



*Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans*

Electronically delivered  
October 8, 2020

Administrator  
Three Links Care Center  
815 Forest Avenue  
Northfield, MN 55057

RE: CCN: 245450  
Cycle Start Date: August 19, 2020

Dear Administrator:

On September 4, 2020, we notified you a remedy was imposed. On October 7, 2020 the Minnesota Department(s) of Health completed a revisit to verify that your facility had achieved and maintained compliance. We have determined that your facility has achieved substantial compliance as of September 30, 2020.

As authorized by CMS the remedy of:

- Discretionary denial of payment for new Medicare and Medicaid admissions effective October 19, 2020 did not go into effect. (42 CFR 488.417 (b))

In our letter of September 4, 2020, in accordance with Federal law, as specified in the Act at § 1819(f)(2)(B)(iii)(I)(b) and § 1919(f)(2)(B)(iii)(I)(b), we notified you that your facility was prohibited from conducting a Nursing Aide Training and/or Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) for two years from October 19, 2020 due to denial of payment for new admissions. Since your facility attained substantial compliance on September 30, 2020, the original triggering remedy, denial of payment for new admissions, did not go into effect. Therefore, the NATCEP prohibition is rescinded. However, this does not apply to or affect any previously imposed NATCEP loss.

The CMS Region V Office may notify you of their determination regarding any imposed remedies.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas Larson'.

Douglas Larson, Enforcement Specialist  
Minnesota Department of Health  
Licensing and Certification Program

Three Links Care Center

October 8, 2020

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Program Assurance Unit

Health Regulation Division

Telephone: 651-201-4118 Fax: 651-215-9697

Email: [doug.larson@state.mn.us](mailto:doug.larson@state.mn.us)

cc: Licensing and Certification File



*Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans*

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September 4, 2020

Administrator  
Three Links Care Center  
815 Forest Avenue  
Northfield, MN 55057

RE: CCN: 245450  
Cycle Start Date: August 19, 2020

Dear Administrator:

On August 19, 2020, a survey was completed at your facility by the Minnesota Department(s) of Health to determine if your facility was in compliance with Federal participation requirements for skilled nursing facilities and/or nursing facilities participating in the Medicare and/or Medicaid programs.

This survey found the most serious deficiencies in your facility to be widespread deficiencies that constitute no actual harm with potential for more than minimal harm that is not immediate jeopardy (Level F), as evidenced by the electronically delivered CMS-2567, whereby significant corrections are required.

## **REMEDIES**

As a result of the survey findings and in accordance with survey and certification memo 16-31-NH, this Department recommended the enforcement remedy(ies) listed below to the CMS Region V Office for imposition. The CMS Region V Office concurs and is imposing the following remedy and has authorized this Department to notify you of the imposition:

- Discretionary Denial of Payment for new Medicare and/or Medicaid Admissions, Federal regulations at 42 CFR § 488.417(a), effective October 19, 2020.
- Directed plan of correction (DPOC), Federal regulations at 42 CFR § 488.424. Please see electronically attached documents for the DPOC.

The CMS Region V Office will notify your Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) that the denial of payment for new admissions is effective October 19, 2020. They will also notify the State Medicaid Agency that they must also deny payment for new Medicaid admissions effective October 19, 2020.

You should notify all Medicare/Medicaid residents admitted on, or after, this date of the restriction. The remedy must remain in effect until your facility has been determined to be in substantial compliance or your provider agreement is terminated. Please note that the denial of payment for new admissions includes Medicare/Medicaid beneficiaries enrolled in managed care plans. It is

Three Links Care Center

September 4, 2020

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your obligation to inform managed care plans contracting with your facility of this denial of payment for new admissions.

This Department is also recommending that CMS impose:

- Civil money penalty (42 CFR 488.430 through 488.444). You will receive a formal notice from the CMS RO only if CMS agrees with our recommendation.

