



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

June 3, 2024

Susan Turner
Copper Country Community Mental Health Svcs Bd
901 W Memorial Drive
Houghton, MI 49931

RE: License #: AS310011113
Investigation #: 2024A0873015
Stepping Stone

Dear Ms. Turner:

Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. No substantial violations were found.

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) 356-0100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garrett Peters".

Garrett Peters, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Unit 13, 7th Floor
350 Ottawa, N. W.
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(906) 250-9318

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AS310011113
Investigation #:	2024A0873015
Complaint Receipt Date:	04/15/2024
Investigation Initiation Date:	04/15/2024
Report Due Date:	06/14/2024
Licensee Name:	Copper Country Community Mental Health Srvs Bd
Licensee Address:	901 W Memorial Drive Houghton, MI 49931
Licensee Telephone #:	(906) 482-9400
Administrator:	Susan Turner
Licensee Designee:	Susan Turner
Name of Facility:	Stepping Stone
Facility Address:	903 Sharon Court Houghton, MI 49931
Facility Telephone #:	(906) 487-7727
Original Issuance Date:	06/08/1992
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	01/09/2023
Expiration Date:	01/08/2025
Capacity:	6
Program Type:	DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Resident A is showing signs of physical abuse.	No
Additional Findings	No

III. METHODOLOGY

04/15/2024	Special Investigation Intake 2024A0873015
04/15/2024	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone Interview with Sarah Rousseau. ORR
04/16/2024	APS Referral Referred to APS
04/19/2024	Inspection Completed On-site
04/19/2024	Contact - Face to Face Interviews with staff
04/19/2024	Contact - Face to Face Interview with LD
06/03/2024	Exit Conference with Sue Turner

ALLEGATION:

Resident A is showing signs of physical abuse.

INVESTIGATION:

On 4/15/24, I was contacted by Sarah Rousseau from Copper Country Community Mental Health's (CCCMH) Office of Recipient Rights. Ms. Rousseau expressed concerns about Resident A's recent changes in behavior at the home.

On 4/19/24, I interviewed home manager Rhonda Kangas at the home. Ms. Kangas told me that during a recent nighttime fire drill at the home, staff heard two thumps coming from Resident A's bedroom. When staff went to the room to check on him, Resident A was in his chair with a blanket over his head. The next morning Resident A had a black eye and when staff asked him what had happened Resident A motioned that he had hit himself. Resident A was then brought to the hospital for his injuries. Although hospital staff also noticed damage to Resident A's left ear, they were told that none of the injuries required medical attention. Staff have since seen Resident A hitting himself with his fists. Ms. Kangas told me that staff have determined Resident A may have been in pain due to a cracked tooth in the side of his mouth. The pain was severe enough to cause Resident A enough frustration that he would hit himself on that side of his head. Resident A is largely non-verbal and unable to communicate this information. Since this incident Resident A has been taking several pain killers and an anti-anxiety medication.

On 4/19/24, I interviewed staff member Olivia Geroux at the home. Ms. Geroux reported that there have been several changes occurring at the home lately and it seems Resident A has had an increase in negative behaviors as a result. Resident A has had several medical appointments lately, including having blood draws and a colonoscopy. Resident A has recently had his dose of antipsychotic medication reduced, which seems to have also resulted in him not sleeping well. The home recently began a new staffing rotation which has resulted in new staff members being in the home every couple weeks and one of the two bathrooms in the home has been undergoing a remodel, adding stress to residents life as they all share the same bathroom now. Ms. Geroux was the staff member that discovered Resident A's swollen eye that morning. When she asked him about it, Resident A communicated to her that he hit himself.

On 4/19/24, I interviewed CCCMH's behavioral analyst Morten Haugland at the home. Mr. Haugland told me that Resident A has recently been exhibiting manic episodes and believes this is the result of having a new resident at the home, the new staffing pattern they have recently instituted, and the bathroom remodel. Mr. Haugland does not believe any staff or residents are responsible for his injuries and reports that Resident A has a history of self-injury and that behavior has increased in the last couple months.

On 4/19/24, I interviewed licensee designee Susan Turner who has known Resident A and his family for 41 years. Ms. Turner told me that Resident A has a history of injuring himself and sometimes others, especially during his manic episodes.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14305	Resident protection.
	(3) A resident shall be treated with dignity and his or her personal needs, including protection and safety, shall be attended to at all times in accordance with the provisions of the act.
ANALYSIS:	After interviewing several staff members of the home as well as CCCMH's behavioral analyst and licensee designee Susan Turner, I could find no evidence that any staff member or other resident is abusing Resident A.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION NOT ESTABLISHED

On 6/3/24, I explained the findings of this report to licensee designee Susan Turner who told me that she was grateful no violations were found and that she looks forward to reading the report.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend no changes to the status of this license.

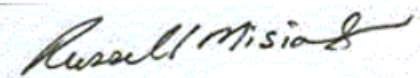


6/3/24

Garrett Peters
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



6/4/24

Russell B. Misiak
Area Manager

Date

