



**Meredith Leighty**

*Mayor*

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April 1, 2024

Colorado House of Representatives  
Speaker of the House, Julie McCluskie  
200 E. Colfax, Room 307  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Speaker McCluskie,

I am writing on behalf of the City of Northglenn City Council and our residents to respectfully request you grant late bill status for a piece of legislation that will clarify and correct the significant public safety concerns with House Bill (HB) 22-1303 [Increase Residential Behavioral Health Beds](#), a bi-partisan effort.

Our request is in response to the Department of Human Services, Office of Civil and Forensic Mental Health's (OCFMH) implementation of a Mental Health Transitional Living Facility at 11255 and 11275 Grant Drive in Northglenn. This location is in proximity to two schools that house over 500 students, adjacent playgrounds, and an in-home daycare. There are also several neighboring churches that provide programming for children throughout the week.

The City has conducted a review of the House and Senate Committee hearings for HB22-1303 and the testimony and description of the legislation contain absolutely no mention of housing sex offenders. We do not believe the housing of sex offenders at this location is consistent with the intent of the legislation. Additionally, the City has identified that no legislative rulemaking process took place. We would like to know, why not? The implementation of this legislation has lacked transparency and accountability. The authority granted to the OCFMH for program development has been abused. Efforts to seek out information have been driven by the City and media inquiries.

The manner in which the City learned about the State's plans for this living facility lacks any forethought whatsoever. My staff was notified of the intent to house sex offenders on January 16, 2024, through a general police department email address obtained from our City website. The State's intent to house sex offenders at this location is well documented. This is unacceptable. The State should be required to notify the local government to include myself, the City Manager and the Chief of Police.

On Friday, March 30, the State shared an FAQ document with Channel 7 News responding to program questions in writing for the first time. This document indicates that the State will, in fact, house sex offenders even though their statement to CBS4 News on March 26 indicated that there are "no current plans" to house sex offenders at the facility.

Our reading of the State's FAQ below is that there could be 4 sex offenders housed at the facility in Northglenn. Given the number of beds, 32, at this location, Northglenn is disproportionately impacted compared to other locations.

***Do you have a limit on how many registered sex offenders you allow?***

*Yes, we only allow up to two registered sex offenders in a home at once. In smaller homes with 11 people or fewer, there would be only one registered sex offender. However, the number of referrals we get for registered sex offenders is very low, less than 2% of all referrals. So it's likely that there won't be any registered sex offenders living in a home most of the time.*

The State's response to our concerns with the argument that sex offenders already live in the area is irresponsible and dismissive. We know that there are registered sex offenders living in our community. However, a state-run facility with multiple sex offenders moving into a former senior living facility should require public notification and local collaboration. The change of use to this facility is significant. This has been minimized by the state with the belief that this is an "innovative new program." Again, program implementation has lacked transparency with no consideration of impact to the local community.

Northglenn is a working-class community with 6.5 square miles, 39,000 residents and 13 schools. We are not the right community for this type of facility. The State's plan to house multiple sex offenders at this location will create a public safety risk to our community.

The City is hosting a community meeting on April 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Northglenn Recreation Center. I encourage you to consider attending this meeting so that you can hear first-hand the concerns of our community.

Again, our request is that you grant late bill status for a piece of legislation that will clarify and correct the significant public safety concerns with House Bill (HB) 22-1303 [Increase Residential Behavioral Health Beds](#), a bi-partisan effort. State officials need to be transparent and there needs to be accountability.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached by phone at 303.918.1568 or by email at [mleighty@northglenn.org](mailto:mleighty@northglenn.org).

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Respectfully,



Meredith Leighty  
Mayor

Enclosure

**From:** Lucas - CDHS, Lindsay [lindsay.lucas@state.co.us](mailto:lindsay.lucas@state.co.us)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:03 PM

**To:** Police [police@northglenn.org](mailto:police@northglenn.org)

**Subject:** Inquiry

You don't often get email from [lindsay.lucas@state.co.us](mailto:lindsay.lucas@state.co.us). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello:

My name is Lindsay Lucas and I am on the admissions and coordination team for the Mental Health Transitional Living Homes; this is a new level of care within the Colorado Department of Human Services. We have two homes opening in Northglenn in the near future and I wanted to introduce myself and hopefully connect with someone at the police department. We will be housing registered sex offenders and I wanted to gather some information on who the best contact person is at the PD for these inquiries in addition to creating a partnership with the PD in regards to these homes. Please let me know who I can reach out to.

Thank you,

Lindsay

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**Lindsay Lucas**  
**Mental Health Transitional Living Homes**  
**Admissions & Coordination**  
**Office of Civil and Forensic Mental Health**



**C 720-520-9068**

[Lindsay.Lucas@state.co.us](mailto:Lindsay.Lucas@state.co.us) | [cdhs.colorado.gov](http://cdhs.colorado.gov)

Thank you.

Madeline

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**From:** Jim May <[jmay@northglenn.org](mailto:jmay@northglenn.org)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 23, 2024 10:33 AM

**To:** Madeline Norconk <[mnorconk@northglenn.org](mailto:mnorconk@northglenn.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Houses

What state office is she a part of

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