

Hoover, Joshua

To: OLTL-ADULT-RESIDENTIAL-LICENSING@LISTSERV.DHS.PA.GOV
Subject: IMPORTANT-Clarification on the transition of PA's Death Registry to eVitals
Attachments: Reminder 12-8-2023_Transition of Death Registry to eVitals Planned for April 2024 (1).pdf

Dear Providers,

Over the last several months, many of you have received communication from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries (BHSR) regarding the migration of vital statistics reporting to the new eVitals system that is targeted to launch in April 2024. This communication contains clarification on the role of Personal Care Homes (PCH) and Assisted Living Residences (ALR) in the reporting of vital statistics, such as resident death.

The Pennsylvania [Vital Statistics Law of 1953](#) requires that deaths that occur in Pennsylvania be reported to the Department of Health within four days of the date of death. Funeral homes, medical professionals, coroners and medical examiners all have a mandatory role in reporting these deaths.

eVitals is designed to modernize the electronic registration and management of Pennsylvania's vital records. This modernization effort includes improvements to the registration of vital events including expanded integration with third-party software; improvements in managing Pennsylvania's 25 million vital records; integration with a newly designed website to order birth and death certificates; and an improved in-person experience when ordering at x Vital Records public offices.

The crossover between healthcare facilities and PCH/ALR settings has caused some confusion amongst providers. While PCH/ALR settings are not healthcare facilities, some of these settings may currently report deaths because they are attached to a larger Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) or because they employ specific medical professionals.

If your PCH/ALR currently reports vital statistics such as death via DAVE/EDRS:

- You must immediately complete a facility registration form to enroll your facility in eVitals.
 - Please refer to the attached communication from BHSR for detailed instructions on registration.

If your PCH/ALR does not currently report vital statistics such as death via DAVE/EDRS:

- No action is required.
 - Your affiliate funeral homes and coroners will continue to report vital statistics as they have done in the past.

If your PCH/ALR reported vital statistics such as death via DAVE/EDRS in the past, but does not currently report, or if you think your facility may be eligible to report vital statistics, you can contact the eVitals onboarding team at ra-dhevitalsonboard@pa.gov or call the Vital Events Stakeholder Hotline at 800-323-9613, option 8, for more assistance.

Questions about this communication can be directed to ra-pwarlheadquarters@pa.gov.

Thank you,

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