



*Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of Minnesotans*

Certified Mail # 7008 1830 0003 8091 0938

July 16, 2009

Paul Perlinger, Administrator  
Home Helpers  
2412 East Fifth Street  
Duluth, MN 55812

Re: Results of State Licensing Survey

Dear Mr. Perlinger:

The above agency was surveyed on May 28 and June 1, 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, looped "J" and "N".

Jean Johnston, Program Manager  
Case Mix Review Program

Enclosures

cc: St. Louis 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  
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Class A Licensed-Only 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 A Licensed-Only Home Care Providers. Class A 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 with MDH nurses during an on-site regulatory visit.

During an on-site visit, MDH nurses will interview staff, clients and/or their representatives, make observations and review documentation. The survey is an opportunity for the licensee to describe to the MDH nurse what systems are in place to provide Class A Licensed-Only 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. This form must be used in conjunction with a copy of the Class A Licensed-Only Home Care regulations. Any violations of the Class A licensing requirements are noted at the end of the survey form.

Name of Class A Licensee: HOME HELPERS

HFID #: 26034

Date(s) of Survey: July 1 and 2, 2009

Project #: QL26034002

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>1. The provider accepts and retains clients for whom it can meet the needs.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0140</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MN Rule 4668.0050</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0060 Subp. 3, 4 and 5</li> <li>MN Rule 4668.0180 Subp. 8</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clients are accepted based on the availability of staff, sufficient in qualifications and numbers, to adequately provide the services agreed to in the service agreement.</li> <li>Service plans accurately describe the needs and services and contain all the required information.</li> <li>Services agreed to are provided Clients are provided referral assistance.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p><input checked="" 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><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> <input type="checkbox"/></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 client 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> </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> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p>___ Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p>___ Survey not Expanded</p> <p>___ Met</p> <p><u>X</u> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><u>X</u> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___</p> <p>___ New Correction Order issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p>
<p>3. The provider promotes and protects each client’s safety, property, and well-being.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Statutes §144A.46 Subd. 5(b)</li> <li>• MN Statute §626.556</li> <li>• MN Statutes §626.557</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0035</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Client’s person, finances and property are safe and secure.</li> <li>• All criminal background checks are performed as required.</li> <li>• Clients are free from maltreatment.</li> <li>• There is a system for reporting and investigating any incidents of maltreatment.</li> <li>• Maltreatment assessments and prevention plans are accurate and current.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p>___ Met</p> <p><u>X</u> Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p><u>X</u> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><u>X</u> Survey not Expanded</p> <p>___ Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___</p> <p>___ New Correction Order issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p>
<p>4. The provider maintains and protects client records.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0160</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p>[Note: See Informational Bulletin 99-11 for Class A variance for Electronically Transmitted Orders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Client records are maintained and retained securely.</b></li> <li>• <b>Client records contain all required documentation.</b></li> <li>• Client information is released only to appropriate parties.</li> <li>• Discharge summaries are available upon request.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><u>X</u> Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><u>X</u> Survey not Expanded</p> <p>___ Met</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
<p>Non-compliance with this variance will result in a correction order issued under 4668.0016.]</p>		<p>___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided <b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___ ___ New Correction Order issued ___ Education Provided</p>
<p>5. The provider employs and/or contracts with qualified and trained staff.</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0100</li> <li>• [Except Subp. 2]</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0065</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0060 Subp. 1</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0070</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0075</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0080</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0130</li> <li>• MN Statute §144A.45 Subd. 5</li> </ul> <p>[Note: See Informational Bulletin 99-7 for Class A variance in a Housing With Services Setting. Non-compliance with this variance will result in a correction order issued under 4668.0016.]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff, employed or contracted, have received all the required training.</li> <li>• Staff, employed or contracted, meet the Tuberculosis and all other infection control guidelines.</li> <li>• Personnel records are maintained and retained.</li> <li>• Licensee and all staff have received the required Orientation to Home Care.</li> <li>• Staff, employed or contracted, are registered and licensed as required by law.</li> <li>• Documentation of medication administration procedures are available.</li> <li>• Supervision is provided as required.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded ___ Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___ ___ New Correction Order issued ___ Education Provided</p>
<p>6. The provider obtains and keeps current all medication and treatment orders [if applicable].</p> <p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0150</li> </ul> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0100 Subp. 2</li> </ul> <p>[Note: See Informational Bulletin 99-7 and 04-12 for Class A variance in a Housing With Services setting with regards to medication administration, storage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medications and treatments administered are ordered by a prescriber.</li> <li>• Medications are properly labeled.</li> <li>• Medications and treatments are administered as prescribed.</li> <li>• Medications and treatments administered are documented.</li> <li>• Medications and treatments are renewed at least every three months.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded ___ Met ___ Correction Order(s) issued ___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___ ___ New Correction</p>