### **NURSE AIDE TRAINING PROHIBITION**

Please note that Federal law, as specified in the Act at §§ 1819(f)(2)(B) and 1919(f)(2)(B), prohibits approval of nurse aide training and competency evaluation programs and nurse aide competency evaluation programs offered by, or in, a facility which, within the previous two years, has operated under a § 1819(b)(4)(C)(ii)(II) or § 1919(b)(4)(C)(ii) waiver (i.e., waiver of full-time registered professional nurse); has been subject to an extended or partial extended survey as a result of a finding of substandard quality of care; has been assessed a total civil money penalty of not less than \$11,160; has been subject to a denial of payment, the appointment of a temporary manager or termination; or, in the case of an emergency, has been closed and/or had its residents transferred to other facilities.

If you have not achieved substantial compliance by October 19, 2020, the remedy of denial of payment for new admissions will go into effect and this provision will apply to your facility. Therefore, Three Links Care Center will be prohibited from offering or conducting a Nurse Aide Training and/or Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) for two years from October 19, 2020. You will receive further information regarding this from the State agency. This prohibition is not subject to appeal. Further, this prohibition may be rescinded at a later date if your facility achieves substantial compliance prior to the effective date of denial of payment for new admissions.

However, under Public Law 105-15, you may contact the State agency and request a waiver of this prohibition if certain criteria are met.

### **ELECTRONIC PLAN OF CORRECTION (ePOC)**

Within ten (10) calendar days after your receipt of this notice, you must submit an acceptable ePOC for the deficiencies cited. An acceptable ePOC will serve as your allegation of compliance. Upon receipt of an acceptable ePOC, we will authorize a revisit to your facility to determine if substantial compliance has been achieved. The failure to submit an acceptable ePOC can lead to termination of your Medicare and Medicaid participation (42 CFR 488.456(b)).

To be acceptable, a provider's ePOC must include the following:

- How corrective action will be accomplished for those residents found to have been affected by the deficient practice.
- How the facility will identify other residents having the potential to be affected by the same deficient practice.
- What measures will be put into place, or systemic changes made, to ensure that the deficient

practice will not recur.

- How the facility will monitor its corrective actions to ensure that the deficient practice is being corrected and will not recur.
- The date that each deficiency will be corrected.
- An electronic acknowledgement signature and date by an official facility representative.

## DEPARTMENT CONTACT

Questions regarding this letter and all documents submitted as a response to the resident care deficiencies (those preceded by a "F" tag), and emergency preparedness deficiencies (those preceded by an "E" tag), i.e., the plan of correction should be directed to:

**Sarah Grebenc, Unit Supervisor**  
**Metro D Survey Team**  
**Licensing and Certification Program**  
**Health Regulation Division**  
**Minnesota Department of Health**  
**85 East Seventh Place, Suite 220**  
**P.O. Box 64900**  
**Saint Paul, Minnesota 55164-0900**  
**Email: sarah.grebenc@state.mn.us**  
**Phone: (651) 201-3792**  
**Fax: (651) 215-9697**

## PRESUMPTION OF COMPLIANCE - CREDIBLE ALLEGATION OF COMPLIANCE

The facility's ePoC will serve as your allegation of compliance upon the Department's acceptance. In order for your allegation of compliance to be acceptable to the Department, the ePoC must meet the criteria listed in the plan of correction section above. You will be notified by the Minnesota Department of Health - Health Regulation Division staff and/or the Department of Public Safety, State Fire Marshal Division staff, if your ePoC for their respective deficiencies (if any) is acceptable.

## VERIFICATION OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE

Upon receipt of an acceptable ePoC, a Post Certification Revisit (PCR), of your facility will be conducted to validate that substantial compliance with the regulations has been attained in accordance with your verification.

If substantial compliance has been achieved, certification of your facility in the Medicare and/or Medicaid program(s) will be continued and remedies will not be imposed. Compliance is certified as of the latest correction date on the approved ePoC, unless it is determined that either correction actually occurred between the latest correction date on the ePoC and the date of the first revisit, or correction occurred sooner than the latest correction date on the ePoC.

