

Good Afternoon

My name is Jason Munro and I am the Administrator of the Andrew House HealthCare Center located in New Britain. Andrew House is a 90 bed skilled nursing facility that employs 114 full and part time employees. We have a 30 bed short term rehab unit along with 60 long-term care beds. Andrew House has been an active participant of the New Britain community for over 35 years and is a Step I AHCA (American Health Care Association) quality award recipient. Andrew House is actively involved in many community activities including; The New Britain High School Allied Health Planning Committee, The New Britain Food pantry, The Klingberg Family Center and local blood drives. For 2009 the Facility has a projected payroll of 3.4 million and will pay out \$575,000 in payroll taxes for 2009.

In addition to Andrew House, Kindred Healthcare operates 5 additional facilities in Connecticut, which are located in New London, Windsor, Enfield and Stamford. In total Kindred employs close to 800 employees statewide and cares for a total of 702 residents in our centers.

With the proposed freeze on rates and the elimination of the Medicaid cost of living adjustment that was due, Andrew House moving forward is going to be facing some of their most challenging times. We will be entering contract negotiations with the employee union District 1199 this spring and we have seen escalating costs of food, supplies, and professional services this past year. We have continued over the past year to monitor our expenses closely and we are constantly evaluating our systems to ensure that we are operating as efficiently as possible but after a year of zero increase in funding we are out of options. We are at a point now that there is no more room to cut without having a direct impact on the services that are being provided to our residents.

Andrew House is about people caring for people. We are very proud of the care and services we are able to provide to our residents. I am asking for your help to assist us in fulfilling our mission, which is to promote healing, provide hope, preserve dignity and provide value for each resident we serve. With the proposed budget cuts our mission will be comprised. I know these budget times are extraordinarily difficult but please find a way to set aside some of the Federal economic stimulus package money for nursing home care for our elderly. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Jason T. Munro, LHNA
Executive Director