



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

November 5, 2019

Sharon Blain  
Spectrum Community Services  
1111 40<sup>th</sup> St. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

RE: License #: AS410014757  
Investigation #: 2020A0464004  
Stauffer

Dear Mrs. Blain:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan is required. The corrective action plan is due 15 days from the date of this letter and must include the following:

- How compliance with each rule will be achieved.
- Who is directly responsible for implementing the corrective action for each violation.
- Specific time frames for each violation as to when the correction will be completed or implemented.
- How continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- The signature of the responsible party and a date.

If you desire technical assistance in addressing these issues, please contact me. In any event, the corrective action plan is due within 15 days. Failure to submit an acceptable corrective action plan will result in disciplinary action.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the local office at (616) 356-0183.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Megan Aukerman, MSW". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Megan Aukerman, Licensing Consultant  
Bureau of Community and Health Systems  
Unit 13, 7th Floor  
350 Ottawa, N.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
(616) 438-3036

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS  
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT  
THIS REPORT CONTAINS PROFANITY**

**I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**

<b>License #:</b>	AS410014757
<b>Investigation #:</b>	2020A0464004
<b>Complaint Receipt Date:</b>	10/15/2019
<b>Investigation Initiation Date:</b>	10/15/2019
<b>Report Due Date:</b>	12/14/2019
<b>Licensee Name:</b>	Spectrum Community Services
<b>Licensee Address:</b>	1111 40 <sup>th</sup> St. SE Grand Rapids, MI 49508
<b>Licensee Telephone #:</b>	(616) 241-6248
<b>Administrator:</b>	Sharon Blain
<b>Licensee Designee:</b>	Sharon Blain
<b>Name of Facility:</b>	Stauffer
<b>Facility Address:</b>	4661 Stauffer Avenue, SE Kentwood, MI 49508-5017
<b>Facility Telephone #:</b>	(616) 281-9565
<b>Original Issuance Date:</b>	02/24/1993
<b>License Status:</b>	REGULAR
<b>Effective Date:</b>	07/27/2018
<b>Expiration Date:</b>	07/26/2020
<b>Capacity:</b>	6
<b>Program Type:</b>	DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED MENTALLY ILL

## II. ALLEGATION(S)

	<b>Violation Established?</b>
Staff person, Shawn Mekkes punched Resident A in the face and arms.	Yes

## III. METHODOLOGY

10/15/2019	Special Investigation Intake 2020A0464004
10/15/2019	APS Referral Referral came from APS
10/15/2019	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Chelsea Towns, Kent County APS
10/15/2019	Contact-Document sent ORR Referral
10/16/2019	Contact-Document received Dereka Seigel, Spectrum Community Services
10/16/2019	Contact-Document Received Incident Report
10/18/2019	Inspection Completed On-site Chelsea Towns (APS), Regan Page (Staff), Ken Harris (Staff), Sharonda Broyles (Staff), Residents A, B & C
10/25/2019	Contact-Telephone call received Bob Patterson, ORR
11/05/2019	Exit Conference Sharon Blain, Licensee Designee

**ALLEGATION: Staff person, Shawn Mekkes punched Resident A in the face and arms.**

**INVESTIGATION:** On 10/15/2019, I received a complaint from Adult Protective Services (APS) which alleged Resident A was physically assaulted by staff person, Shawn Mekkes. As a result, Resident A has two black eyes and bruising on his arm.

On 10/15/2019, I spoke to Kent County APS worker, Chelsea Towns to coordinate the investigation.

On 10/15/2019, I contacted Ed Wilson, Director of Kent County Office of Recipient Rights (ORR) to complete a referral.

On 10/16/2019, I received an email from Spectrum Community Services Rights Coordinator, Dereka Seigel. Ms. Seigel stated she was able to find out more information regarding the incident involving staff person, Shawn Mekkes and Resident A. Ms. Seigel stated she had an incident report completed by Mr. Mekkes, stating he had to use physical management on Resident A, as Resident A was displaying violent behaviors. Ms. Seigel stated Mr. Mekkes will be suspended pending the investigation.

On 10/16/2019, I reviewed the incident report (IR) completed by Mr. Mekkes. Mr. Mekkes stated on 10/12/2019 around 7:30 pm, staff and residents returned from an outing. Resident A asked to use the bathroom, but the bathroom was accidentally locked. Mr. Mekkes unlocked the bathroom for Resident A. Upon checking the bathroom, Mr. Mekkes noticed there was BM (feces) smeared all over the bathroom. Mr. Mekkes asked Resident A to help clean it up, as he is the resident with history of BM smearing behaviors. Resident A became physically aggressive towards Mr. Mekkes. Resident A hit and kicked Mr. Mekkes, then attempted to throw the vacuum cleaner at Mr. Mekkes. Mr. Mekkes attempted to put Resident A in a one arm standing restraint, but Resident A tried to head butt Mr. Mekkes and broke free. Mr. Mekkes then tried to do a side body hug to hold Resident A, but he continued to hit and punch Mr. Mekkes. Other staff tried to intervene, but Resident A pulled Mr. Mekkes to the ground. Resident A continued to hit and bite Mr. Mekkes. Mr. Mekkes was able to back away. Resident A then banged his head against the wall, causing it to bleed. Resident A calmed down. Mr. Mekkes noticed Resident A's eyes were swollen, therefore Mr. Mekkes administered first aid and called the facility manager, Amber Simon. Mr. Mekkes stated two other staff witnessed the incident, Jacques Ngabire and Leslie Henton. Ms. Simon signed the IR on 10/15/2019.

