

Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

# State Rapid Response Investigative Public Report

Office of Health Facility Complaints

Maltreatment Report #: H52361462M Date Concluded: December 22, 2022

**Compliance #:** H52361930C

Name, Address, and County of Licensee

Investigated:

Benedictine Health Services
935 Kenwood Avenue
Duluth MN 55811
St Louis County

Facility Type: Nursing Home Evaluator's Name: Carol Moroney RN,

**Special Investigator** 

**Finding: Not Substantiated** 

## **Nature of Visit:**

The Minnesota Department of Health investigated an allegation of maltreatment, in accordance with the Minnesota Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults Act, Minn. Stat. 626.557, and to evaluate compliance with applicable licensing standards for the provider type.

# Initial Investigation Allegation(s):

The alleged perpetrator (AP) abused the resident when the AP called the resident "lazy". When the resident yelled and shook a fist at the AP, the AP shook a fist back at the resident.

## **Investigative Findings and Conclusion:**

The Minnesota Department of Health determined abuse was not substantiated. While the AP was heard saying 'don't be lazy,' shook a fist and made a grunting sound, it did not meet the definition of emotional abuse. The AP indicated he put his hand up in a defensive manor, however; did not shake his fist at the resident and denied calling the resident lazy. The AP also stated to have a medical condition which could resemble a grunting noise.

The investigator conducted interviews with facility staff members, including administrative staff, nursing staff, and unlicensed staff. The investigator contacted the resident's family members. The investigation included review of care plan, and progress notes.

The resident resided in a skilled nursing facility. The resident's diagnoses included schizoaffective disorder and anxiety disorder. The resident's care plan included the residents need for assistance with grooming, bating, oral cares, walking, transferring, mobility, and bowel/bladder. The resident was impulsive with needs and desires which required immediate attention.

During the facilities investigation, the AP stated he had a medical condition which could resemble a grunting noise after running down the hall. The AP stated he had helped the resident lie down in bed; he told the resident "This is not the time to be lazy". The AP stated he clearly, he did not call the resident lazy. The AP stated he put his hand up in a defensive manor after the resident put his fist up at him. The facility's intervention included re-education of all staff on maltreatment, on what suspected abuse was, and how to report any suspected abuse immediately.

During an interview with the nursing assistant who reported the event, she stated she could not remember the event or any details about it.

The AP declined to be interviewed.

The client was not able to be interviewed.

The family declined an interview.

In conclusion, the Minnesota Department of Health determined abuse was not substantiated.

#### "Not Substantiated" means:

An investigatory conclusion indicating the preponderance of evidence shows that an act meeting the definition of maltreatment did not occur.

## Abuse: Minnesota Statutes section 626.5572, subdivision 2.

"Abuse" means:

- (b) Conduct which is not an accident or therapeutic conduct as defined in this section, which produces or could reasonably be expected to produce physical pain or injury or emotional distress including, but not limited to, the following:
- (1) hitting, slapping, kicking, pinching, biting, or corporal punishment of a vulnerable adult;
- (2) use of repeated or malicious oral, written, or gestured language toward a vulnerable adult or the treatment of a vulnerable adult which would be considered by a reasonable person to be disparaging, derogatory, humiliating, harassing, or threatening.

Vulnerable Adult interviewed: No. Not able due to cognition.

Family/Responsible Party interviewed: No. Declined.

**Alleged Perpetrator interviewed**: The AP declined to be interviewed. The facilities investigation was complete with the APs interview.

# Action taken by facility:

The facility suspended the AP during the investigation. The AP and all other staff were re-educated appropriately.

# **Action taken by the Minnesota Department of Health:**

No further action taken at this time.

CC:

The Office of Ombudsman for Long Term Care

The Office of Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

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Minnesota Department of Health

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION		(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION  A. BUILDING:		(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED							
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BENEDICTINE HEALTH CENTER  DULUTH, MN 55811												
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	that may result from orders provided that the Department with	hearing on any assessments n non-compliance with these t a written request is made to nin 15 days of receipt of a nt for non-compliance.										
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**Electronically Signed** 

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Minnesota Department of Health