



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

November 4, 2019

Dana O'Donnell  
Administrator  
Mary J. Drexel Home  
238 Belmont Avenue  
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004

RE: The Hearth of Drexel  
License #: 140620

Dear Ms. O'Donnell:

Thank you for your request for a waiver of 55 Pa.Code Ch. 2800 (relating to Assisted Living Residences). You have requested a waiver of 55 Pa.Code § 2800.127a (relating to space heaters).

A waiver of 55 Pa.Code § 2600.127(a) (relating to space heaters) is approved until April 29, 2020. The Department has reviewed documentation submitted with this waiver request and has determined the waiver is granted under the following conditions:

- a. This waiver applies to The Hearth of Drexel, 238 Belmont Avenue, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004.
- b. All residents, families and all new admissions will be informed prior to the start of the construction of the conditions of the waiver approval.
- c. Only the approved ETL, recommended new heaters (DeLonghi, 120 volt, 1500 watt heater model #485215) will be used and will be the only item plugged into a wall receptacle (and not a power strip). No other electrical devices should be plugged into this outlet when heater is in use.
- d. When heaters are used a fire watch will be conducted at 1 (one) hour intervals by staff 24 hours per day. Documentation of the hourly fire watch will be maintained and available for review by the Department. Documentation will include the date, time and person performing the check of portable heaters.
- e. Three (3) foot clearances will be maintained between the heater and any combustibles.
- f. Staff will be trained in the use of the heaters and the fire plan (outlined by the fire safety expert dated October 18, 2019) by administrative staff prior to the implementation of the use of the approved portable heaters.

- g. Prior to use, a fire safety expert will inspect the heaters. In addition, heaters will be inspected daily and if a deficiency is found, the heater will be removed immediately.
- h. The home will contact the Lower Merion Fire Marshall's office on a weekly basis to update the Fire Marshall the status of the project. Documentation of the contact will be maintained by the maintenance director.

This waiver is in effect until April 29, 2020 and for as long as the conditions under which the waiver is granted continue to be met.

Failure to comply with the conditions of this waiver or with other requirements of 55 Pa.Code Ch. 2600 may result in termination of this waiver or other licensing action.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Parisi  
Director

Bcc: P. Adams  
J. Buckley  
S. Page  
L. Bidelspach