



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

July 1, 2022

Judith Dunton
Michigan Community Services, Inc.
PO Box 317
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

RE: License #:	AS250263591
Investigation #:	2022A0123036
	Farmtree Home

Dear Ms. Dunton:

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. 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 (517) 284-9700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shamidah Wyden".

Shamidah Wyden, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
411 Genesee
P.O. Box 5070
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-395-6853

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AS250263591
Investigation #:	2022A0123036
Complaint Receipt Date:	05/10/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	05/10/2022
Report Due Date:	07/09/2022
Licensee Name:	Michigan Community Services, Inc.
Licensee Address:	5239 Morrish Rd. Swartz Creek, MI 48473
Licensee Telephone #:	(810) 635-4407
Administrator:	Lena Crosson
Licensee Designee:	Judith Dunton
Name of Facility:	Farmtree Home
Facility Address:	9436 Farmtree Drive Swartz Creek, MI 48473
Facility Telephone #:	(810) 635-0580
Original Issuance Date:	03/03/2004
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	09/13/2020
Expiration Date:	09/12/2022
Capacity:	6
Program Type:	PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED MENTALLY ILL

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
On 05/09/2022, staff noticed a fire on the back patio. The home was evacuated and 911 was called. The cause of the fire is unknown, and there was extensive damage to the home.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

05/10/2022	Special Investigation Intake 2022A0123036
05/10/2022	Special Investigation Initiated - Telephone I received a telephone call from administrator Lena Crosson.
05/10/2022	Contact - Document Received I received an incident report and photos from Ms. Crosson.
05/12/2022	Contact - Telephone call received I received a voicemail from Ms. Crosson, requesting a return call.
05/12/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with administrator Lena Crosson via phone.
05/16/2022	Inspection Completed On-site I conducted an on-site visit at the facility.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I interviewed home manager Marquitta Davis via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Guardian 1 via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I interviewed staff Denise Petigo via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I made an attempted call to staff Chrie Atkins. The phone appeared to be off, and the mailbox was full.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Guardian 2 via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made

	I made an attempted call to Guardian 3. I left a voicemail requesting a return call.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Guardian 4 via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Guardian 5 via phone.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I left a message for Guardian 6 requesting a return call.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I made a call to fire investigator Christopher DeCracker. I left a message requesting a return call.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call received I received a voicemail from Guardian 6.
05/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I spoke with Guardian 6 via phone.
05/26/2022	Contact - Telephone call received I received a call from Ms. Crosson.
06/16/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I made a second attempt to contact Mr. DeCracker.
06/16/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I made a second attempt to contact Staff Atkins.
06/16/2022	Contact - Telephone call made I made an attempted call to Guardian 3. There was no answer.
06/22/2022	Contact- Telephone call made I left a voicemail for insurance adjuster Shawn Crawford, requesting a return call.
06/22/2022	Contact- Telephone call received I spoke with administrator Lena Crosson via phone.
06/22/2022	Contact- Document Sent I sent a letter to the Gaines Township Fire Department requesting a copy of the fire department report.

06/24/2022	Contact- Document Received I received a copy of the fire department report from Gaines Township.
06/29/2022	Exit Conference I conducted an exit conference with licensee designee Judy Dunton.
06/30/2022	Exit Conference I conducted an exit conference with licensee designee Judy Dunton.

ALLEGATION: On 05/09/2022, staff noticed a fire on the back patio. The home was evacuated and 911 was called. The cause of the fire is unknown, and there was extensive damage to the home.

INVESTIGATION: On 05/10/2022, I received a call from administrator Lena Crosson. She stated that the facility caught fire. The fire department thinks it was an outside electrical outlet that was not in use. All six of the residents were evacuated safely. One is currently in another AFC placement, and the other five are in a hotel. She is not sure of the extent of the water damage. Staff were able to retrieve medications and essentials. The home is most likely a total loss, as the back of the home is charred, and the roof caved in. She stated that they cannot re-enter the home without the Fire Marshall being present. She stated that all the guardians have been notified. After this call, she sent photos of the damage.