**FAILURE TO ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE BY THE SIXTH MONTH AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE SURVEY**

We will also recommend to the CMS Region V Office and/or the Minnesota Department of Human Services that your provider agreement be terminated by February 19, 2021 if your facility does not achieve substantial compliance. This action is mandated by the Social Security Act at § 1819(h)(2)(C) and 1919(h)(3)(D) and Federal regulations at 42 CFR § 488.412 and § 488.456.

**Please note that this notice does not constitute formal notice of imposition of alternative remedies or termination of your provider agreement. Should the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services determine that termination or any other remedy is warranted, it will provide you with a separate formal notification of that determination.**

**APPEAL RIGHTS**

If you disagree with this action imposed on your facility, you or your legal representative may request a hearing before an administrative law judge of the Department of Health and Human Services, Departmental Appeals Board (DAB). Procedures governing this process are set out in 42 C.F.R. 498.40, et seq. You must file your hearing request electronically by using the Departmental Appeals Board's Electronic Filing System (DAB E-File) at <https://dab.efile.hhs.gov> no later than sixty (60) days after receiving this letter. Specific instructions on how to file electronically are attached to this notice. A copy of the hearing request shall be submitted electronically to:

**[Tamika.Brown@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Tamika.Brown@cms.hhs.gov)**

Requests for a hearing submitted by U.S. mail or commercial carrier are no longer accepted as of October 1, 2014, unless you do not have access to a computer or internet service. In those circumstances you may call the Civil Remedies Division to request a waiver from e-filing and provide an explanation as to why you cannot file electronically or you may mail a written request for a waiver along with your written request for a hearing. A written request for a hearing must be filed no later than sixty (60) days after receiving this letter, by mailing to the following address:

**Department of Health & Human Services  
Departmental Appeals Board, MS 6132  
Director, Civil Remedies Division  
330 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Cohen Building – Room G-644  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
(202) 565-9462**

A request for a hearing should identify the specific issues, findings of fact and conclusions of law with which you disagree. It should also specify the basis for contending that the findings and conclusions are incorrect. At an appeal hearing, you may be represented by counsel at your own expense. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tamika Brown, Principal Program Representative by phone at (312) 353-1502 or by e-mail at [Tamika.Brown@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Tamika.Brown@cms.hhs.gov).

**INFORMAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (IDR) / INDEPENDENT INFORMAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (IIDR)**

In accordance with 42 CFR 488.331, you have one opportunity to question cited deficiencies through an informal dispute resolution process. You are required to send your written request, along with the specific deficiencies being disputed, and an explanation of why you are disputing those deficiencies, to:

Nursing Home Informal Dispute Process  
Minnesota Department of Health  
Health Regulation Division  
P.O. Box 64900  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0900

This request must be sent within the same ten days you have for submitting an ePoC for the cited deficiencies. All requests for an IDR or IIDR of federal deficiencies must be submitted via the web at: [https://mdhprovidercontent.web.health.state.mn.us/lrc\\_idr.cfm](https://mdhprovidercontent.web.health.state.mn.us/lrc_idr.cfm)

You must notify MDH at this website of your request for an IDR or IIDR within the 10 calendar day period allotted for submitting an acceptable electronic plan of correction. A copy of the Department's informal dispute resolution policies are posted on the MDH Information Bulletin website at: [https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/infobulletins/ib04\\_8.html](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/infobulletins/ib04_8.html)

Please note that the failure to complete the informal dispute resolution process will not delay the dates specified for compliance or the imposition of remedies.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Douglas Larson, Enforcement Specialist  
Minnesota Department of Health  
Licensing and Certification Program  
Program Assurance Unit  
Health Regulation Division  
Telephone: 651-201-4118 Fax: 651-215-9697  
Email: doug.larson@state.mn.us

cc: Licensing and Certification File

## **DIRECTED PLAN OF CORRECTION**

A Directed Plan of Correction (DPOC) is imposed in accordance with 42 CFR § 488.424. Your facility must include the following in their POC for the deficient practice cited at F880:

### **DIRECTED PLAN OF CORRECTION - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Address how corrective action will be accomplished for those residents found to have been affected by the deficient practice.
- Address how the facility will identify other residents having the potential to be affected by the same deficient practice.

