

Division of Health Service Regulation

STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION	(X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: MHL098-187	(X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING: _____ B. WING _____	(X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED 07/10/2019
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NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER STEPPING STONES COMMUNITY RESOURCE	STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 3904 AIRPORT DRIVE, BUILDING 1, SUITE A WILSON, NC 27896
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(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) COMPLETE DATE
V 000	<p>INITIAL COMMENTS</p> <p>An annual and complaint survey was completed on July 10, 2019. The complaint was unsubstantiated (intake #NC00153064). Deficiencies were cited.</p> <p>This facility is licensed for the following service category: 10A NCAC 27G .4400 Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program and 10A NCAC 27G .4500 Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment.</p>	V 000		
V 366	<p>27G .0603 Incident Response Requirments</p> <p>10A NCAC 27G .0603 INCIDENT RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS FOR CATEGORY A AND B PROVIDERS</p> <p>(a) Category A and B providers shall develop and implement written policies governing their response to level I, II or III incidents. The policies shall require the provider to respond by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) attending to the health and safety needs of individuals involved in the incident; (2) determining the cause of the incident; (3) developing and implementing corrective measures according to provider specified timeframes not to exceed 45 days; (4) developing and implementing measures to prevent similar incidents according to provider specified timeframes not to exceed 45 days; (5) assigning person(s) to be responsible for implementation of the corrections and preventive measures; (6) adhering to confidentiality requirements set forth in G.S. 75, Article 2A, 10A NCAC 26B, 42 CFR Parts 2 and 3 and 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164; and (7) maintaining documentation regarding Subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(6) of this Rule. <p>(b) In addition to the requirements set forth in</p>	V 366		

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LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE _____ TITLE _____ (X6) DATE _____

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V 366	<p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>Paragraph (a) of this Rule, ICF/MR providers shall address incidents as required by the federal regulations in 42 CFR Part 483 Subpart I.</p> <p>(c) In addition to the requirements set forth in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, Category A and B providers, excluding ICF/MR providers, shall develop and implement written policies governing their response to a level III incident that occurs while the provider is delivering a billable service or while the client is on the provider's premises. The policies shall require the provider to respond by:</p> <p>(1) immediately securing the client record by:</p> <p>(A) obtaining the client record;</p> <p>(B) making a photocopy;</p> <p>(C) certifying the copy's completeness; and</p> <p>(D) transferring the copy to an internal review team;</p> <p>(2) convening a meeting of an internal review team within 24 hours of the incident. The internal review team shall consist of individuals who were not involved in the incident and who were not responsible for the client's direct care or with direct professional oversight of the client's services at the time of the incident. The internal review team shall complete all of the activities as follows:</p> <p>(A) review the copy of the client record to determine the facts and causes of the incident and make recommendations for minimizing the occurrence of future incidents;</p> <p>(B) gather other information needed;</p> <p>(C) issue written preliminary findings of fact within five working days of the incident. The preliminary findings of fact shall be sent to the LME in whose catchment area the provider is located and to the LME where the client resides, if different; and</p>	V 366		

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V 366	<p>Continued From page 2</p> <p>(D) issue a final written report signed by the owner within three months of the incident. The final report shall be sent to the LME in whose catchment area the provider is located and to the LME where the client resides, if different. The final written report shall address the issues identified by the internal review team, shall include all public documents pertinent to the incident, and shall make recommendations for minimizing the occurrence of future incidents. If all documents needed for the report are not available within three months of the incident, the LME may give the provider an extension of up to three months to submit the final report; and</p> <p>(3) immediately notifying the following:</p> <p>(A) the LME responsible for the catchment area where the services are provided pursuant to Rule .0604;</p> <p>(B) the LME where the client resides, if different;</p> <p>(C) the provider agency with responsibility for maintaining and updating the client's treatment plan, if different from the reporting provider;</p> <p>(D) the Department;</p> <p>(E) the client's legal guardian, as applicable; and</p> <p>(F) any other authorities required by law.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on record review and interview, the facility failed to implement policy and document their response to Level III incidents. The findings are:</p>	V 366		

