



FROM	Name & Title	Oxiris Barbot, MD Commissioner 	Health Department  MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201		
	Subject	Council Bill 13-0286 - Conditional Use Convalescent, Nursing, and Rest Home - 5124 Greenwich Avenue		

To: President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o 409 City Hall

January 17, 2014

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review Council Bill 13-0286 Conditional Use Convalescent, Nursing and Rest Home – 5124 Greenwich Avenue. The purpose of this bill is to permit, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a convalescent, nursing, and rest home on the property known as 5124 Greenwich Avenue, as outlined in red on the accompanying plat.

Baltimore Crisis Response, Inc. (BCRI) has been providing community based behavioral health crisis services to adults over the age of 18 for over 20 years. BCRI operates the only crisis Hotline in Baltimore City, which is staffed 24 hours per day by trained counselors. BCRI operates 21 psychiatric crisis beds with an average length of stay of nine days. BCRI also provides a short term, five to seven day, residential detoxification program for chemically addicted and dually diagnosed persons. There are currently 10 beds dedicated to substance abuse treatment.

Council Bill 13-0286 has been introduced to assist BCRI in the development of a new and larger headquarters at 5124 Greenwich Avenue. This location will provide space for the current program and space for expansion. This property was originally built as a nursing home and it is a good fit for onsite treatment services because it provides ample room for both administrative and support services. There is adequate parking in the rear of the building.

BCHD supports this project because it will increase the number of beds and support services available for the mental health and substance abuse treatment needs of our citizens. We will be present at the hearing to answer any questions the Committee may have.

cc: Angela Gibson, Office of the Mayor  
Valerie Rogers, Chief of Staff, Department of Health  
Tessa Hill-Alston, Housing Administrator, Care Services, Department of Health  
Arnold Eppel, Director, Office of Aging and Care Services, Department of Health  
Amy Samman, Legislative Director, Department of Health