Indicators of Compliance	Outcomes Observed	Comments
and disposition. Non-compliance with this variance will result in a correction order issued under 4668.0016.]		Order issued ___ Education Provided
<p>7. The provider is licensed and provides services in accordance with the 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 Subp. 3</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0012</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0060 Subp. 2 and 6</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0180</li> <li>• MN Rule 4668.0220</li> </ul> <p><small>Note: 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.</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language requiring compliance with Home Care statutes and rules is included in contracts for contracted services.</li> <li>• License is obtained, displayed, and renewed.</li> <li>• Licensee's advertisements accurately reflect services available.</li> <li>• Licensee provides services within the scope of the license.</li> <li>• Licensee has a contact person available when a para-professional is working.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Focus Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Expanded Survey</b></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Survey not Expanded</p> <p>___ Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___</p> <p>___ New Correction Order issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p>
<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>___ Met</p> <p>___ Correction Order(s) issued</p> <p>___ Education Provided</p> <p><b>Follow-up Survey #</b> ___</p> <p>___ New Correction Order issued</p> <p>___ 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 survey may result in an expanded survey.

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

For Indicators of Compliance not met, the rule or statute numbers and the findings of deficient practice are noted below.

**1. MN Rule 4668.0030 Subp. 5****INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 2**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to obtain written acknowledgement of the client's receipt of the Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights for one of one client's (#1) record reviewed. The findings include:

Client #1's record lacked evidence the client receiving the bill of rights. When interviewed July 1, 2009, the administrator stated the client was given the bill of right, but he does not have the client sign that they received the bill of rights.

**2. MN Rule 4668.0040 Subp. 2****INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 2**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to ensure the clients received written notice of the complaint procedure for one of one client's (#1) record reviewed. The findings include:

Client #1's record lacked evidence the client received a written copy of the agencies complaint procedure. When interviewed July 1, 2009, the administrator stated he did not give the clients a copy of the agencies complaint procedure.

**3. MN Rule 4668.0065 Subp. 1****INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 5**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to ensure that employees had tuberculosis screening prior to providing direct care to clients for two of two employees (A and B) reviewed. The findings include:

Employee A and B were hired on September 5, 2008, and November 3, 2008 respectively. Employee A and B's records lacked evidence tuberculosis screening had been completed prior to providing direct care. When interviewed July 1, 2009, the administrator confirmed the employee records lacked evidence the tuberculosis screenings had been completed.

**4. MN Rule 4668.0070 Subp. 3****INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 5**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to maintain a job description for two of two employees' (A and B) records reviewed. The findings include:

Employee A, home health aide, began providing services to clients, September 5, 2008. There was no job description for employee A that included the qualifications and responsibilities for the position

Employee B, a registered nurse (RN), began providing services to clients, November 3, 3008. There was no job description for employee B that included the qualifications and responsibilities of the position.

When interviewed July 2, 2009, the administrator confirmed that he had not developed job descriptions for the RN or the home health aide.

#### **5. MN Rule 4668.0075 Subp. 4**

##### **INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 5**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to ensure that employees received orientation to home care requirements before providing home care services to clients for two of two employees' (A and B) records reviewed. The findings include:

Employees A and B were hired to provide home care services on' September 5, 2008, and November 3, 2008, respectively. Employee A's and B's records lacked evidence orientation to home care requirements had been completed. When interviewed July1, 2009, the administrator confirmed orientation to the home care requirements had not been completed.

#### **6. MN Rule 4668.0100 Subp. 9**

##### **INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 1**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to have a registered nurse (RN) supervise unlicensed personnel who perform services that require supervision for one of one client's (#1) record reviewed. The findings include:

Client #1's Service Agreement dated April 6, 2009, indicated the client received assistance with personal cares (bathing, transferring, and toileting). Client #1's record lacked evidence the RN had completed supervisory visits. When interviewed July 1, 2009, the administrator confirmed the client's record lacked documentation of RN supervisory visits.

#### **7. MN Rule 4668.0140 Subp. 2**

##### **INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 1**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to ensure the service agreement was complete for one of one client's (#1) record reviewed. The findings include:

Client #1's service agreement dated April 9, 2009 did not include the fees, the person providing the service, the frequency of supervisory visits and a contingency plan.

When interviewed July 1, 2009, the administrator confirmed the service agreement was not complete.

**8. MN Statute §626.557 Subd. 14(b)****INDICATOR OF COMPLIANCE: # 3**

Based on record review and interview, the licensee failed to ensure a vulnerable adult assessment was completed for one of one client's (#1) record reviewed. The findings include:

Client #1's record lacked evidence a vulnerable adult assessment had been completed. When interviewed, July 1, 2009, the administrator confirmed no vulnerable adult assessment had been completed.

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A draft copy of this completed form was left with Paul Perlinger at an exit conference on July 2, 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 A Licensed-only Home Care Provider general information is available by going to the following web address and clicking on the Class A 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).