



Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of Minnesotans

Certified Mail # 7008 2810 0001 2258 0828

December 2, 2009

Brian Wings, Administrator
North Branch Comfort of HC LLC
38610 14th Avenue
North Branch, MN 55056

Re: Results of State Licensing Survey

Dear Mr. Wings:

The above agency was surveyed on November 6, 9, and 10, 2009, 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". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jean Johnston, Program Manager
Case Mix Review Program

Enclosures

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

/07 CMR3199



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: NORTH BRANCH COMFORT OF HC LLC

HFID #: 25046

Date(s) of Survey: November 6, 9 and 10, 2009

Project #: QL25046004

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>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MN Rule 4668.0815 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MN Rule 4668.0050 MN Rule 4668.0800 Subp. 3 MN Rule 4668.0825 Subp. 2 MN Rule 4668.0845 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. The service plan accurately describes the client's needs. Care is provided as stated in the service plan. The client and/or representative understand what care will be provided and what it costs. 	<p>Focus Survey</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>Expanded Survey</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 # _____</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>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0030 • MN Statute §144A.44 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0040 • MN Rule 4668.0170 • MN Statute §144D.04 • MN Rule 4668.0870 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients are aware of and have their rights honored. • Clients are informed of and afforded the right to file a complaint. • Continuity of Care is promoted for clients who are discharged from the agency. 	<p>Focus Survey</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>Expanded Survey</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>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Statute §144A.46 • MN Statute §626.557 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0035 • MN Rule 4668.0805 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients are free from abuse or neglect. • Clients are free from restraints imposed for purposes of discipline or convenience. Agency personnel observe infection control requirements. • There is a system for reporting and investigating any incidents of maltreatment. • There is adequate training and supervision for all staff. • Criminal background checks are performed as required. 	<p>Focus Survey</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>Expanded Survey</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>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0810 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client personal information and records are secure. • Any information about clients is released only to appropriate parties. • Client records are maintained, are complete and are secure. 	<p><i>This area does not apply to a Focus Survey</i></p> <p>Expanded Survey</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 # _____</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>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0065 • MN Rule 4668.0835 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0820 • MN Rule 4668.0825 • MN Rule 4668.0840 • MN Rule 4668.0070 • MN Statute §144D.065 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff have received training and/or competency evaluations as required, including training in dementia care, if applicable. • Nurse licenses are current. • The registered nurse(s) delegates nursing tasks only to staff that are competent to perform the procedures that have been delegated. • The process of delegation and supervision is clear to all staff and reflected in their job descriptions. • Personnel records are maintained and retained. • Staff meet infection control guidelines. 	<p>Focus Survey</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>Expanded Survey</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 # _____</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>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0855 • MN Rule 4668.0860 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0800 • MN Rule 4668.0815 • MN Rule 4668.0820 • MN Rule 4668.0865 • MN Rule 4668.0870 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A registered nurse is contacted when there is a change in a client’s condition that requires a nursing assessment. • Emergency and medical services are contacted, as needed. • The client and/or representative is informed when changes occur. • The agency has a system for the control of medications. • A registered nurse trains unlicensed personnel prior to them administering medications. • Medications and treatments are ordered by a prescriber and are administered and documented as prescribed. 	<p>Focus Survey</p> <p><u> X </u> Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued <u> X </u> Education Provided</p> <p>Expanded Survey</p> <p><u> X </u> Survey not Expanded ___ Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # ___ ___ New Correction Order issued ___ Education Provided</p>
<p>7. The provider has a current license.</p> <p>Focus Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0019 <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MN Rule 4668.0008 • MN Rule 4668.0012 • MN Rule 4668.0016 • MN Rule 4668.0220 <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"> • 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. • The agency operates within its license(s) and applicable waivers and variances. • Advertisement accurately reflects the services provided by the agency. 	<p>Focus Survey</p> <p><u> X </u> Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p>Expanded Survey</p> <p><u> X </u> Survey not Expanded ___ Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p>Follow-up Survey # ___ ___ New Correction Order issued ___ Education Provided</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>8. The provider is in compliance with MDH waivers and variances</p> <p>Expanded Survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MN Rule 4668.0016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensee provides services within the scope of applicable MDH waivers and variances 	<p><i>This area does not apply to a Focus Survey.</i></p> <p>Expanded Survey</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 # _____</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.

A draft copy of this completed form was left with Anita Kottsick at an exit conference on November 10, 2009. 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).



Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of Minnesotans

June 19, 2008

Brian Wings, Administrator
North Branch Comfort of HC LLC HFID 25046
38610 14th Avenue
North Branch, MN 55056

Re: Telephone Interview

Dear Mr. Wings,

The information discussed during a telephone interview conducted by staff of the Minnesota Department of Health, Case Mix Review Program, on May 6, 2008, is summarized in the enclosed documents listed below:

Telephone Interview and Education Assessment form

A summary of the items discussed during the phone interview and a listing of the education provided during the interview

Resource Sheet for Home Care Providers

A listing of web-sites and documents useful to home care providers in assuring compliance with home care regulations

Please note, it is your responsibility to share the information contained in this letter and the information from this interview with your direct care staff and the President of your facility's Governing Body.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at (651) 201-4301.