On 10/18/2019, Ms. Towns and I completed an unannounced, onsite inspection at the facility. Upon arrival, Resident B was outside smoking a cigarette. Resident B stated he did witness an incident between Mr. Mekkes and Resident A a few days prior. Resident A stated Mr. Mekkes asked Resident A to help him clean the shower and Resident A spit in Mr. Mekkes' face. Resident A then proceeded to hit and kick Mr. Mekkes. As a result, Mr. Mekkes slammed Resident A onto the couch and "decked" Resident A in the face. Resident B stated Resident A deserved it and needs to be moved from the home. Resident B stated this is the first incident he has witnessed Mr. Mekkes physically touch another resident.

Ms. Towns and I then interviewed staff, Regan Page, Ken Harris, and Sharonda Broyles. All three stated they were not working when the incident occurred. They denied witnessing Mr. Mekkes physically harm any of the residents. All three staff reported Mr. Mekkes recently transferred to working in the facility and has only been there a few weeks.

Ms. Towns and I interviewed Resident A privately. Resident A was observed to have faint bruising around both eyes. Resident A was observed to have a large black and blue bruise on his upper left arm. Resident A stated the bruises were from Mr. Mekkes. Resident A stated a few days ago he was watching TV and Mr. Mekkes said, "You can't watch a show bitch". Then Mr. Mekkes proceeded to punch Resident A in the eyes and arm several times. Resident A stated he didn't do anything wrong and doesn't know why Mr. Mekkes punched him. Resident A stated he was afraid of Mr. Mekkes.

Ms. Towns and I then interviewed Resident C privately. Resident C stated a few days ago Mr. Mekkes was upset with Resident A because Resident A refused to clean up the bathroom. Resident A then spit in Mr. Mekkes' face. As a result, Mr. Mekkes hit Resident A in the face. Resident C then stated he did not see this happened, but Mr. Mekkes told him he hit Resident A.

On 10/25/2019, I spoke to ORR worker, Bob Patterson. Mr. Patterson stated he and Ms. Seigel interviewed staff, Jacques Ngabire, Leslie Henton and Mr. Mekkes at Spectrum Community Services on 10/21/2019. Mr. Patterson stated Mr. Mekkes denied the allegations and reported Resident A was displaying violent behaviors, therefore he tried to physically calm Resident A down. Mr. Mekkes denied punching Resident A in the eyes or arms. Mr. Mekkes denied slamming Resident A onto the couch. Mr. Patterson stated both Mr. Ngabire and Ms. Henton stated they witnessed Resident A hitting and kicking Mr. Mekkes. As a result, Mr. Mekkes grabbed Resident A by the neck, pushed him down on the couch and punched Resident A several times.

On 11/05/2019, I completed an exit conference with licensee designee, Sharon Blain. She was informed of the investigation findings and recommendations. Ms. Blain stated Mr. Mekkes remains suspended and Spectrum Community Services will now conduct disciplinary action.

<b>APPLICABLE RULE</b>	
<b>R 400.14308</b>	<b>Resident behavior interventions prohibitions.</b>
	<b>(1) A licensee shall not mistreat a resident and shall not permit the administrator, direct care staff, employees, volunteers who are under the direction of the licensee, visitors, or other occupants of the home to mistreat a resident. Mistreatment includes any intentional action or omission which exposes a resident to a serious risk or physical or emotional harm or the deliberate infliction of pain by any means.</b>
<b>ANALYSIS:</b>	On 10/18/2019, Resident A was observed to have faint bruising around both eyes and a large bruise on his upper left arm. Resident A stated staff person, Shawn Mekkes was upset with

	<p>him and repeatedly punch him. Resident B was also interviewed and stated he witnessed Mr. Mekkes “decked” Resident A in the face.</p> <p>Staff, Jacques Ngabire and Leslie Henton reportedly stated on 10/12/2019, they witnessed Mr. Mekkes grab Resident A by the neck, slam him onto the couch and punch Resident A several times.</p> <p>Mr. Mekkes reportedly stated on 10/12/2019, Resident A became physically aggressive and Mr. Mekkes tried to restrain Resident A to calm him down. Mr. Mekkes denied punching Resident A or slamming him onto the couch. Mr. Mekkes’ employment has been suspended pending the investigation.</p> <p>Based on the investigative findings, there is sufficient evidence to support a rule violation that Mr. Mekkes caused intentional harm to Resident A.</p>
<b>CONCLUSION:</b>	<b>VIOLATION ESTABLISHED</b>

**IV. RECOMMENDATION**

Upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend that the licensing status remain unchanged.

*Megan Aukerman, MSW*

11/05/2019

Megan Aukerman  
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:

*Jerry Hendrick*

11/05/2019

Jerry Hendrick  
Area Manager

Date