

Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

Office of Health Facility Complaints Investigative Public Report

Maltreatment Report #: HL27377026M Date Concluded: September 22, 2021

Compliance #: HL27377027C

Name, Address, and County of Licensee Investigated:

Inver Grove Heights White Pine II 9058 Buchanan Trail Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077 Dakota County

Facility Type: Home Care Provider Evaluator's Name: Jennifer Segal RN, BSN

Special Investigator

Finding: Substantiated, facility responsibility

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.

Allegation(s):

It is alleged: The facility staff neglected to supervise the client when the staff left the client alone in the bathroom. The client fell and sustained a spinal injury and required surgery.

Investigative Findings and Conclusion:

Neglect was substantiated. The facility was responsible for the maltreatment. The facility determined the client was a high fall risk and was unable to recognize or protect himself from health and safety risks and unable to seek assistance when ill or injured. The client required assistance of staff for toileting and transfers due to blindness. The client's behavior needs were not addressed by lack of communication with unlicensed staff and nurse assessment.

The investigation included interviews with facility staff members, including administrative staff, nursing staff, and unlicensed staff. In addition, the investigator contacted other members of the clients care team outside of the facility. The investigation included a facility tour with additional time actively observing the men's memory care unit. A review of facility documents included

client medical records, facility policies and procedures, incident reports, personnel records, and staff training records.

The client received comprehensive home care services in the men's memory unit for diagnoses that included intellectual disability, glaucoma, legally blind, seizures, depression, anxiety, delusional disorder, and obsessive-compulsive personality disorder. The service plan indicated the client received supervision and assistance with all personal cares including toileting, transferring, ambulating, dressing, escorts to all meals and activities. Also indicated reassurance or safety checks every two hours during each twenty-four-hour period.

The client's nursing assessment indicated he did not recognize or protect himself from health or safety risks and unable to seek assistance when ill or injured. In addition, he had impaired short- and long-term memory and had impaired decision making. His fall risk assessment indicated a score of 10 or higher was a high fall risk. The client's total score was 26. The assessment indicated the contributing areas of risk included intermittent confusion, history of falls, ambulatory, incontinence, and the client was legally blind.

The client's county waiver assessment indicated that the client required assistance with all cares including toileting, mobility, and dressing. The waiver provided payment to the facility for those services. The assessment also indicated the client had cognitive and psychological impairments that required twenty-four-hour supervision.

The client's progress notes indicated the client displayed impulsive behavior while waiting for assistance and had two falls that required help from 2-3 staff to lift him up.

The client nurse's notes indicated one morning, unlicensed personnel (ULP) assisted the client to the bathroom and left the client sitting on the toilet while the ULP left the room. Upon returning to the client's room the ULP found the client lying on the floor in the bathroom. The nurses note indicated two ULPs attempted to stand client up from the floor, but the client was unable to stand and stated, "my legs feel numb." The ULP reported to the nurse there were no apparent injuries and said she thought "its behavioral and not actual." The nurse directed the ULP not to move the client and call 911. The client transported to the hospital. The following day, the nurse called the hospital for report. The nurse indicated the client has a spinal cord injury and pending surgery. Four days later, a hospital updated indicated the client was paralyzed from the waist down and in the intensive care unit. One week later, the client would transfered to a transitional care unit.

Ten weeks following the incident, the client's progress note indicated the client returned to the facility. The client paraplegic (partial or complete loss of lower extremities) required a mechanical total body lift and 2 staff members for all care and mobility. The client admitted to hospice services and later died at the facility.

During an interview with the director of nursing (DON), she indicated she was just beginning employment when the incident occurred and was not involved until weeks after the incident. She indicated retraining was done with staff following the incident.

During an interview with the house manager (HM) she indicated the client was not to be left alone on the toilet.

During an interview with the nurse that was on call the morning of the incident and the following business day, indicated there was not a registered nurse (RN) to consult with the day of the fall and the following days after. She indicated the facility did not have a consistent RN, there was high turnover of nurses and she was limited with what she was able to do within her scope of practice. She described daily challenges without an RN.

