

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>M Lyons</i>	DATE <i>4-29-09</i>
-----------------------------	-------------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>100614</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE <i>5-7-09</i>
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms. Teri Lynn Cleveland 5/13/09, letter attached.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



RECEIVED

APR 29 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

Post Office Box 12267
COLUMBIA 29211

April 22, 2009

Mrs. Ella Mae Jennings
993 Redmond Street
Orangeburg, South Carolina 29118

Dear Ella,

Thank you for your letter. I am very sorry to hear of the difficulties you and your husband are experiencing and am asking that someone from the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services contact you directly. You should be hearing from that office soon. In the meantime, please call Susanne Cooper in my office at (803) 734-9873 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "MS", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Sanford

MS/sc

cc: The Honorable Emma Forkner, Director
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

April 15, 2009

Ella M. Jennings
993 Redmond Street
Orangeburg, SC 29118

REF: Aubrey A. Jennings
SS#: 580-01-4508

Dear Governor Sanford,

RECEIVED

APR 29 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

I am submitting this letter of concern regarding my husband, Aubrey A Jennings, who is currently classified as terminally ill. He is on a ventilator permanently. He cannot function without the ventilator that assists him with his breathing. I have been literally taking care of him since he was released from the Rehab Center in Columbia, SC. He cannot do the day-to-day needs independently, but needs assistance by me, or the Certified Nurse Assistant that has been sent by a local agency. However, she is not certified to take care of him by herself and cannot check his stats to ensure that he does not have any infections from the trachea. I have to remain in the house to apply proper suction from his trachea. I have become frustrated with the system of the long-term care assistance he has been setup with through the Rehab center when he was released in 2007.

At times he does not receive all of his supplies and is often given what is left over from another delivery in open boxes. When Longs long-term care delivery supplies there is never a complete list and they always state that they will deliver the remaining supplies later. I have informed them of my concerns with their current management and how they deliver my husbands supplies. I should not have to worry whether I will run out of supplies or even buy what I need to make up the difference. The insurance company is being billed for the supplies we are not receiving. I expressed my concerns to Wayne Hicks, who was the manager at the time. He would often state that he will do his best, but the same thing continued the next month and I am constantly given excuses. My husband's supplies should not be divided with anyone else. He should receive his own supplies.

He was given a chair to assist him with his mobility but the chair is too wide to move through our current house structure and I was told there was nothing they could do. I have to sleep in the room with him, on a cot, to monitor his breathing. This is another frustrating situation that we have not yet received an answer to. I was told to research the resources available, but I do not have the time to check all of the agencies if I am constantly taking care of my husband.

I have been receiving limited supplies from DHEC and they have stated that funds are limited and may not have the pumpers in his size and the quantity. My budget, that includes my income, should not include the supplies he needs when his insurance should cover what he needs. My husband worked all his life and should benefit during his time of need. We currently cannot receive a full-time nurse due to the agencies statement that no one can be found. My husband is not the only vent patient in Orangeburg County.

I am in need of assistance as it relates to the condition of my home. I cannot fix the entryways, roof, install proper heating and air for my husband, because we are exhausting our income for supplies that he constantly uses daily.

Here is a list of supplies that I have to purchase for daily use. These items are not provided with his delivered supplies.

- Paper towels
- Q-tips
- Alcohol
- Powder
- Gloves
- Saline
- Crèmes to prevent skin break down
- Sensitive soap for his skin
- Air fresheners (mild)
- Tissue
- Peroxide
- Mouth products to prevent infections
- Aspirins

The other supplies should be supplied by Longs or DHEC.

Please assist us with the medical emergency.

Frustrated Caregiver,

Ella M Jennings

Ella M Jennings



Log # 614
✓

State of South Carolina
Department of Health and Human Services

Mark Sanford
Governor

Emma Forkner
Director

May 13, 2009

Mrs. Ella Mae Jennings
993 Redmond Street
Orangeburg, SC 29118

Dear Mrs. Jennings:

Governor Mark Sanford asked our agency to contact you regarding your concerns about the health care needs of your husband, Mr. Aubrey Jennings.

A member of my staff has been in direct contact with you to discuss your concerns regarding your husband's medical supplies and nursing services. Fortunately, you indicated that the issues with the medical equipment supplier have been resolved. We will continue to seek nursing services for Mr. Jennings through Community Long Term Care (CLTC), as well as evaluate your husband for other services such as medical supplies and environmental adaptations.

We hope this information is helpful to you. If you have any questions, please call Sam Waldrep at (803) 898-2693.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emma Forkner".

Emma Forkner
Director

EF/wpbdd