### **POLICIES/PROCEDURES/SYSTEM CHANGES:**

- The facility's Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement Committee must conduct a root cause analysis (RCA) to identify the problem(s) that resulted in this deficiency and develop intervention or corrective action plan to prevent recurrence.

The Infection Preventionist and Director of Nursing, shall complete the following:

- Review and or develop and implement a policy and procedure for source control masks.
- Review policies regarding standard and transmission based precautions and revise as needed.

### **TRAINING/EDUCATION:**

As a part of corrective action plan, the facility must provide training for the Infection Preventionist, the Director of Nursing, all staff providing direct care to residents, and all staff entering resident's rooms, whether it be for residents' dietary needs or cleaning and maintenance services. The training must cover standard infection control practices, including but not limited to, transmission-based precautions, appropriate PPE use, and donning and doffing of PPE.

- The training may be provided by the Director of Nursing, Infection Preventionist, or Medical Director with an attestation statement of completion.
- The training must include competency testing of staff and this must be documented.
- Residents and their representatives should receive education on the facility's Infection Prevention Control Program as it related to them and to the degree possible/consistent with resident's capacity.
- Online infection prevention training courses may be utilized. The CDC and MDH websites have several infection control training modules and materials.

### **CDC RESOURCES:**

Infection Control Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control.html>

CDC: Isolation Precautions Guideline:

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/isolation/index.html>

CDC: Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare



Settings (2007): <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/isolation/index.html>

CDC: Personal Protective Equipment: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ppe/>

Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control FAQs for COVID-19:

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control-faq.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control-faq.html)

#### **MDH RESOURCES:**

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Infection Control:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/ppe/index.html>

MDH Contingency Standards of Care for COVID-19: Personal Protective Equipment for Congregate Care Settings (PDF): <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/ep/surge/crisis/ppegrid.pdf>

Interim Guidance on Facemasks as a Source Control Measure (PDF):

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/masksource.pdf>

Interim Guidance on Alternative Facemasks (PDF):

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/maskalt.pdf>

Aerosol-Generating Procedures and Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 (PDF):

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/aerosol.pdf>

Droplet Precautions:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/pre/droplet.html>

Airborne Precautions:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/patientsafety/infectioncontrol/pre/droplet.html>

#### **MONITORING/AUDITING:**

- The Director of Nursing, the Infection Preventionist, and other facility leadership will conduct audits of appropriate use of PPE with Transmission Based Precautions i.e. Droplet precautions.
- The Director of Nursing, Infection Preventionist, and other facility leadership will conduct routine audits on all shifts four times a week for one week, then twice weekly for one week once compliance is met. Audits should continue until 100% compliance is met on source control masking for staff, visitors and residents.
- The Director of Nursing, Infection Preventionist, or designee will review the results of audits and monitoring with the Quality Assurance Program Improvement (QAPI) program.

In accordance with 42 CFR § 488.402(f), this remedy is effective 15 calendar days from the date of the enforcement letter. The DPOC may be completed before or after that date. The effective date is not deadline for completion of the DPOC. However, a revisit will not be approved prior to receipt of documentation confirming the DPOC was completed. To successfully complete the DPOC, the facility must provide all of the following documentation identified in the chart below. Documentation should be uploaded as attachments through ePOC.

**Imposition of this DPOC does not replace the requirement that the facility must submit a complete POC for all cited deficiencies (including F880) within 10 days after receipt of the Form CMS 2567.**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Checklist: Documents Required for Successful Completion of the Directed Plan</b>
1	Documentation of the RCA and intervention or corrective action plan based on the results with signatures of the QAA Committee members and members of the Governing Body
2	Documentation that the interventions or corrective action plan that resulted from the RCA was fully implemented
3	Content of the training provided to staff, including a syllabus, outline, or agenda, as well as any other materials used or provided to staff for the training
4	Names and positions of all staff that attended and took the trainings
5	Staff training sign-in sheets
6	Summary of staff training post-test results, to include facility actions in response to any failed post-tests
7	Documentation of efforts to monitor and track progress of the interventions or corrective action plan

In order to speed up our review, identify all submitted documents with the number in the “Item” column.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

