



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA
ACTING DIRECTOR

October 4, 2023

Ruth Stevens
2700 Condensery Road
Sheridan, MI 48884

RE: License #: AF590004463
Investigation #: 2023A0466063
Secluded Pines

Dear Ms. Stevens:

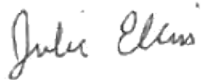
Attached is the Special Investigation Report for the above referenced facility. Due to the violations identified in the report, a written corrective action plan is required. The corrective action plan is due 15 days from the date of this letter and must include the following:

- 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 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) 284-9727.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Elkins".

Julie Elkins, Licensing Consultant
Bureau of Community and Health Systems
611 W. Ottawa Street
P.O. Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909

enclosure

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

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	AF590004463
Investigation #:	2023A0466063
Complaint Receipt Date:	08/29/2023
Investigation Initiation Date:	08/29/2023
Report Due Date:	10/28/2023
Licensee Name:	Ruth Stevens
Licensee Address:	2700 Condensery Road Sheridan, MI 48884
Licensee Telephone #:	Unknown
Administrator:	N/A
Licensee Designee:	N/A
Name of Facility:	Secluded Pines
Facility Address:	2700 Condensery Road Sheridan, MI 48884
Facility Telephone #:	(989) 291-3993
Original Issuance Date:	12/01/1992
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	09/12/2021
Expiration Date:	09/11/2023
Capacity:	5
Program Type:	PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED MENTALLY ILL

	AGED
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II. ALLEGATION:

	Violation Established?
Licensee Ruth Stevens, Resident A, Resident B and Resident C all moved out of the facility without providing any notice to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

08/29/2023	Special Investigation Intake 2023A0466063
08/29/2023	Special Investigation Initiated – Letter to assigned licensing consultant Jennifer Browning interviewed.
09/14/2023	Inspection Completed On-site.
09/15/2023	Contact- Email received from licensee Ruth Stevens.
10/03/2023	Contact- Telephone call made to Guardian A1, interviewed.
10/03/2023	Contact- Telephone call made to Guardian B1, message left.
10/04/2023	Contact- Telephone call made to Guardian C1, message left.
10/04/2023	Contact- Telephone call received from Guardian B1, interviewed.
10/04/2023	Exit Conference with licensee Ruth Stevens, message left.

ALLEGATION: Licensee Ruth Stevens and Resident A, Resident B and Resident C all moved out of the facility without providing any notice to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).

INVESTIGATION:

On 08/29/2023, Complainant reported that licensee Ruth Stevens, Resident A, Resident B and Resident C all moved out of the facility without providing any notice to LARA.

On 08/29/2023, assigned AFC licensing consultant Jennifer Browning reported that she went to Secluded Pines on 08/29/2023 and Citizen 1 reported that the basement flooded one to two months ago, Citizen 1 was not able to provide a specific date, and since that time licensee Stevens moved herself and the Secluded Pines residents first to a hotel and then to a friend’s house in Lakeview, Michigan. Citizen 1 reported he had no phone number or address where licensee Stevens and the residents were living. Citizen 1 reported to AFC licensing consultant Jennifer Browning that he was unaware of the plans to repair the facility. Citizen 1 reported

only Resident A and Resident B were living with licensee Stevens. AFC licensing consultant Browning reported reaching out to licensee Stevens by email and phone several times over the past several months with no response thus prompting the onsite inspection on 08/29/2023. AFC licensing consultant Browning reported she never received a written report within 48 hours of the property damage exceeding \$100.00 for the flooding in May 2023 nor was she aware that licensee Stevens and the residents were no longer residing at the licensed AFC family home.

