



COUNTY OF BERKS, PENNSYLVANIA

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Statement Release on the Berks County Residential Center

As you know the County of Berks has filed an appeal of a letter it received from the Department of Human Services which stated that they were not renewing and/or were revoking the license that had been issued for the prior 15 years to operate the Berks County Residential Center, a residential facility that provides residential services to undocumented immigrant families who entered this country seeking asylum. Those families are housed at the BCRC under the care of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement during their asylum proceedings. The appeal is currently pending before the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals. Because of that litigation we cannot discuss specifics with regards to the multitude of meritless assertions that have been made about the medical care being provided at the facility. However, we would like to state that upon each and every baseless complaint that is filed with the Department of Human Services, such complaints are fully investigated by the Department of Human Services and such reports have been unfounded. Moreover, the BCRC has been found to meet and/or exceed all regulatory requirements with regard to the medical care and safety provided to the families residing at the BCRC. As we have stated in the past, we invite anyone with questions regarding that process to contact the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, but due to the ongoing litigation we cannot comment further on this matter. Please direct all questions, comments and inquiries to Jennifer D. Ritchey at Jennifer.D.Ritchey@ice.dhs.gov.