PRINTED: 09/15/2020  
FORM APPROVED  
OMB NO. 0938-0391

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION		(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER:  <b>245450</b>	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING _____  B. WING _____		(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED  <b>08/19/2020</b>
NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER  <b>THREE LINKS CARE CENTER</b>			STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE <b>815 FOREST AVENUE NORTHFIELD, MN 55057</b>		
(X4) ID PREFIX TAG	SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (EACH DEFICIENCY MUST BE PRECEDED BY FULL REGULATORY OR LSC IDENTIFYING INFORMATION)	ID PREFIX TAG	PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION (EACH CORRECTIVE ACTION SHOULD BE CROSS-REFERENCED TO THE APPROPRIATE DEFICIENCY)	(X5) COMPLETION DATE	
E 000	Initial Comments  A COVID-19 Focused Infection Control survey was conducted 8/19/20, at your facility by the Minnesota Department of Health to determine compliance with Emergency Preparedness regulations §483.73(b)(6). The facility was in full compliance. Because you are enrolled in ePOC, your signature is not required at the bottom of the first page of the CMS-2567 form.  Although no plan of correction is required, it is required that the facility acknowledge receipt of the electronic documents.	E 000			
F 000	INITIAL COMMENTS  A COVID-19 Focused Infection Control survey was conducted on 8/19/20, at your facility by the Minnesota Department of Health to determine compliance with §483.80 Infection Control. The facility was determined not to be in compliance.  The facility's plan of correction (POC) will serve as your allegation of compliance upon the Department's acceptance.  Because you are enrolled in ePOC, your signature is not required at the bottom of the first page of the CMS-2567 form.  Upon receipt of an acceptable electronic POC, a revisit of your facility will be conducted to validate substantial compliance with the regulations has been attained in accordance with your verification.	F 000			
F 880 SS=F	Infection Prevention & Control CFR(s): 483.80(a)(1)(2)(4)(e)(f)	F 880		9/30/20	

LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE  
**Electronically Signed**

TITLE

(X6) DATE  
**09/14/2020**

Any deficiency statement ending with an asterisk (\*) denotes a deficiency which the institution may be excused from correcting providing it is determined that other safeguards provide sufficient protection to the patients. (See instructions.) Except for nursing homes, the findings stated above are disclosable 90 days following the date of survey whether or not a plan of correction is provided. For nursing homes, the above findings and plans of correction are disclosable 14 days following the date these documents are made available to the facility. If deficiencies are cited, an approved plan of correction is requisite to continued program participation.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

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F 880	<p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>§483.80 Infection Control The facility must establish and maintain an infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable diseases and infections.</p> <p>§483.80(a) Infection prevention and control program. The facility must establish an infection prevention and control program (IPCP) that must include, at a minimum, the following elements:</p> <p>§483.80(a)(1) A system for preventing, identifying, reporting, investigating, and controlling infections and communicable diseases for all residents, staff, volunteers, visitors, and other individuals providing services under a contractual arrangement based upon the facility assessment conducted according to §483.70(e) and following accepted national standards;</p> <p>§483.80(a)(2) Written standards, policies, and procedures for the program, which must include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) A system of surveillance designed to identify possible communicable diseases or infections before they can spread to other persons in the facility;</li> <li>(ii) When and to whom possible incidents of communicable disease or infections should be reported;</li> <li>(iii) Standard and transmission-based precautions to be followed to prevent spread of infections;</li> <li>(iv) When and how isolation should be used for a resident; including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) The type and duration of the isolation,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	F 880			