On 05/10/2022, I received a copy of the *Incident/Accident Report* dated for 05/09/2022. The incident report states “*Staff noticed a fire on the back patio, consumers were safely evacuated. Consumers and staff evacuated home and 911 called. One consumer is currently staying at another group home within the corporation and the others are at a hotel. The Hampton Inn of Grand Blanc.*” Under *Corrective Measures Taken to Remedy and/or Prevent Recurrence*, it states “*Continue to follow emergency procedures.*”

On 05/12/2022, I received a call from Ms. Crosson. She stated that GHS (Genesee Health Systems- CMH) wants permanent placements, and they have enough openings within the corporation. She stated that there are two residents left in the hotel through next Tuesday, and the other four have already been placed. She stated that at this time we can walk around the backyard of the facility, but no one can enter without notifying the fire department. She stated that they were able to retrieve the medical and legal books, and the corporation is purchasing clothing, etc. She stated that the home manager, Marquitta Davis, reported that she thought staff Denise Petigo may have forgotten to put out her cigarette. She stated that the Fire Marshall pointed out that it appeared to have been an electrical fire. She stated that they are waiting on the report from the fire department.

On 05/16/2022, I conducted an on-site at Farmtree. Licensee Designee Judy Dunton and Administrator Lena Crosson was present. I took a walk around the premises and observed the damage to the home. Inside the home I saw the damage to the laundry room, staff office, kitchen, dining room, and front sitting room. I did not observe the damage to the bedrooms as there was a lot of debris on the floor between the living room and the hallway to the bedrooms. I took photos of the damage observed.

On 05/25/2022, I interviewed Guardian 1 via phone. Guardian 1 stated that she is concerned and in a state of shock regarding what happened. She stated that staff were concerned and shaken up themselves. She stated that she has not heard anything about what happened. She stated that Resident A had a lot of personal belongings, and she is not sure if his things are lost. She stated that Resident A has Alzheimer's and has confusion. She stated that all residents except Resident A were wheelchair bound.

On 05/25/2022, I interviewed home manager Marquitta Davis via phone. She stated that she was in her office, and staff Denise Petigo came up from the back of the home saying that the table outside was on fire. Staff Davis stated that she looked out the window, saw flames, and Staff Petigo asked for the fire extinguisher. She stated that she told Staff Petigo no, and to get everyone out. She stated that they evacuated. She stated that she went back in to grab something and saw the flames coming through the patio door. She stated that the fire department showed up. She stated that she had called 911 at the same time she was telling everyone to evacuate. She stated that she does not know how long it took the fire department to put the fire out, but it was quickly. She stated that they were outside the facility for about two hours that day. Staff Davis said she left to go get a van at 6:00 pm. She stated that Staff Petigo had asked for a smoke break at about 2:45 pm and she gave the okay. She stated the fire was noticed right after 3:00 pm, around 3:10 pm and she text Ms. Crosson about it at 3:30 pm. She stated that she called 911 between 3:10 pm and 3:15 pm. She stated that the home was evacuated before she text Ms. Crosson. She stated that no one had been in the backyard all day until Staff Petigo went for her smoke break. She stated that the table that was on fire was located on the North side of the patio, next to a bench where staff sit and smoke. She stated that there used to be a pickle bucket with sand in it for cigarettes to be disposed of. She stated that the awning on the back patio was fiberglass, and the wind was blowing. She stated that the lattice fence going around the patio was wood. She stated that the table was close to the two posts that were anchored in the ground by the grass. She stated that she has not heard any fire department updates, and that the fire department said that it was electrical in nature.

On 05/25/2022, I interviewed staff Denise Petigo via phone. She stated that she was in the back with Resident F giving Resident F a shower. She stated that she came out to the living room to get pads for Resident F's bed so she could lay him down and get him dressed. She stated that she felt heat and saw that the back porch was on fire. She stated that Staff Davis was in the office, and her co-worker was at the dining room table. She stated that she noticed the fire about 3:30 pm, and she had

her smoke break an hour before around 2:30 pm. She stated that she had put her cigarette out, and that it was windy that day. She stated that she saw little ashes blowing. She stated that she cannot believe that the fire was burning for an hour before anyone noticed it, and that the timeframe did not add up. Staff Petigo stated that she said something about the fire extinguisher, and the home manager instructed everyone to get out. She stated that four residents were up front, Resident E was in bed, and Resident F who was in the shower. She stated that they got everyone out, and Staff Davis called 911. She stated that the fire department said that it was an electrical fire.

On 05/25/2022, I spoke with Guardian 2 via phone. Guardian 2 stated that it sounded like it was handled well, and he was contacted the day of the fire. Guardian 2 stated that he is really pleased, things went smoothly, and the new placement went smoothly.

