



# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON:

September 23, 2021

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:

Wendy N. Hernández, (561) 233-5218

## Department of Planning, Zoning & Building

2300 North Jog Road

West Palm Beach, FL 33411

(561) 233-5000

Planning Division (561) 233-5300

Zoning Division (561) 233-5200

Building Division (561) 233-5100

Code Enforcement (561) 233-5500

Contractors Certification (561) 233-5525

Administration Office (561) 233-5005

Executive Office (561) 233-5228

[www.pbcgov.com/pzb](http://www.pbcgov.com/pzb)

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## NOTICE TO OPERATORS PROOF OF REQUIRED LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, or CHARTER

The Board of County Commissioners Palm Beach County (PBC) has adopted amendments to the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) as it relates to Congregate Living Facilities (Type 1, 2 and 3), Community Residences (Family and Transitional), and Recovery Communities. The adopted Ordinance 2021-022, effective September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, requires all Community Residences or Recovery Communities to be licensed or certified by a Florida State approved entity, as referenced in Florida Statute 419 or 397, or obtain an Oxford House Charter, as applicable, to be operational in Unincorporated PBC.

Existing uses that conform to the definition of Family Community Residence, Transitional Community Residence, or Recovery Communities that are located within the unincorporated areas of PBC is hereby notified of the following:

- 1) An Operator who has an existing Type 1 or Type 2 Congregate Living Facility, or similar use, **previously approved** by PBC Zoning Division and **has** a license or certification, by the Florida State approved entity, or an Oxford House charter, must maintain its license, certification, or charter, **AND** shall provide proof of said license, certification or charter on an annual basis to PBC Zoning Division.
- 2) An Operator who has an existing Type 1 or Type 2 Congregate Living Facility, or similar use **previously approved** by PBC Zoning Division and **does not** have a license, certification, by the Florida State approved entity or an Oxford House charter, shall obtain approval from the applicable entity within one calendar year of the effective date of Ordinance 2021-022, or September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.
  - a) Should the Operator obtain a license, certificate, or charter, they shall provide proof of said license, certification or charter on an annual basis to PBC Zoning Division.
  - b) Should the Operator fail to obtain a license, certification or charter, they must cease operation and return the residents to their families or relocate them to a safe and secure living environment by PBC Zoning Division and **has** a license or certificate.
- 3) An Operator who has an existing Type 1 or Type 2 Congregate Living Facility, or similar use that **was not previously approved** by PBC Zoning Division and **has a** license or certificate, by the Florida State approved entity, or an Oxford House charter, shall provide proof of the license, certificate or charter within one calendar year of the effective date of Ordinance 2021-022 or September 3, 2022. The Operator shall also provide proof of said license, certification or charter on an annual basis to PBC Zoning Division.

An Operator who fails to maintain the license, certification, or charter annually; or if the license, certification, or charter is revoked or suspended, the use will be required to cease operation and the operator is required to return the residents to their families or relocate them to a safe and secure living environment.

Proposed uses listed above shall conform to the standards and requirements of the adopted Ordinance.

The proof of a license, certificate, or charter, as required, shall be submitted to the PBC Zoning Division located at 2300 North Jog Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, West Palm Beach. Contact 561-233-5200 for more information.

For further information, visit the Palm Beach County Zoning Division Web Page at:

<https://discover.pbcgov.org/pzb/zoning/Pages/default.aspx>

Or,

Contact the Zoning Division at 561-233-5200 or email the Public Information Section at [PZB-ZoningCRH@pbcgov.org](mailto:PZB-ZoningCRH@pbcgov.org) or may also contact Wendy Hernández, Deputy Zoning Director at 561-233-5218.

Link to Ordinance 2021-022: <https://discover.pbcgov.org/pzb/zoning/Ordinances/2021-022.pdf>