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F 880	<p>Continued From page 2</p> <p>depending upon the infectious agent or organism involved, and</p> <p>(B) A requirement that the isolation should be the least restrictive possible for the resident under the circumstances.</p> <p>(v) The circumstances under which the facility must prohibit employees with a communicable disease or infected skin lesions from direct contact with residents or their food, if direct contact will transmit the disease; and</p> <p>(vi) The hand hygiene procedures to be followed by staff involved in direct resident contact.</p> <p>§483.80(a)(4) A system for recording incidents identified under the facility's IPCP and the corrective actions taken by the facility.</p> <p>§483.80(e) Linens. Personnel must handle, store, process, and transport linens so as to prevent the spread of infection.</p> <p>§483.80(f) Annual review. The facility will conduct an annual review of its IPCP and update their program, as necessary. This REQUIREMENT is not met as evidenced by: Based on observation, interview and document review, the facility failed to ensure 5 of 5 residents (R2, R3, R4, R5, R6) wore face masks when out of their rooms in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines for COVID-19. This had the potential to affect all 83 residents who resided at the facility.</p> <p>In accordance with the CDC, current recommendations from the MDH Long Term Care (LTC) Toolkit dated 8/14/20, indicated: to prevent</p>	F 880	<p>F000 Facility timely submits this response and plan of correction pursuant to federal and state law requirements. This response and plan of correction are not admissions or an agreement that a deficiency exists or that the statement of deficiency was correctly cited or factually based and it is also not to be construed as an admission against interest of the facility, the administrator or any employees, agents or other individuals who participated in the drafting of who</p>		

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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER  <b>THREE LINKS CARE CENTER</b>			STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE <b>815 FOREST AVENUE NORTHFIELD, MN 55057</b>		
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F 880	<p>Continued From page 3</p> <p>unseen spread of COVID-19 "when a resident leaves their room, they should wear an alternative mask if tolerated and should maintain social distancing of at least six feet from other residents at all times. Residents with respiratory symptoms should remain in their rooms except for medically necessary appointments. Immunocompromised individuals should wear a mask if they have a lingering cough, when they are around any other people."</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 8:30 a.m. infection preventionist (IP) and assistant director of nursing (ADON) indicated in the facility, there were residents on 14 day quarantine due to new admission status and/or had attended an outside appointment. Furthermore, one resident tested positive for COVID-19 on 8/4/20, after being admitted to the hospital. The facility had subsequently implemented COVID-19 testing on all residents and staff. They stated one direct care staff member tested positive for COVID-19 on 8/13/20.</p> <p>R2's admission Minimum Data Set (MDS) dated 5/27/20, indicated R2 was understood and understands with clear comprehension. R2 required extensive assist with most activities of daily living (ADLs) and needed supervision with eating.</p> <p>During observation and interview on 8/19/20, at 10:05 a.m. R2 was observed to self-propel in her wheelchair outside of her room. R2 was observed to not have a mask on. R2 picked up the newspaper at a table in the commons area and began to read. R2 stated she did not have a mask of her own. R2 stated the nurses would probably offer residents a mask if it was required.</p>	F 880	<p>may be discussed or otherwise identified in the same</p> <p>Preparation, submission and implementation of this plan of correction does not constitute an admission of, or agreement with the facts and conclusions in the statement of deficiencies. This plan of correction is prepared and executed as a means to continuously promote and improve quality of care and compliance with all applicable state and federal regulatory requirements and it constitutes the facility's compliance.</p> <p>F880 Upon notification of concerns regarding resident mask wear, clinical coordinators assigned to resident care and Infection Preventionist (IP) developed and implemented the Resident Mask Use Assessment and individualized care plans for all residents including all residents included in the 2567 F880 tag (R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6). The Resident Mask Use Assessment will be completed on admission, with significant changes, and quarterly. The purpose of this assessment is to determine each resident's ability to wear PPE for source control purposes so their care plans may be updated appropriately. Cognitive, behavioral status, and personal choice will be assessed for mask indication. Masks include alternate masks and medical masks depending on supply. Currently Three Links has an adequate supply of masks for resident use. IP will routinely assess PPE supply levels and adjust</p>		

