



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
DIRECTOR

August 15, 2025

Elonda Grubbe
Macomb Residential Opportunities Inc.
Suite #102
14 Bellevue Mt Clemens, MI 48043

RE: License #: AS500265416
Investigation #: 2025A0617014
James Street Group Home

Dear Ms. Grubbe:

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.
- Indicate how continuing compliance will be maintained once compliance is achieved.
- Be signed and dated.

If you desire technical assistance in addressing these issues, please feel free to contact me. In any event, the corrective action plan is due within 15 days.

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 (248) 972-9136.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to be 'EJ' with a stylized flourish.

Eric Johnson, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
Cadillac Place, Ste 9-100
3026 W Grand Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48202

Enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AS500265416
Investigation #:	2025A0617014
Complaint Receipt Date:	06/20/2025
Investigation Initiation Date:	06/20/2025
Report Due Date:	08/19/2025
Licensee Name:	Macomb Residential Opportunities Inc.
Licensee Address:	Suite #102 - 14 Belleview Mt Clemens, MI 48043
Licensee Telephone #:	(586) 469-4480
Administrator:	Elonda Grubbe
Licensee Designee:	Elonda Grubbe
Name of Facility:	James Street Group Home
Facility Address:	38421 James Street Clinton Township, MI 48036
Facility Telephone #:	(586) 465-9644
Original Issuance Date:	08/04/2004
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	02/04/2025
Expiration Date:	02/03/2027
Capacity:	6
Program Type:	PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED MENTALLY ILL

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
James Street AFC manager Barbara Brown was forging and cashing Resident A's checks without his knowledge.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

06/20/2025	Special Investigation Intake 2025A0617014
06/20/2025	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone TC to complainant
07/01/2025	Contact - Telephone call received I interviewed Ms. Amber Sultes of the Office of Recipient Rights.
07/01/2025	Inspection Completed On-site I conducted an unannounced onsite investigation at the facility. I interviewed temporary home manager Ms. Shannon Harkless, staff Malik Williams, Resident C, Resident D, and Resident E. I also interviewed via phone, Area supervisors Kathy Makara, Carrie Driscol and Licensee Designee Elonda Grubbe.
07/01/2025	Contact - Document Received I received a copy of Resident A's Funds part 1, a bank transaction form for Resident A's allowance checks, and copies of the cashed checks from Huntington bank from Ms. Driscol.
07/01/2025	Contact - Telephone call made TC to Ms. Barbra Brown
07/22/2025	Contact - Telephone call made TC to Ms. Brown
08/08/2025	Contact - Telephone call made I interviewed Ms. Kelley Powell Agency Director for Social Resources Inc, where Resident A attends workshop.
08/08/2025	Contact - Telephone call made I interviewed Resident A.
08/08/2025	Contact - Telephone call made I interviewed Resident B

08/08/2025	Contact - Document Sent Request for police report made with Clinton Township Police Department
08/08/2025	Contact - Telephone call made TC to Ms. Brown
08/11/2025	Contact - Document Received I received a police report from the Clinton Township Police department.
08/11/2025	Contact - Telephone call made TC to Ms. Brown, Ms. Brown did answer but once I stated who I was she hung up.
08/11/2025	Exit Conference I conducted an exit conference with licensee designee Ms. Elonda Grubbe.

ALLEGATION:

James Street AFC manager Barbara Brown was forging and cashing Resident A's checks without his knowledge.

INVESTIGATION:

On 06/23/25, I received a complaint on the James St. Group home. The complaint stated that it was discovered that staff Barbara Brown was cashing Resident A's payroll and rep payee checks from September 2024 to present. However, Resident A did not receive nearly any of these funds and was unaware that the checks were being cashed. Upon review, it appears that Resident A's signature was being forged on the backs of his payroll checks next to Barbara's signature.

On 07/01/25, I interviewed Ms. Amber Sultes of the Office of Recipient Rights. According to Ms. Sultes, the Licensee became Resident A's payee for his state benefits and Resident A receives a monthly check. Ms. Sultes stated that the Licensee would send Resident A's checks to the home manager, Ms. Barbra Brown. The checks were sent in Ms. Barbra Brown's name because Resident A did not have a bank account. This began approximately around September 2024. Ms. Sultes stated that Ms. Brown was supposed to cash the checks and give the money to Resident A, however she was not doing that. According to Ms. Sultes, Ms. Brown was forging Resident A's signature, cashing the checks and not giving the money to Resident A. Resident A also receives checks from the workshop he attends. Those checks are sent in Resident A's name, but Ms. Brown has been forging Resident A's signature and cashing the checks without

Resident A's knowledge. Ms. Sultes stated that Resident A denied signing any of his checks, and he did not receive any of the money.

