



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
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Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA
Secretary

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner

June 18, 2026

Timothy Carroll
House Clerk
State House Room 145
Boston, MA 02133

Michael D. Hurley
Senate Clerk
State House Room 335
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Carroll and Mr. Hurley,

Pursuant to line-item 4590-0915 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025, please find enclosed a report from the Department of Public Health entitled "Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children Status."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R. Goldstein".

Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner
Department of Public Health

Legislative Mandate

The following report is hereby issued pursuant to Line Item 4590-0915 of Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2025 as follows:

“provided further, that not later than August 18, 2025 and monthly thereafter, the department shall submit a report to the joint committee on public health and the house and senate committees on ways and detailing the status of the Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children; provided further, that the report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) a summary of the types of services and programs available through the hospital including, but not limited to, medical, recreational and educational services; (ii) a summary of any reductions or terminations of services for patients and rationales for each change; (iii) the census at the hospital on January 1, 2025; (iv) the number of admittances per month since January 1, 2025; (v) the number of discharges per month since January 1, 2025; and (vi) the total number of staff employed at the facility, delineated by profession including, but not be limited to, teachers, nurses, administrative staff and other professionals”

Report

(i) Summary of Services

Medical

Medically Complex Care: Patients admitted primarily for management of medical and rehabilitative needs that require hospital level care.

Medical / Behavioral Service: Patients admitted with combined medical complexity and behavioral health challenges

Caregiver Short-Term Respite: Patients admitted to provide respite for patients and families currently cared for at home.

Therapeutic / Recreational

Physical Therapy: Targets mobility, strength, balance, and pain reduction through exercise, manual techniques, and other modalities.

Occupational Therapy: Focuses on daily living skills, adaptive strategies, and environmental modifications to support independence.

Speech-Language Therapy: Addresses communication, cognition, and swallowing disorders, often critical after stroke or brain injury.

Psychosocial Support: Includes counseling and behavioral therapy to manage emotional challenges and promote mental well-being including complimentary alternative medicine

Recreational Therapy: Includes equine and rhythmic movement therapy, community integration transitions and exposures through community trips.

Educational

Special education services are made available through DESE’s Special Education in Institutional Settings (SEIS) which provides a basic academic program and special education services aligned to each student’s IEP goals and objectives in coordination with each student’s school district.

(ii) Service Reductions

Service Reduction/Termination Type	Service Reduction/Termination Reason
Steam leak on boiler	On 4/23/26 at 0634 the fire alarm at the Brayton High School was activated, alerting a Code Red across campus and automatically to Canton Fire. PRHC security staff and Canton Fire responded. They identified a steam leak on the #1 boiler. Canton Fire shut down Boiler #1. Powerplant supervisor shut down Boiler #2. Canton Fire reset main box in high school. Canton Fire left campus at 0655. Second Code Red at 0734 due to local box showing trouble alarm and trapped steam. Canton Fire on scene at 0741. Doors opened to release steam. Box reset. Vendor contacted and onsite 4/23/26 and all services restored and repairs completed

(iii) Census at the hospital on January 1, 2025

On January 1, 2025, there were 39 patients admitted to the hospital, comprised of 37 long-term care patients and 2 care-giver respite patients. The department will provide these sub-categories of census on an ongoing basis to assist the Legislature further in its review.

(iv, v) Census, Admissions and Discharges per month

Month/ Year	Long Term Care		Care Giver Respite		Census*
	Admissions	Discharges	Admissions	Discharges	
Jan-25	0	2	1	3	35
Feb-25	0	2	3	2	34
Mar-25	0	1	2	1	34
Apr-25	0	0	4	5	33
May-25	0	2	3	3	31
Jun-25	0	3	5	2	31
Jul-25	1	2	0	4	26
Aug-25	0	1	3	2	26
Sep-25	0	1	3	4	24
Oct-25	0	0	3	2	25
Nov-25	0	0	3	3	25
Dec-25	1	0	4	2	28
Jan-26	0	2	2	4	24
Feb-26	0	1	4	5	22
Mar-26	0	1	3	3	21
Apr-26	0	2	2	2	19

*Last Day of the month

(vi) Employed Staff

	FTEs as of 4/21/26
DPH	
Administrative	16.94
Environmental Services	10
Licensed Practical Nurse	6.6
Maintenance Services	22
Management	5
Medical Services	4.4
Nursing Assistant	49.4
Quality Management	1
Recreational Services	5.4
Registered Nurse	30.7
Rehabilitation Services	15
Respiratory Services	1.8
Security Specialist	7
DPH Total FTEs	175.24
DESE	
Teachers	8.0
Specialist Teachers	3.0
Instructional Aides	3.0
Head Teachers	1.0
Program Coordinator	1.0
Director	1.0
DESE Total FTEs	17.0
Total FTEs	192.24