On 09/14/2023, I conducted an unannounced onsite investigation and determined no one was at the AFC family home based on knocking on the door and walking around the AFC family home. I contacted licensee Stevens by phone and she reported that she and the residents had to move out of the facility because of a flood in the basement. Licensee Stevens reported that prior to moving, she had three residents living with her, Resident A, Resident B and Resident C. Licensee Stevens reported Resident C was moved to another licensed facility by Guardian C1 around the same time that the basement flooded. Licensee Stevens reported Guardian A1 and Guardian B1 understand that she is caring for Resident A and Resident B in a non-licensed residence. Licensee Stevens reported that around 5/5/2023 while she and her husband were trying to remodel the basement, they removed a countertop located by the main pipe for the well, broke that pipe which caused water to gush everywhere. Licensee Stevens reported there instantly was several inches of water in the entire basement. Licensee Stevens reported that because this happened late at night she worked all night to get the water cleaned up. Licensee Stevens stated after she was not able to fix the leak and/or get the basement cleaned from water, she moved herself and the residents to a hotel. Initially, licensee Stevens reported Resident A, Resident B and Resident C were with her at the hotel but Resident C was eventually moved to another licensed property by his guardian. Licensee Stevens reported that she asked Citizen 1 and Citizen 2 to stay in her house while it was being repaired. Licensee Stevens reported that she has had several quotes for the damage to be repaired but that she has not able to secure a time/day for the repairs to be completed. Licensee Stevens reported that her desire is to return home but right now it not habitable for her and Resident A and Resident B. Licensee Stevens reported she does not have any interest in admitting new residents to her home. Licensee Stevens reported that she does not have a time frame for when the basement repairs will be made and does not plan to renew her current AFC family home license. Licensee Stevens reported that she is aware that she is legally able to care for two residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week for compensation without a license. Licensee Stevens reported that she would like to close her adult foster license. Licensee Stevens reported that she does not remember if she sent the assigned licensing consultant a written report within 48 hours of the property damage exceeding \$100.00. Licensee Stevens did report that she requested in writing for her license to be closed prior to this event occurring. Licensee Stevens reported that she would forward me the emails between her and licensing consultant Browning.

On 09/15/2023, I received an email from license Stevens which was dated 8/31/2023, and stated, "Hey Jennifer, I'm requesting that you please close my license. [Resident C] was moved today by his Guardian C1." Additionally, the below emails were also included in what licensee Stevens emailed.

- On 06/09/2023, from licensing consultant Browning, "Good afternoon! Your AFC license is expiring on 9/11/23 and the renewal packet was sent out this week. Can you please make sure to pay the application and fee as soon as possible? I will be scheduling your renewal the second half of June or the beginning of July."
- On 07/18/2023, from licensing consultant Browning, "I sent this email last month and haven't heard back. Please make sure you pay the application fee and submit the application so your renewal can be completed. Also, I know that Jana is waiting on the Bureau of Community and Health Systems 100 form to add your husband as a responsible person. He will also need his medical clearance and TB test results. Please submit this information as soon as possible."
- On 08/17/2023 from licensing consultant Browning, "Good morning! I heard from Jana you were planning on closing your AFC license. I can do this but please let me know when your last resident has been moved. Please send a request to me by email to close your AFC license and include confirmation what date the last resident left the facility."

On 10/03/2023, I interviewed Guardian A1 who reported that she is aware that Resident A and Resident B are living with licensee Stevens in a non-licensed setting. Guardian A1 reported that she has been to the non-licensed home which she described as "nice, suitable" and she is happy that licensee Stevens is still able to care for Resident A. Guardian A1 reported licensee Stevens communicated with her after the flood and while alternative living arrangements were being made. Guardian A1 is aware of licensee Stevens's intent to close her family home license and for her to continue to care for Resident A and Resident B without an AFC license. Guardian A1 reported Resident C has not lived at the non-licensed residence. Guardian A1 reported she visits Resident A weekly.

On 10/04/2023, I interviewed Guardian B1 who reported that she is aware that Resident A and Resident B are living with licensee Stevens in a non-licensed setting. Guardian B1 reported that she has been to the non-licensed home, it is nice, suitable and she is happy that licensee Stevens is still able to care for Resident B as he likes being with her. Guardian B1 reported licensee Stevens communicated with her after the flood and while alternative living arrangements were being made. Guardian B1 is aware of licensee Stevens's intent to close her family home license and for her to continue to care for Resident A and Resident B without an AFC license. Guardian B1 reported Resident C has not lived at the non-licensed residence. Guardian B1 reported that she visits Resident B weekly.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.1426	Maintenance of premises.
	(13) A written report shall be made to the adult foster care licensing division of the department, the resident's designated representative, and responsible agency within 48 hours, excluding holidays and weekends, of the occurrence of fire or severe weather conditions that result in bodily injury or property damage exceeding \$100.00
ANALYSIS:	There is no documentation to support that licensee Stevens provided licensing consultant Browning or anyone at LARA with a written report within 48 hours of the property damage exceeding \$100.00 from the flood in her family adult foster care home in May 2023 which has displaced her and the residents from their home.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Contingent upon receipt of an acceptable corrective action plan, the AFC family home license will be closed per licensee Stevens written and verbal request.

Julie Elkins

10/04/2023

Julie Elkins
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:

Dawn Timm

10/04/2023

Dawn N. Timm
Area Manager

Date