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V 366	<p>Continued From page 3</p> <p>Review on 7/9/19 of the agency's meeting minutes dated 6/29/19 revealed: -An allegation of sexual relationships between Former Staff (FS) #7 and female group members.</p> <p>Review on 7/9/19 of the Incident Response Improvement System (IRIS) revealed no submission of a Level III incident.</p> <p>Review on 7/9/19 of facility records revealed no incidents of Level III allegations which involved FS #7.</p> <p>Review on 7/10/19 of facility policy Section 1.K: Rights of Persons Served revealed: Policy: -"Facility shall implement its service delivery system in a manner to insure compliance with the following if applicable: Protection of Abused, Neglected or Exploited Adult N.C.G.S. 108a-50 through 108A-162, Screening of Abuse, and Neglect for Juveniles N.C.G.S. 74A-542 through 74A-552, North Carolina General Statute's 122C-51, 122C-57 through 122C-62." Procedures Related to Suspected Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation: -"Person with first-hand knowledge will then notify the Division of Social Services."</p> <p>Interview on 7/10/19 with the Owner/LCAS (Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist) revealed: -She was the first to learn of the allegation. -She had completed a Level I per the MCO's (managed care organization) instructions and did not understand she should have reported an allegation of abuse as a Level III report.</p>	V 366		
V 367	27G .0604 Incident Reporting Requirements	V 367		

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V 367	<p>Continued From page 4</p> <p>10A NCAC 27G .0604 INCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CATEGORY A AND B PROVIDERS</p> <p>(a) Category A and B providers shall report all level II incidents, except deaths, that occur during the provision of billable services or while the consumer is on the providers premises or level III incidents and level II deaths involving the clients to whom the provider rendered any service within 90 days prior to the incident to the LME responsible for the catchment area where services are provided within 72 hours of becoming aware of the incident. The report shall be submitted on a form provided by the Secretary. The report may be submitted via mail, in person, facsimile or encrypted electronic means. The report shall include the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) reporting provider contact and identification information; (2) client identification information; (3) type of incident; (4) description of incident; (5) status of the effort to determine the cause of the incident; and (6) other individuals or authorities notified or responding. <p>(b) Category A and B providers shall explain any missing or incomplete information. The provider shall submit an updated report to all required report recipients by the end of the next business day whenever:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the provider has reason to believe that information provided in the report may be erroneous, misleading or otherwise unreliable; or (2) the provider obtains information required on the incident form that was previously unavailable. <p>(c) Category A and B providers shall submit,</p>	V 367		

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V 367	<p>Continued From page 5</p> <p>upon request by the LME, other information obtained regarding the incident, including:</p> <p>(1) hospital records including confidential information;</p> <p>(2) reports by other authorities; and</p> <p>(3) the provider's response to the incident.</p> <p>(d) Category A and B providers shall send a copy of all level III incident reports to the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services within 72 hours of becoming aware of the incident. Category A providers shall send a copy of all level III incidents involving a client death to the Division of Health Service Regulation within 72 hours of becoming aware of the incident. In cases of client death within seven days of use of seclusion or restraint, the provider shall report the death immediately, as required by 10A NCAC 26C .0300 and 10A NCAC 27E .0104(e)(18).</p> <p>(e) Category A and B providers shall send a report quarterly to the LME responsible for the catchment area where services are provided. The report shall be submitted on a form provided by the Secretary via electronic means and shall include summary information as follows:</p> <p>(1) medication errors that do not meet the definition of a level II or level III incident;</p> <p>(2) restrictive interventions that do not meet the definition of a level II or level III incident;</p> <p>(3) searches of a client or his living area;</p> <p>(4) seizures of client property or property in the possession of a client;</p> <p>(5) the total number of level II and level III incidents that occurred; and</p> <p>(6) a statement indicating that there have been no reportable incidents whenever no incidents have occurred during the quarter that meet any of the criteria as set forth in Paragraphs (a) and (d) of this Rule and Subparagraphs (1)</p>	V 367		