During interviews with ULPs, they was reported ULPs trained other ULPs and there was not a consistent RN to direct the ULPs. One ULP stated that she was trained by another ULP that the client "faked" his abilities, he liked attention and often acted like he could not do tasks when he could. All three ULPs reported different experiences in leaving the client alone on the toilet. When asked if the client could pull the cord for assistance each ULP indicated it varied. Sometimes the client would pull the cord, other times the client would holler for help and sometimes the client got up by himself.

The client's record lacked an RN assessment of the client's behaviors and interventions to be implemented by the ULP staff.

In conclusion, neglect was substantiated.

Substantiated: Minnesota Statutes, section 626.5572, Subdivision 19.

"Substantiated" means a preponderance of evidence shows that an act that meets the definition of maltreatment occurred.

Neglect: Minnesota Statutes, section 626.5572, subdivision 17

"Neglect" means:

- (a) The failure or omission by a caregiver to supply a vulnerable adult with care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision which is:
- (1) reasonable and necessary to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult's physical or mental health or safety, considering the physical and mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult; and
- (2) which is not the result of an accident or therapeutic conduct.
- (b) The absence or likelihood of absence of care or services, including but not limited to, food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision necessary to maintain the physical and mental health of the vulnerable adult which a reasonable person would deem essential to obtain or maintain the vulnerable adult's health, safety, or comfort considering the physical or mental capacity or dysfunction of the vulnerable adult.

Vulnerable Adult interviewed: Attempted, unable to participate.

Family/Responsible Party interviewed: No family.

Alleged Perpetrator interviewed: Not Applicable.

Action taken by facility:

Staff called 911 after the fall and had the client transported to the hospital.

Action taken by the Minnesota Department of Health:

The facility was found to be in noncompliance. To view a copy of the Statement of Deficiencies and/or correction orders, please visit:

https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/directory/provcompselect.html, or call 651-201-4890 to be provided a copy via mail or email. If you are viewing this report on the MDH website, please see the attached Statement of Deficiencies.

The responsible party will be notified of their right to appeal the maltreatment finding.

cc:

Dakota County Attorney
Inver Grove Heights City Attorney
Inver Grove Heights Police Department
The Minnesota Board of Nursing
The Office of Ombudsman for Long-Term Care

Minnesota Department of Health

AND PLAN OF CORRECTION (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:		(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING:		COMPLETED				
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	In accordance with 144A.43 to 144A.45 of Health issued a casurvey. Determination of wherequires compliance provided at the state When a Minnesotalitems, failure to combe considered lack. INITIAL COMMENT. ******REVISED****** On August 5, 2020 Health initiated an in HL27377024M /HL2 survey, there were sunder the comprehendations.	Minnesota Statutes, section 32, the Minnesota Department correction order(s) pursuant to the mether a violation is corrected a with all requirements ute number indicated below. Statute contains several apply with any of the items will of compliance. TS: the Minnesota Department of any estigation of complaint 27377025C and 27377025C and 27377027C. At the time of the #28 clients receiving services ensive license.		Minnesota Department of Health is documenting the State Licensing Correction Orders using federal so Tag numbers have been assigned Minnesota State Statutes for Hom-Providers. The assigned tag numappears in the far left column entity Prefix Tag." The state Statute number the corresponding text of the state out of compliance is listed in the "Summary Statement of Deficienc column. This column also includes findings which are in violation of the requirement after the statement, "Minnesota requirement is not met evidenced by." Following the survey findings is the Time Period for Correct PLEASE DISREGARD THE HEAD THE FOURTH COLUMN WHICH STATES, "PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION." THIS APPLIES THE FOURTH COLUMN WHICH STATES, "PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION." THIS APPLIES THE FOURTH ON EACH PAGE. THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT A PLAN OF CORRECTION STATUTES. THE LETTER IN THE LEFT COLUMN THE LETTER IN THE LEFT COLUMN USED FOR TRACKING PURPOS REFLECTS THE SCOPE AND LE ISSUED PURSUANT TO 144A.47	oftware. to e Care ber led "ID ber and Statute les" the e state This as eyors' rection. ON FOR THIS ON FOR TATE JMN IS ES AND VEL			
0 325	144A.44, Subd. 1(a)(14) Free From Maltreatment	0 325	SUBDIVISION 11 (b)(1)(2).				
	Subdivision 1.State	ment of rights. (a) A client who						
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LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE

