

DIRECTOR OF LICENSING STANDARD OF PRACTICE

Number: 2010/04/10

Effective date: October 1, 2009.

This Standard of Practice is made under the authority of section 4 of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* (CCALA), which provides that the Director of Licensing may:

- e) specify policies and standards of practice for all community care facilities or a class of community care facilities

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES AND CARE PLANS

“**Advance directive**” means a written instruction that refuses consent to particular kinds of health care in the event that the adult is not capable of giving the instruction at the time the health care is required.

“**Care plan**” means an individualized plan for the provision of services and support to a person in care that takes into consideration the person’s abilities and physical, social and emotional needs as well as their cultural and spiritual preferences.

As appropriate care planning, including advance directive planning, is an issue of significance to the health safety and dignity of persons in residential care, I am specifying the following Standard of Practice for residential care facilities licensed under the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* (CCALA).

1. A licensee must develop and complete an individualized care plan for each resident within 30 days of his or her admission to a community care facility.
2. As part of the development of a comprehensive care plan, issues related to end of life planning and advance directives may be discussed with a resident and his or her family or support persons, and documented.
3. A resident (or someone with the legal authority to make health care decisions on the resident’s behalf) must not be required, either as a condition of admission (or as an ongoing requirement to reside in a community care facility) to sign advance directives or level of intervention documents.
4. To require a resident to sign such documents is in contravention of section 7(1)(b) of the *Community Care and Assisted Living Act* which requires a licensee to operate a community care facility in a manner that will promote the health, safety, **dignity** and rights of persons in care (emphasis added) .

Sue Bedford



Director of Licensing