.
City Levittown PA 19056
Signature Carrie Baskin Farquhar

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol patient records:

Name Cheryl Floyd Credentials LSW, CPOA
Street Address 920 S. Arlington Ave Suite 119
City Harrisburg
Signature Cheryl Floyd

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol addiction treatment patient records:

Name FRANK HOUST Credentials MSW
Street Address 1306 SPRING GARDENS ST
City PHILA PA 19123
Signature Frank J. Houst

Social Worker Opposed to Department of Health's Proposed Regulation No. 10-186 that would weaken confidentiality of drug and alcohol addiction treatment patient records:

Name Gadi Aronson Credentials MSW
Street Address 2100 Andrew Court
City Schwenksville, PA 19473
Signature Gadi Aronson