



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

KODY H. KINSLEY
SECRETARY

February 16, 2024

Sent via US Certified Mail and E-Mail

Jeremy Whitworth, Executive Director
Trails Carolina
500 Winding Gap Road
Lake Toxaway, NC 28747

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF ADMISSIONS: MHL-088-020

Dear Mr. Whitworth:

Trails Carolina is licensed and operating as a Residential Therapeutic Camp for children and adolescents who have mental illness, developmental disabilities or substance use disorders under Chapter 122C of the North Carolina General Statutes and rules found at 10A NCAC 27G .5200. The license for Trails Carolina is issued by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Division of Health Services Regulation (NCDHSR), and is identified as MHL-088-020.

Pursuant to NCGS §122C-23(g) the Secretary is authorized to suspend the admission of any new clients to a facility for individuals who have mental illness, developmental disabilities or substance use disorders. In taking such action, the Secretary is directed to consider (1) the degree of sanctions necessary to ensure compliance with this section and rules adopted to implement NCGS 122C-23 or (2) the character and degree of impact of the conditions at the facility on the health or safety of clients. The Secretary has determined that the character and degree of conditions at Trails Carolina are detrimental to the health or safety of the children in your care. Therefore, a Suspension of Admissions is invoked, effective immediately, and prohibits Carolina Trails from admitting any new individuals to the camp or readmitting any former camp participants to Trails Carolina. This Suspension of Admissions shall remain in effect until April 14, 2024, unless expressly revoked or amended, or otherwise extended by NCDHHS pursuant to NCGS 122C-23(g).

You have the right to contest this suspension of admissions in accordance with Chapter 150B of the North Carolina General Statutes. In contesting the Suspension of Admissions, Trails Carolina may file a petition for a contested case within twenty (20) days of the Department mailing this letter. For complete instructions on the filing of petitions, please contact the Office

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of Administrative Hearings at (919) 431-3000. The mailing address for the Office of Administrative Hearings is as follows:

Office of Administrative Hearings
1711 New Hope Church Road
Raleigh, NC 27609

North Carolina General Statute § 150B-23 provides that you must also serve a copy of the petition on all other parties, which includes the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department's representative for such actions in Ms. Julie Cronin, General Counsel. Ms. Cronin may receive service of process at the following addresses:

Mailing Address

2001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2001

Physical Address


Adams Building
101 Blair Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

If you do not file a petition within the twenty (20) day period, you lose your right to appeal this action. This suspension of admission does not preclude, delay or supersede further licensure or regulatory actions NCDHHS may take during the course of the ongoing investigations.

Core to the mission of this Department is to ensure that children are healthy and live in safe and appropriate placements. We further believe that no person should ever experience harm while in the care of a health care facility, and we take seriously our role to ensure the life and safety of individuals served by a licensed health care facility.

Questions regarding this Suspension of Admissions should be directed to Julie Cronin, General Counsel for NCDHHS at julie.cronin@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


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Mark T. Benton

Chief Deputy Secretary for Health

cc: Julie Cronin, General Counsel, NCDHHS
Susan Osborne, Deputy Secretary, NCDHHS
Mark Payne, Director, NCDHHS Division of Health Services Regulation
Lisa Cauley, Director, NCDHHS Human Services