TITLE (X6) DATE

Minnesota Department of Health

AND DIAN OF CORRECTION INTERPRETATION NUMBER:		(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING:		(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED	
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0 325	in an assisted living chapter 144G has to (14) be free from planeglect, financial exmaltreatment cover	services in the community or facility licensed under	0 325		
	by: Based on observation review, the facility facility facility facility facility facility facilients reviewed (C	ent is not met as evidenced ons, interviews, and document ailed to ensure two of two 1, C3) was free from nd C3 were neglected.		No plan of correction is required for 325. Please see public maltreatment report for details.	•
	Department of Head determination that refacility was response connection with inclassification. The MDH connection with the second connection with the facility.	2021, the Minnesota Ith (MDH) issued a neglect occurred, and that the sible for the maltreatment, in idents which occurred at the oncluded there was a evidence that maltreatment			
0 810 SS=H	Prevention Plan (b) Each home care implement an individence of a services are provider. The plan is review or assessment.	b) Individual Abuse e provider must develop and dual abuse prevention plan for nor or adult for whom home rovided by a home care shall contain an individualized ent of the person's use by another individual,	0 810		

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Minnesota Department of Health

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0 810	including other vuln person's risk of abuse or minors; and state measures to be tak abuse to that personor minors. For purpiplan, the term abuse. This MN Requirements by: Based on interview licensee failed to deappropriate individual (IAPP) for 2 of 2 clicklicensee failed to appropriate individual (IAPP) for 2 of 2 clicklicensee failed to appropriate individualized measured to a protect C1 from a adults and did not individualized measured abuse despite C1's another vulnerable did not include specknown behavior of the toward others. C2's C2 pushed C1 to the fractured hip and reterment to the facility. This practice results violation that harment including serious or a violation that harment including serious or a violation that has serious injury, imparations.	erable adults or minors; the using other vulnerable adults ements of the specific en to minimize the risk of an and other vulnerable adults oses of the abuse prevention e includes self-abuse. ent is not met as evidenced and document review, the evelop and implement all abuse prevention plans ents (C1, C2) reviewed. The opropriately assess C1's abused by other vulnerable; failed to identify interventions abuse by other vulnerable include specific and sures to reduce C1's risk of history of past abuse by adult in the facility. C2's IAPP cific measures to reduce C2's threatening and harmful acts a IAPP was not updated after the floor. C1 sustained a required surgery. C1 did not	0 810			
	a limited number of	lients are affected, more than staff are involved, or the red repeatedly; but is not ve).				

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Minnesota Department of Health

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The findings include:			
C1's medical record was reviewed. C1 had diagnoses that included dementia without behavioral disturbances and chronic kidney disease. C1's service plan dated April 5, 2019, indicated C1 received comprehensive home care services that included medication management, personal cares, mobility, bathroom assistance, and safety checks every two hours. C1's admission assessment dated April 5, 2019, indicated the reason for C1's admission was C1 wandered during the night into another client's room and inappropriately touched a client. The client was moved the following day to the secure men's memory unit. The admission assessment indicated C1 was alert, pleasant and social. Also indicated C1 was confused and displayed impaired decision making.			
C1's vulnerability assessment and prevention plan (VAPP) dated April 5, 2019, indicated C1 was not vulnerable in behaviors that would pose a risk to himself including wandering. The assessment indicated C1 posed a risk to others through inappropriate sexual behaviors due to history of wandering into another client's room and touching a client inappropriately. There were no specific interventions in C1's VAPP staff should use to minimize the risk of abuse to C1 or other vulnerable adults and there were no specific interventions to minimize the risk of inappropriate sexual behaviors or wandering. C1's progress note dated May 19, 2019, for an incident on May 18, 2019, at 10:30 p.m. indicated another client pushed C1 when C1 wandered into another client's room. C1 fell from being pushed			

