

## **VillageCare to close Health Home program**

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Manhattan-based continuing-care organization VillageCare is discontinuing services of its Health Home Community Care Management program, a spokesman for the company confirmed.

VillageCare disclosed that 68 employees would be affected by the Dec. 23 shutdown in a filing with the state Department of Labor. Medicaid Health Homes provide care management to people with chronic conditions, such as HIV/AIDS or a serious mental illness.

"Over the past year, the program has made numerous efforts to reorganize the Health Home team to maximize efficiency and meet the growing requirements from the Lead Health Homes which we partner with," the spokesman said in an email. "While these efforts provided temporary relief, the long-term outlook for this program continues to demonstrate challenges in the ability to cover operating costs and meet the greater demands of our provider partners."

VillageCare is working with its partners "to ensure that all affected Health Home clients experience a seamless transition to another care-management provider." He added, "Many of our employees will be transitioning with our clients so that they will have continuity in the services they receive."

Last year VillageCare served more than 25,000 individuals, the spokesman said. It offers community, post-acute-care and managed-care services.