On 07/01/25. I conducted an unannounced onsite investigation at the facility. I interviewed temporary home manager Ms. Shannon Harkless, staff Malik Williams, Resident C, Resident D, and Resident E. I also interviewed via phone, Area supervisors Kathy Makara, Carrie Driscol and Licensee Designee Elonda Grubbe. Residents A and B were not home during the onsite.

During the onsite investigation, I reviewed resident files and observed there were no Funds Part 1 or Funds Part 2 forms in any of the files. Ms. Driscol stated that Ms. Barbra Brown was the previous home manager, and she was responsible for all of the resident files and funds. According to Ms. Driscol, they found out that Ms. Brown was signing for Resident A's checks and not giving him the money, so they conducted an internal audit. They were unable to find Funds Part 1 and Funds Part 2 forms for any of the residents during the audit. However, they did find one Funds Part 2 for Resident A, but it was incomplete, and the only copy was at the corporate office. Ms. Driscol emailed me a copy of the Funds part 2. According to the Funds Part 2 for Resident A dated 9/19/24, Resident A received deposits on 9/19/24 for \$64, 10/10/24 for \$64, 11/7/24 for \$64, 12/6/24 for \$64, and on 5/16/25 for \$128. The Funds Part 2 also indicates that there were withdrawals on 9/19/24 for \$64, 10/10/24 for \$64, 11/7/24 for \$64, 12/6/24 for \$42. All of the transactions are signed by Ms. Barbra Brown.

According to Ms. Carrie Driscol, the licensee became the payee for Resident A in September 2024. Ms. Driscol stated that the company uses a third-party financial agency to handle payroll and payments. The checks were issued in Ms. Browns name instead of Resident A's name, but she is not sure why. Ms. Driscol stated that once they found out that Ms. Brown was signing Resident A's checks and not giving him the money, they opened a Rights investigation and contacted the police. Ms. Driscol supplied me with a Clinton Township Police report number. Ms. Driscol stated that they just found out that Resident A was also getting checks from his workshop employment. Ms. Driscol stated that when they cleaned out the home manager's office, they found several uncashed checks for Resident A from his workshop. Ms. Driscol stated that the checks from the workshop are in Resident A's name and not Ms. Brown.

According to staff Malik Williams, Ms. Brown handled all of the residents' funds and he had no information regarding Resident A's checks.

I interviewed Residents C, D and E, all had no concerns or issues to report.

On 07/01/25, I received a copy of Resident A's Funds Part 1, a bank transaction form for Resident A's allowance checks, and copies of the cashed checks from Huntington bank from Ms. Driscol. According to Resident A's Funds Part 1, the licensee Macomb Residential Opportunities INC was listed as the Representative Payee for Resident A. The form is dated 9/1/25 by Licensee Designee Elonda Grubbe. According to the bank transaction form, Resident A received allowance checks from the Licensee on 9/5/24 for

\$64, 10/9/24 for \$64, 11/6/24 for \$64, 12/6/24 for \$64, and 5/9/25 for \$128. The form also includes the check number for each check. The copies of the checks that were cashed by Ms. Brown for Resident A, all had her signature on the back of the checks.

On 08/08/25, I interviewed Ms. Kelley Powell Agency Director for Social Resources Inc, where Resident A attends workshop. According to Ms. Powell, Resident A receives paychecks in his name but after a recent audit, it was discovered that Ms. Brown was signing the checks and forging his signature. Ms. Powell stated that her audit revealed that this has been going on as far back as August 2024. Ms. Powell stated that the checks are now being issued in Resident A's mother's name for his protection and safety. Ms. Powell emailed me copies of Resident A's payroll dates and amounts, along with copies of his cashed checks. The cashed checks show that Ms. Brown signed for all of his checks to be cashed by her.

On 08/08/25, I interviewed Resident A. According to Resident A, he did not sign for any of his checks, and he did not receive any of the money from Ms. Brown. Resident A stated that Ms. Brown would take his checks from him. This has upset Resident A.

On 08/08/25, I interviewed Resident B. According to Resident B, he used to get checks from his workshop and Ms. Brown used to help him cash his checks, but she never signed for him as he always signed for himself, and he always got all of his money. He stated that he never had any issues with Ms. Brown or his checks.

On 08/11/25, I received a police report from the Clinton Township Police department. According to the report, Ms. Barbara Brown signed and cashed multiple of Resident A's checks. The police have copies of the checks, and the investigation is ongoing.

I have made several attempts to contact Ms. Barbara Brown but was not successful. However, on 08/11/25, Ms. Brown did answer one of my calls but once I stated who I was she hung up.

