



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

### CENSUS TIPS FOR ASSISTED LIVING SERVICES AGENCIES

**Help the people you provide services to understand what the Census means and encourage them or assist them in doing their part.**

**Why is the Census important?** The Census Bureau is a federal organization authorized to conduct its work with the citizens of Connecticut. Cooperation with Census takers is required by law. The Census will decide how many Representatives we send to Congress, shape voting districts, and determine how *\$400 billion* in federal funds are distributed. That's money for hospitals, schools, transportation, social services and other programs that benefit our communities and are supported by our tax dollars. The Census process is easy, fast, and completely confidential. Individual information provided to the Census Bureau is not shared with any party - but those total numbers mean a lot.

- Census takers can be identified by an official ID & matching picture ID they possess.
- Staff should allow every courtesy in helping them do their job.
- Staff can call their local Census office for verification, questions, guidance (see below).
- All individual information gathered by the canvassers is kept confidential and is never shared outside of the Census process.
- Residents should be strongly encouraged to participate and reassured of the confidentiality of what they share.

**What you should do:** Service agency staff may have particular concerns about participating in the Census while still remaining compliant with federal and state confidentiality and privacy laws. Providers and staff of group residences might want to consider the following strategies:

- Residents can voluntarily talk to Census workers or fill out forms on their own.
- Staff can assist residents to fill out their Census forms.
- Staff can call Questionnaire Assistance Centers by phone to assist residents. Call 1-866-872-6868.
- Staff can obtain consent to provide resident information to a Census worker.

**Questions:** If you have any questions or concerns about the Census, please contact the Local Census Office (LCO) nearest to you.

- Bridgeport LCO – (203) 993-8010
- Hartford LCO – (860) 768-9110
- New Britain LCO – (860) 348-8160
- New Haven LCO – (203) 404-0920
- Norwich LCO – (860) 367-8340
- Waterbury LCO – (203) 721-8250