

July 11, 2012

Dear Chelsea Community Hospital (CCH) Children's Center parents,

Given the significant changes under way in health care delivery models and financing, Chelsea Community Hospital, like other hospitals around the country, is refocusing resources on our core mission of providing exceptional health care to the communities we serve.

Following an extensive review of short-term and long-term strategic goals, the difficult decision has been made to discontinue operating CCH Children's Center at St. Paul United Church of Christ and enter a management agreement with Gretchen's House Inc., as of August 31. Gretchen's House is a regional leader in early childhood education and development, and whose mission and values resonate with our own.

Although the hospital can no longer sustain the costs, regulatory requirements and capital needed to continue providing childcare services, we also recognize that the daycare and after-school programs would benefit from partnering with an established company with the resources, targeted focus and expertise to address the latest trends in childcare development.

We met with several companies and, after much discernment and discussion among CCH Children's Center staff and parents, feel confident that Gretchen's House is best suited to continue the same high level care and attention your family has enjoyed at the children's center. The following programs will be transitioned to Gretchen's House by the end of the summer:

Daycare program for infants, toddlers & preschoolers

Gretchen Preston, President and Owner of Gretchen's House, has offered to care for existing infants, toddlers, and preschoolers at one of her [Ann Arbor locations](#) for the same cost as the Children's Center rates until at least December 31, 2012. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please call 734-761-2576, and be sure to state that you are a transitioning CCH family. We encourage you to visit their website at www.gretchenshouse.com to learn more about the organization.

After school program

Gretchen's House is currently negotiating with the school district to assume operation of the school-age programs at North Creek Elementary School, effective September 3, 2012. More information will be communicated in the next few weeks. We will work closely with Gretchen's House to ensure this transition is seamless for our school-age parents and children.

Gretchen's House is a high-quality, accredited family of childcare centers in the Ann Arbor area. They have maintained an excellent reputation for over 30 years. They hold quality standards that are recognized by the early childhood community at state and national levels, and is accredited by The National Association for the Education of Young

Children (NAEYC), which sets and monitors standards for high-quality early childhood education programs.

Both Chelsea Hospital and Gretchen's House had hoped to continue the infant, toddlers and preschool programs at the church, however church leadership has decided not to continue hosting the program under new ownership, due to several changes that would need to occur at significant expense. Leaders of Chelsea Hospital and Gretchen House have been searching for a viable location in Chelsea, but at this time none could be found that aligned with our required timeframe.

Please be assured that we will work closely with the daycare staff to obtain positions at the hospital and elsewhere.

We wish to support you and offer you an opportunity to discuss these changes in person. CCH will host parent forums on Tuesday, July 17 and Wednesday, July 25 at 6 p.m., at the church to answer any questions you may have about Gretchen's House or discuss other daycare options.

On behalf of Chelsea Community Hospital we are grateful for having had the opportunity to serve parents and children in our community for so many years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Graebner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nancy" and last name "Graebner" clearly distinguishable.

Nancy K. Graebner
President and CEO
Chelsea Community Hospital