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V 367	<p>Continued From page 6 through (4) of this Paragraph.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on record review and interviews the facility failed to ensure Level III incidents were reported to the Managed Care Organization (MCO). The findings are:</p> <p>Review on 7/9/19 of the agency's meeting minutes dated 6/29/19 revealed: -An allegation of sexual relationships between FS (Former Staff) #7 and female group members.</p> <p>Review of IRIS (Incident Response Improvement System) system on 7/10/19 revealed: -No Level III incident report to reflect the allegation which involved FS #7 and sexual misconduct with female clients in the program.</p> <p>Interview on 7/10/19 revealed: -Owner/LCAS (Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist) confirmed an IRIS report was not completed. -The Owner/LCAS did not submit/complete a Level III incident because she did not substantiate the allegations against FS #7.</p>	V 367		
V 500	<p>27D .0101(a-e) Client Rights - Policy on Rights</p> <p>10A NCAC 27D .0101 POLICY ON RIGHTS RESTRICTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS (a) The governing body shall develop policy that assures the implementation of G.S. 122C-59, G.S. 122C-65, and G.S. 122C-66. (b) The governing body shall develop and implement policy to assure that:</p>	V 500		

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V 500	<p>Continued From page 7</p> <p>(1) all instances of alleged or suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of clients are reported to the County Department of Social Services as specified in G.S. 108A, Article 6 or G.S. 7A, Article 44; and</p> <p>(2) procedures and safeguards are instituted in accordance with sound medical practice when a medication that is known to present serious risk to the client is prescribed. Particular attention shall be given to the use of neuroleptic medications.</p> <p>(c) In addition to those procedures prohibited in 10A NCAC 27E .0102(1), the governing body of each facility shall develop and implement policy that identifies:</p> <p>(1) any restrictive intervention that is prohibited from use within the facility; and</p> <p>(2) in a 24-hour facility, the circumstances under which staff are prohibited from restricting the rights of a client.</p> <p>(d) If the governing body allows the use of restrictive interventions or if, in a 24-hour facility, the restrictions of client rights specified in G.S. 122C-62(b) and (d) are allowed, the policy shall identify:</p> <p>(1) the permitted restrictive interventions or allowed restrictions;</p> <p>(2) the individual responsible for informing the client; and</p> <p>(3) the due process procedures for an involuntary client who refuses the use of restrictive interventions.</p> <p>(e) If restrictive interventions are allowed for use within the facility, the governing body shall develop and implement policy that assures compliance with Subchapter 27E, Section .0100, which includes:</p> <p>(1) the designation of an individual, who has been trained and who has demonstrated</p>	V 500		

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V 500	<p>Continued From page 8</p> <p>competence to use restrictive interventions, to provide written authorization for the use of restrictive interventions when the original order is renewed for up to a total of 24 hours in accordance with the time limits specified in 10A NCAC 27E .0104(e)(10)(E);</p> <p>(2) the designation of an individual to be responsible for reviews of the use of restrictive interventions; and</p> <p>(3) the establishment of a process for appeal for the resolution of any disagreement over the planned use of a restrictive intervention.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on record review and interviews, the facility failed to report the allegation of abuse to the Department of Social Services. The findings are:</p> <p>Review on 7/9/19 of the agency's meeting minutes dated 6/29/19 revealed: -An allegation of sexual relationships between Former Staff (FS) #7 and female group members.</p> <p>Interview on 7/10/19 with Owner/LCAS (Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist) stated: -She became aware of the allegation on 6/27/19. -Owner/LCAS confirmed a report was not made to the local Department of Social Services</p>	V 500		