Sincerely,

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

Jean Johnston, Program Manager
Case Mix Review Program

Enclosure(s)

CMR TELEPHONE 03/08



Class A and Class F Home Care
Telephone Interview and Education Assessment

Registered nurses from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) use this form to document telephone interviews and education of newly licensed Class F and Class A (licensed only) Home Care Providers as well as other providers who have not been surveyed by Case Mix Review staff.

Licensing requirements listed below were reviewed during a telephone interview. Information from this interview along with other data will be considered when making decisions regarding the timing of an on site survey. The noted topics were discussed during the telephone interview and education was provided in the checked areas.

Name of Home Care Licensee: North Branch Comforts of Home Care

HFID #: 25046

Type of License: Class F Home Care

Date of Interview: May 6, 2008

Interview Topic	Item Discussed	Education Provided
Access to information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home Care Rules and Statutes	<input type="checkbox"/> Web address for Home Care Rules and Statutes was sent (MN Statute §144A and MN Rule 4668) <input type="checkbox"/> Web address for Vulnerable Adult Act was sent (MN Statute §626.557) <input type="checkbox"/> Web address for Maltreatment of Minors Act was sent (MN Statute §626.556) <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Nursing web address was sent Sent via: <u>E-mail</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Client Needs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Care needs of clients	<input type="checkbox"/> Home Care licensee is required to have staff sufficient in qualifications and numbers to meet client needs (MN Rule 4668.0050) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided



Interview Topic	Item Discussed	Education Provided
Home Care Bill of Rights	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill of Rights given to clients	<input type="checkbox"/> Current and appropriate version of home care bill of rights required Minnesota Dept. of Health web-site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Advertising	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertising should reflect services provided	<input type="checkbox"/> Includes all forms of advertising MN Rule 4668.0019 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Unlicensed personnel (ULP) who provide direct care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training needed for ULP to be qualified to provide direct care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing education needed for unlicensed personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial training needed MN Rule 4668.0835 Subp. 2 (Class F) <input type="checkbox"/> Competency testing required MN Rule 4668.0835 Subp. 3 (Class F) <input type="checkbox"/> Inservice training MN Rule 4668.0835 Subp. 3 (Class F) <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing infection control training needed MN Rule 4668.0065 Subp. 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Unlicensed personnel (ULP) and medication administration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insulin administration by unlicensed personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> Difference between medication administration and assistance with medication administration. MN Rule 4668.0003 Subp. 2a and Subp. 21a <input type="checkbox"/> Medication reminders – a visual or verbal cue only. MN Rule 4668.0003 Subp. 21b <input type="checkbox"/> ULP limitations with insulin administration MN Rule 4668.0855 Subp. 6 (Class F) <input type="checkbox"/> Prescriber orders required MN Rule 4668.0860 Subp. 2 (Class F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided

Interview Topic	Item Discussed	Education Provided
Role of registered nurse (RN) and licensed practical nurse (LPN)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Need to verify licenses of nurses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RN does assessments <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LPN does monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Difference between RN and LPN role MN Rule 4668.0820 Subp. 2 (Class F) and Minnesota Nurse Practice Act <input type="checkbox"/> Points at which RN assessment is needed - Class F requirements <input type="checkbox"/> RN assessment and change in condition MN Rule 4668.0845 Subp. 2 (Class F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Supervision of unlicensed personnel (ULP)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Requirements for supervision and monitoring of unlicensed personnel	<input type="checkbox"/> RN supervision and LPN monitoring of unlicensed personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Timing of supervision and monitoring MN Rule 4668.0845 (Class F) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Service plan or agreement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contents of Service Plan or Agreement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Person who prepares service plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Differentiate between licensee service plan and county service plan <input type="checkbox"/> Required components of service plan <input type="checkbox"/> Need to review service plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided MN Rule 4668.0815 (Class F)
Protection of health, safety and well being of clients	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Background studies for all staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assessment of vulnerability for all clients	<input type="checkbox"/> Background studies not transferable <input type="checkbox"/> Only DHS background study accepted MN Statute §144A.46 Subd. 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Plan to address identified vulnerabilities required MN Statute §626.557 Subd. 14b <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided
Infection control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis screening prior to direct client contact	<input type="checkbox"/> System for follow up on TB status after hire MN Rule 4668.0065 Subps. 1 & 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yearly infection control inservice required for all staff including nurses MN Rule 4668.0065 Subp. 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided

Interview Topic	Item Discussed	Education Provided
Assisted Living	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arranged providers for assisted living required to follow 144G	<input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Consumer Information Guide must be given to all prospective clients MN Statute 144G.03 Subd. 2b9 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Education Provided

The data used to complete this form was reviewed with Jen Quiram, Housing Director and Raechel Reed, RN, during a telephone interview on May 6, 2008. A copy of this Telephone Interview and Education Assessment form will be sent to the licensee. Any questions about this Telephone Interview and Education Assessment form should be directed to the Minnesota Department of Health, (651) 201-4301. This form will be posted on the MDH web-site. Home care provider general information is available by going to the following web address and clicking on the appropriate home care provider link:

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

Statutes and rules can be viewed on the internet:

<http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/stats> - for Minnesota Statutes

<http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/> - for Minnesota Rules