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STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:		(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING:		(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED		
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	hospitalization and to the facility.	rehabilitation prior to returning				
	'	ted June 4, 2019, at 1:51 p.m. ed to the facility following the 2019.				
	not vulnerable in be to himself including indicated C1 posed inappropriate sexual wandering into anotal a client inappropriate interventions in C1's minimize the risk of vulnerable adults at interventions to minimize the vulnerable adults at interventions to minimize sexual behaviors or new or specific interventions to the C1's risk of harm by	chaviors that would pose a risk wandering. The assessment a risk to others through all behaviors due to history of ther client's room and touching tely. There were no specific s VAPP staff should use to abuse to C1 or other and there were no specific himize the risk of inappropriate wandering. There were no rventions in place to reduce y another vulnerable adult ences of harm while				
	indicated C1 lacked unable to protect hi and safety risks. The was pleasant and salong-term memory did not identify new	sment dated June 4, 2019, I self-preservations skills; was mself against potential health ie assessment indicated C1 ocial. C1 had short and impairments. The assessment interventions for safety ences of harm while				
	12:56 p.m. indicated and went over by the	dated August 6, 2019, at d C1 "got up from dining table elevator and was undoing he hall" staff redirected C1 to				

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Minnesota Department of Health

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:		1 ` ′	CONSTRUCTION	` '	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED	
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0 810	12:40 p.m. indicate inappropriate remothe dining room. An Incident Report 4:00 p.m. indicated to urinate. C2 push was unable to bear taken by ambulanc surgery for a fractuthe facility. C2's medical record diagnoses that include depressive disorded disease) and a histobehavior toward oth secured men's men at the time of admist provided. C2's admission ass 2019, indicated C2 personal cares includressing and medical assessment indicated term memory loss, had impaired decis aggressive with othe C2's VAPP dated C2 posed a risk to othe and a history of ina C2 was "known to be cared to the cared to t	dated August 7, 2019, at d C1 demonstrated val of undergarments while in dated October 27, 2019, at C1 wandered into C2's room ed C1 resulting in a fall. C1 weight in his legs. C1 was e to the hospital. C1 required red hip. C1 did not return to d was reviewed. C2 had uded dementia, major r, and encephalopathy (brain ory of threatening and harmful hers. C2 admitted to the mory care unit. A service plan ssion was requested, not sessment dated October 18, required assistance with uding mobility, toileting, cation administration. The led C2 had dementia, short depression, and anxiety. C2 ion making and was sexually				
	•	sk Assessment dated October that C2 had potential risks				

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		d, agitation, restlessness or exhibited manic or obsessive viors.							
	on October 27, 201 interventions were invulnerable adults from the control of the	updated following the incident 9. No specific measures or nstituted to protect other om C2 despite C2's history to the facility nor following ober 27, 2019.							
	approximately 4:36 (ULP)-B reported the ULP-B recalled specific request more staff a								
	p.m., licensed pract C1 was known to w purpose, looking fo	on October 2, 2020, at 3:37 tical nurse (LPN)-H reported ander, sometimes with a bathroom, or an activity. as a "victim "of the behaviors the men's unit.							
	p.m. with C1's family asking the licensee would protect C1 from reported the license	on October 29, 2020, at 4:12 ly member (FM)-T recalled in May 2019 how the licensee om another injury. FM-T ee discussed placing a stop eter C1 from wandering into a is did not occur.							
	Services," dated Ju licensee RN will ide that could pose risk	toring of Clients and Their ly 16, 2019, indicated the entify vulnerabilities and risks to a client or to other the RN would identify							

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	interventions to add changes would be record and would be record and would be a policy titled "Abus December 16, 2019 have an individualized was implemented a updated with any clidentify client vulne	dress the risks. In addition, any documented in the clients e communicated to staff. See Prevention." dated and a prevention plan that at the time of admission and hanges. The nurse would rabilities and document an all does not be followed to prevent				
	TIME PERIOD OF Days	CORRECTION: Seven (7)				

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