



*Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of Minnesotans*

Certified Mail # 7004 1350 0003 0567 1602

March 28, 2008

Christopher Blum, Administrator  
Comfort Home Health Care  
2746 Superior Drive NW STE 200  
Rochester, MN 55901

Re: Results of State Licensing Survey

Dear Mr. Blum:

The above agency was surveyed on March 10, 11, and 12, 2008, for the purpose of assessing compliance with state licensing regulations. State licensing deficiencies, if found, are delineated on the attached Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) correction order form. The correction order form should be signed and returned to this office when all orders are corrected. We urge you to review these orders carefully, item by item, and if you find that any of the orders are not in accordance with your understanding at the time of the exit conference following the survey, you should immediately contact me, or the RN Program Coordinator. If further clarification is necessary, I can arrange for an informal conference at which time your questions relating to the order(s) can be discussed.

A final version of the Licensing Survey Form is enclosed. This document will be posted on the MDH website.

Also attached is an optional Provider questionnaire, which is a self-mailer, which affords the provider with an opportunity to give feedback on the survey experience.

Please note, it is your responsibility to share the information contained in this letter and the results of this visit with the President of your facility's Governing Body.

Please feel free to call our office with any questions at (651) 201-4301.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean M. Johnston".

Jean Johnston, Program Manager  
Case Mix Review Program

Enclosures

cc: Olmsted County Social Services  
Ron Drude, Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Sherilyn Moe, Office of the Ombudsman

01/07 CMR3199

Division of Compliance Monitoring • Case Mix Review  
85 East 7th Place Suite, 220 • PO Box 64938 • St. Paul, MN 55164-0938 • 651-201-4301  
General Information: 651-201-5000 or 888-345-0823 • TTY: 651-201-5797 • Minnesota Relay Service: 800-627-3529

<http://www.health.state.mn.us>

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Class F Home Care Provider

LICENSING SURVEY FORM

Registered nurses from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) use this Licensing Survey Form during on-site visits to evaluate the care provided by Class F home care providers (Class F). Class F licensees may also use this form to monitor the quality of services provided to clients at any time. Licensees may use their completed Licensing Survey Form to help communicate to MDH nurses during an on-site regulatory visit.

During an on-site visit, MDH nurses will interview staff, talk with clients and/or their representatives, make observations and review documentation. The survey is an opportunity for the licensee to explain to the MDH nurse what systems are in place to provide Class F Home Care services. Completing this Licensing Survey Form in advance may facilitate the survey process.

Licensing requirements listed below are reviewed during a survey. A determination is made whether the requirements are met or not met for each Indicator of Compliance box. This form must be used in conjunction with a copy of the Class F home care regulations. Any violations of Class F Home Care Provider licensing requirements are noted at the end of the survey form.

Name of CLASS F: COMFORT HOME HEALTH CARE

HFID #: 21496

Date(s) of Survey: March 10, 11, and 12, 2008

Project #: QL21496005

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>1. The provider only accepts and retains clients for whom it can meet the needs as agreed to in the service plan.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0815</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0050</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0800 Subp. 3</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0825 Subp. 2</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0845</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each client has an assessment and service plan developed by a registered nurse within 2 weeks and prior to initiation of delegated nursing services, reviewed at least annually, and as needed.</li> <li>• The service plan accurately describes the client's needs.</li> <li>• Care is provided as stated in the service plan.</li> <li>• The client and/or representative understand what care will be provided and what it costs.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>2. The provider promotes the clients' rights.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0030</li> <li>• MN Statute §144A.44</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0040</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0170</li> <li>• MN Statute §144D.04</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0870</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clients are aware of and have their rights honored.</li> <li>• Clients are informed of and afforded the right to file a complaint.</li> <li>• Continuity of Care is promoted for clients who are discharged from the agency.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>
<p>3. The health, safety, and well being of clients are protected and promoted.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Statute §144A.46</li> <li>• MN Statute §626.557</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0035</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0805</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clients are free from abuse or neglect.</li> <li>• Clients are free from restraints imposed for purposes of discipline or convenience. Agency personnel observe infection control requirements.</li> <li>• There is a system for reporting and investigating any incidents of maltreatment.</li> <li>• There is adequate training and supervision for all staff.</li> <li>• Criminal background checks are performed as required.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>4. The clients' confidentiality is maintained.</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0810</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client personal information and records are secure.</li> <li>Any information about clients is released only to appropriate parties.</li> <li>Client records are maintained, are complete and are secure.</li> </ul>	<p><i>This area does not apply to a Focus Survey</i></p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>
<p>5. The provider employs (or contracts with) qualified staff.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0065</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0835</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0820</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0825</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0840</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0070</li> <li>MN Statute §144D.065</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff have received training and/or competency evaluations as required, including training in dementia care, if applicable.</li> <li>Nurse licenses are current.</li> <li>The registered nurse(s) delegates nursing tasks only to staff that are competent to perform the procedures that have been delegated.</li> <li>The process of delegation and supervision is clear to all staff and reflected in their job descriptions.</li> <li>Personnel records are maintained and retained.</li> <li>Staff meet infection control guidelines.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>6. Changes in a client’s condition are recognized and acted upon. Medications are stored and administered safely.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0855</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0860</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0800</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0815</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0820</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0865</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0870</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A registered nurse is contacted when there is a change in a client’s condition that requires a nursing assessment.</li> <li>• Emergency and medical services are contacted, as needed.</li> <li>• The client and/or representative is informed when changes occur.</li> <li>• The agency has a system for the control of medications.</li> <li>• A registered nurse trains unlicensed personnel prior to them administering medications.</li> <li>• Medications and treatments are ordered by a prescriber and are administered and documented as prescribed.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>
<p>7. The provider has a current license.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0019</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0008</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0012</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0016</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0220</li> </ul> <p><u>Note:</u> MDH will make referrals to the Attorney General’s office for violations of MN Statutes 144D or 325F.72; and make other referrals, as needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CLASS F license (and other licenses or registrations as required) are posted in a place that communicates to the public what services may be provided.</li> <li>• The agency operates within its license(s) and applicable waivers and variances.</li> <li>• Advertisement accurately reflects the services provided by the agency.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>8. The provider is in compliance with MDH waivers and variances</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensee provides services within the scope of applicable MDH waivers and variances</li> </ul>	<p><i>This area does not apply to a Focus Survey.</i></p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # <input type="text"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New Correction Order issued</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p>

***Please note:*** Although the focus of the licensing survey is the regulations listed in the Indicators of Compliance boxes above, other rules and statutes may be cited depending on what system a provider has or fails to have in place and/or the severity of a violation. The findings of the focused licensing survey may result in an expanded survey.

**SURVEY RESULTS:**  All Indicators of Compliance listed above were met.

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A draft copy of this completed form was left with Theresa Pawlina, Executive Director, DON, at an exit conference on March 12, 2008. Any correction order(s) issued as a result of the on-site visit and the final Licensing Survey Form will be sent to the licensee. If you have any questions about the Licensing Survey Form or the survey results, please contact the Minnesota Department of Health, (651) 201-4301. After review, this form will be posted on the MDH website. Class F Home Care Provider general information is available by going to the following web address and clicking on the Class F Home Care Provider link:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/fpc/profinfo/cms/casemix.html>

Regulations can be viewed on the Internet: <http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/stats> (for MN statutes) <http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/> (for MN Rules).