

**MUNICIPALITY OF NORRISTOWN  
A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 17-09 of 2017**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL OF NORRISTOWN, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH NEW CRITERIA FOR THE REGULATION AND OPERATION OF GROUP AND INSTITUTIONAL HOMES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY; REPEALING ALL INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, from time to time the Municipality needs to revise its General Laws to be consistent with Laws of the Commonwealth and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, after review of its General Laws Council to regulate Group and Institutional Homes to protect the health welfare and safety of its residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it **ORDAINED** that Norristown Municipal Council amends its General Laws as follows:

**SECTION I. AMENDMENT TO**

A. ZONING ARTICLE XXI Chapter 320-216 B of the Norristown Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

“B. Group Homes

(1) A fire sprinkler system which complies with NFPA 13D (2016) shall be installed throughout the group home and any attached accessory buildings.

(2) A fire alarm system which complies with Chapter 11 of NFPA 72 (2016) shall be installed throughout the group home and any attached accessory structures.

(3) When applying for a group home permit, the applicant shall provide a dimensioned floor plan indicating the size of each room, including sleeping rooms, and identifying the maximum number of residents who will occupy each sleeping room, to demonstrate that the group home will not be overcrowded and in compliance with all applicable building codes.

(4) When applying for a group home permit, the applicant shall provide a written statement describing how the facility will have adequate trained staff supervision for the number of residents and their related disability or disabilities.

(5) Supervisory, counseling and medical services shall be provided only to residents of the group home and no outpatient services will be provided to individuals who are not residents of the group home.

(6) A minimum of one nonresident (caretaker) employee shall be on the premises at all times and shall be readily available to provide assistance to residents of the group home.

(7) All nonresident (caretaker) employees shall be qualified by training and/or experience to provide supervision and care to residents of the group home.

(8) If a group home is in a residential district, an appearance shall be maintained closely similar to nearby dwellings, and no sign shall identify the use.”

B. ZONING ARTICLE XXI Chapter 320-216 C of the Norristown Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

“C. Institutional Homes

(1) A fire sprinkler system which complies with NFPA 13D (2016) shall be installed throughout the group home and any attached accessory buildings.

(2) A fire alarm system which complies with Chapter 11 of NFPA 72 (2016) shall be installed throughout the group home and any attached accessory structures.

(3) When applying for a group home permit, the applicant shall provide a dimensioned floor plan indicating the size of each room, including sleeping rooms, and identifying the maximum number of residents who will occupy each sleeping room, to demonstrate that the group home will not be overcrowded and in compliance with all applicable building codes.

(4) When applying for a group home permit, the applicant shall provide a written statement describing how the facility will have adequate trained staff supervision for the number of residents and their related disability or disabilities.

(5) Supervisory, counseling and medical services shall be provided only to residents of the group home and no outpatient services will be provided to individuals who are not residents of the group home.

(6) A minimum of one nonresident (caretaker) employee shall be on the premises at all times and shall be readily available to provide assistance to residents of the group home.

(7) All nonresident (caretaker) employees shall be qualified by training and/or experience to provide supervision and care to residents of the group home.

(8) If a group home is in a residential district, an appearance shall be maintained closely similar to nearby dwellings, and no sign shall identify the use.”

C. ZONING ARTICLE XXI Chapter 320-304 A. of the Norristown Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

“Group Home, Personal Care Home, or Institutional Home: minimum of four off-street parking spaces for facilities with less than 4 occupants and one additional off-street parking space for every two occupants, or fraction thereof, in excess of four occupants.”

**SECTION II. SEVERABILITY**

In the event that any section, sentence, clause, or word of this Ordinance shall be declared illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not prevent, preclude or otherwise foreclose the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

**SECTION III. REPEALER**

All ordinances or resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent herewith or in conflict with any of the specific terms enacted hereby, to the extent of said inconsistencies or conflicts, are hereby specifically repealed.

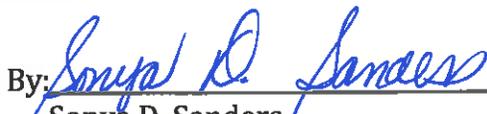
**SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by the law.

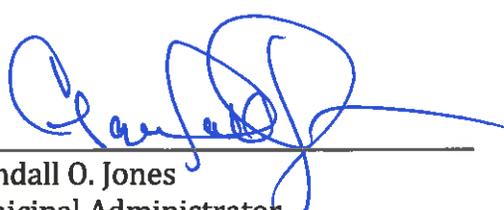
**ENACTED and ORDAINED** this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September 2017.

Seal:

**Municipality of Norristown  
Municipal Council**

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonya D. Sanders  
Council President

Attest

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Crandall O. Jones  
Municipal Administrator