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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER  <b>THREE LINKS CARE CENTER</b>			STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE <b>815 FOREST AVENUE NORTHFIELD, MN 55057</b>		
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F 880	Continued From page 4  R3's quarterly MDS dated 7/5/20, indicated R3 was understood and understands with clear comprehension. R3 required extensive assist with dressing, toileting and hygiene. R3 required supervision with transfers, walking in corridor and locomotion off unit. R3 was independent with bed mobility, eating, locomotion on unit and walking in room.  R4's quarterly MDS dated 7/6/20, indicated R4 was understood and understands with clear comprehension. R4 required total assist with all ADLs except required extensive assistance with eating.  During observation and interview on 8/19/20, at 10:10 a.m. R3 was observed to ambulate in the hallway with a walker and sat down in a chair in the commons area. R4 was already seated in her wheelchair in the same area. R3 and R4 were observed to not have masks on. R3 stated they did not have to wear masks but would if they had to. R4 was unable to comment.  R5's significant change MDS dated 6/10/20, indicated R5 was usually understood and usually understands. R5 comprehends most conversation. R5 required extensive assist with ADLs except required total assist with eating.  During observation on 8/19/20, at 11:45 a.m. R5 was observed to sit in her wheelchair at the crossroads commons area. R5 was observed to cough and did not cover her mouth. There was an unidentified resident on the other side of the table.  During interview on 8/19/20, at 11:57 a.m. nursing	F 880	ordering based on needs. Nurses completing the assessment will update the care plan and Kardex to address indications for resident masking.  Review of resident mask practices with root cause analysis on results from routine audits will be completed with QAPI committee monthly for three months or until satisfactory compliance is achieved, whichever is longest. A policy for source control PPE use will be developed by IP and Director of Nursing. The IP and Director of Nursing will review and revise Three Links' transmission based precautions policy.  The IP will conduct audits routinely on PPE use with transmission based precautions and source control use on all shifts four times a week for one week, then twice weekly for one week. Audits will continue until 100% compliance is met on control for staff, residents, and visitors. Results will be reviewed with the QAPI committee.  Education and training with competency including review of policies, forms, and expectations regarding deficiency concern, infection control practices, and PPE for transmission based precautions and source control will be completed for all nursing home staff. Residents will receive education on use of PPE for source control if possible and/or consistent with the residents' degree of capacity.		

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F 880	<p>Continued From page 5</p> <p>assistant (NA)-A stated residents were not required to wear masks when out of their rooms unless they are on isolation, high risk or 14 day quarantine.</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 12:02 p.m. registered nurse unit coordinator (RN)-A stated residents in the hallway should be encouraged to wear a mask every day. RN-A was unsure who had already been offered a mask and had refused. RN-A was unsure if any assessments were done on the residents to determine contraindications to wearing a mask (i.e. trouble breathing, unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove mask without assistance).</p> <p>R6's quarterly MDS dated 6/10/20, indicated R6 was understood and understands with clear comprehension. R6 required extensive assist with ADLs except was independent with locomotion on/off unit and eating. R6 required supervision with hygiene.</p> <p>During observation and interview on 8/19/20, at 12:32 p.m. R6 was observed to self-propel in his wheelchair in the hallway without a mask on. R6 stated sometimes he would wear a mask outside of his room. R6 stated no one had offered him one today.</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 12:40 p.m. unit coordinator RN-B stated R5 had a chronic cough. RN-B stated R5 might wear a mask if staff put one on her but had not tried. RN-B stated R3 would probably not want to wear a mask but had not asked him today. RN-B stated there is no way to know if residents had been offered a mask.</p>	F 880	The administrator or designee will be responsible for compliance on this tag by September 30th, 2020.		



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES

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F 880	<p>Continued From page 6</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 12:42 p.m. licensed practical nurse (LPN)-A stated R4 could wear a mask but was not sure if one had been offered.</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 12:47 p.m. trained medication aide (TMA)-A stated R2 and R6 would probably wear a mask if offered. TMA-A stated had not assisted residents with masks in the hallway today as masks were only required during quarantine.</p> <p>During interview on 8/19/20, at 12:54 p.m. IP stated the expectation was for staff to encourage residents to wear masks outside of their room. IP stated they had no shortage of masks for staff or residents.</p> <p>Facility memo, dated 8/7/20, directed staff to assist the residents in donning a surgical mask while outside of their room. Another memo dated 8/8/20 directed staff to offer cloth masks to residents.</p>	F 880			