On 08/11/25, I conducted an exit conference with licensee designee Ms. Elonda Grubbe. According to Ms. Grubbe, she wasn't aware that Ms. Brown was stealing Resident A's money and as soon as she found out, she immediately made a complaint to the Office of Recipient Rights and to the Clinton Township Police Department. Ms. Grubbe stated that last year in 2024, she noticed that the facility's grocery bill was extremely high, approximately three times higher than any of their other facilities. Ms. Grubbe met with Ms. Brown to discuss the concerns, but things did not get better. Ms. Grubbe conducted an audit of the grocery receipts and noticed that items were being purchased that she did not believe the residents were eating, like Disney fruit snacks and other items that were not on the home menu. The AFC is in Clinton Township, but Ms. Grubbe also noticed that the groceries were being purchased late at night at a Kroger in Harper Woods, which is less than two miles from Ms. Brown's home. Ms. Grubbe stated that she then conducted an unannounced visit to the facility. While at the facility, Resident A returned home from workshop and handed her his check. She asked him why he gave his check to her and Resident A stated because he always gives his

checks to Ms. Brown. Ms. Grubbe then went into Ms. Brown's office and discovered two uncashed checks for Resident A.

Ms. Grubbe stated that she was unaware that Resident A was receiving pay checks from workshop. Ms. Grubbe then filed a complaint with the Office of Recipient Rights and filed a police report with the Clinton Township police department. Ms. Grubbe stated that the licensee became Resident A's Payee because the social security administration did an audit and found out that Resident A's former payee (his mother) wasn't paying his cost of care consistently. The social security administration suggested that the licensee become the payee. According to Ms. Grubbe, Ms. Brown has been removed from the James St. Group home, demoted from manager and moved to their affiliated AFC AS500371062 Gainsborough. Ms. Grubbe stated that Ms. Brown does not have access to resident funds at the Gainsborough home. Ms. Grubbe has pressed charges and the investigation is ongoing. According to Ms. Grubbe, Ms. Brown is not cooperating with the police and won't return their calls. Ms. Grubbe stated that it was also discovered that Ms. Brown was having an inappropriate relationship with assistant manager Julian Jones, which is against company policy. Mr. Jones quit and is no longer with the company. Ms. Grubbe stated that she has hired a new manager and assistant manager at the facility and the home has shown great improvement.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14204	Direct care staff; qualifications and training.
	(2) Direct care staff shall possess all of the following qualifications: (a) Be suitable to meet the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs of each resident.
ANALYSIS:	Staff Ms. Barbra Brown took advantage of Resident A's disabilities in order to steal Resident A's checks. The facility provided copies of Resident A's checks that were signed and cashed by Ms. Brown. Law enforcement is currently investigating Ms. Brown for potential criminal charges. Resident A stated that he did not sign the checks, cash them, or receive any of the money.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14305	Resident protection.
	(1) A resident shall be assured privacy and protection from moral, social, and financial exploitation.

ANALYSIS:	Staff Ms. Barbra Brown took advantage of Resident A's disabilities in order to steal Resident A's checks. The facility provided copies of Resident A's checks that were signed and cashed by Ms. Brown. Law enforcement is currently investigating Ms. Brown for potential criminal charges. Resident A stated that he did not sign the checks, cash them, or receive any of the money.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14315	Handling of resident funds and valuables.
	(10) A licensee, administrator, direct care staff, other employees, volunteers under the direction of the licensee, and members of their families shall not accept, take, or borrow money or valuables from a resident, even with the consent of the resident.
ANALYSIS:	Staff Ms. Barbra Brown took advantage of Resident A's disabilities in order to steal Resident A's checks. The facility provided copies of Resident A's checks that were signed and cashed by Ms. Brown. Law enforcement is currently investigating Ms. Brown for potential criminal charges. Resident A stated that he did not sign the checks, cash them, or receive any of the money.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14316	Resident records.
	(1) A licensee shall complete, and maintain in the home, a separate record for each resident and shall provide record information as required by the department. A resident record shall include, at a minimum, all of the following information: (i) Resident funds and valuables record and resident refund agreement.

ANALYSIS:	During the onsite investigation, I observed the resident files did not have copies of the AFC required forms Funds Part 1 and Funds Part 2.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon the receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, I recommend no change to the status of the license.

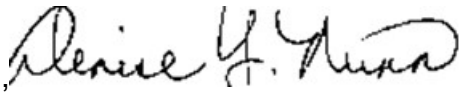


08/12/25

Eric Johnson
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



08/15/2025

Denise Y. Nunn
Area Manager

Date