On 05/25/2022, I spoke with Guardian 4 via phone. Guardian 4 stated that Resident D was placed in a different home, and staff called and informed her of the fire timely. She stated that there were no injuries, but Resident D lost clothing and furniture. She stated that the clothing was replaced. She stated that the new manager at the new placement is familiar with Resident D, and she has no concerns.

On 05/25/2022, I spoke with Guardian 5 via phone. Guardian 5 stated that they have no clue what happened, and that there was a fire, and the residents were at a hotel for a while. She stated that Resident E was placed in a new home under the same corporation, and that Resident E is doing well.

On 05/25/2022, I spoke with Guardian 6 via phone. Guardian 6 stated that he does not know much. The home is destroyed, and that he was told it will not be rebuilt. He stated that he was notified timely, and he is taking what staff had to say as factual. Guardian 6 stated that everyone was evacuated and there were no injuries. He stated that he was informed it was an electrical fire. Guardian 6 stated that he does not like that the residents were all moved to different places, as it is a challenge to adjust to new surroundings.

On 05/26/2022, I received a call from Ms. Crosson. She stated that the Cause-and-Effect person from the insurance company labeled the cause of the fire as undetermined. She stated that they cannot rule out electrical or smoking as the cause. She stated that Staff Davis said it was about 20 minutes between Staff Petigo smoking and the fire. She stated that the Fire Marshall said it looked like it started at the outlet, went to the pergola, then the awning, and table, and if the table had been the source of the fire, there would be nothing left of the table. She stated that looking out the patio door, staff could only see the table, and would not have seen the fire starting from the wall.

On 06/22/2022, I received a call from Ms. Crosson. She stated that Mr. DeCracker informed her that he cannot release his report, and it can only be release to Shawn Crawford, the insurance adjuster.

On 06/24/2022, I obtained a copy of the Gaines Township Fire Department report. Under *Remarks* it states:

“Group home of Farm tree with six residents were displaced by fire today, fire started on the deck located at the rear of the home. When I arrived on scene Chief Tabit and Engine 12 from Swartz Creek were already there and attacking the fire with a 1 ¾ line to the rear of the house, also they hooked up to the fire hydrant at the corner of Farm Tree and Van Vleet wit ha 5-inch line. I assumed command at my arrival on scene I called for consumers gas and electric and Con Craft board up company to secure the house. Employee said she put out her cigarette, but she saw sparks fly from the cigarette butt, Fire fighters said there were hot charcoal coals in the grill on the deck. There was also a electrical plug on the back side of the house which could have been the problem. Also it was quite windy. Chief Joe Hyrman.”

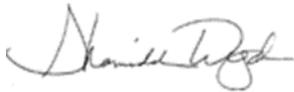
APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.14403	Maintenance of premises.
	(1) A home shall be constructed, arranged, and maintained to provide adequately for the health, safety, and well-being of occupants.
ANALYSIS:	<p>On 05/10/2022, an incident report was received that stated the residents of the facility were evacuated from the home due to a staff person noticing a fire on the back patio. The residents were safely evacuated, and the fire department responded.</p> <p>During this investigation, each resident was placed in a new facility, as the facility is currently unlivable due to the extensive fire damage.</p> <p>Guardian 1, Guardian 2, Guardian 4, Guardian 5, and Guardian 6 did not express any concerns with how staff handled the matter.</p> <p>Staff Davis reported that Staff Petigo had been on a smoke break prior to the fire starting, but that the fire department informed them that the fire may have been electrical in nature. Staff Denise Petigo stated that she does not believe that the fire was burning for an hour after her smoke break before anyone notice the fire, and the time frame did not add up.</p> <p>A copy of the Gaines Township Fire Department report was</p>

	<p>obtained. The report did not conclusively state what caused the fire.</p> <p>Due to the extensive damage of the fire, the home is not suitable for residents to reside in currently.</p> <p>There is a preponderance of evidence to substantiate a rule violation.</p>
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

On 06/29/2022 and 06/30/2022, I conducted an exit conference with licensee designee Judy Dunton. I informed her of the findings and conclusion.

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon the receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, continuation of this AFC small group home license is recommended.



07/01/2022

Shamidah Wyden
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



07/01/2022

Mary E Holton
Area Manager

Date