

Division of Health Service Regulation

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| STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION | | (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: MHL076-145 | (X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING: _____ B. WING: _____ | (X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED C 12/12/2024 |
| NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER A BETTER PATH, INC | | STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 2106 NEWELL STREET RAMSEUR, NC 27316 | | |
| (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>A complaint survey was completed on 12/12/24. The complaint was unsubstantiated (intake #NC00224087). A deficiency was cited.</p> <p>This facility is licensed for the following service category: 10A NCAC 27G .1700 Residential Treatment Staff Secure for Children or Adolescents.</p> <p>This facility is licensed for 3 and has a current census of 3. The survey sample consisted of audits of 1 current client and 1 former client.</p> | V 000 | | |
| V 298 | <p>27G .1706 Residential Tx. Child/Adol - Operations</p> <p>10A NCAC 27G .1706 OPERATIONS</p> <p>(a) Each facility shall serve no more than a total of 12 children and adolescents.</p> <p>(b) Family members or other legally responsible persons shall be involved in development of plans in order to assure a smooth transition to a less restrictive setting.</p> <p>(c) The residential treatment staff secure facility shall coordinate with the local education agency to ensure that the child's educational needs are met as identified in the child's education plan and the treatment plan. Most of the children will be able to attend school; for others, the facility will coordinate services across settings such as alternative learning programs, day treatment, or a job placement.</p> <p>(d) Psychiatric consultation shall be available as needed for each child or adolescent.</p> <p>(e) If an adolescent has his 18th birthday while receiving treatment in the facility, he may remain for six months or until the end of the state fiscal year, whichever is longer.</p> <p>(f) Each child or adolescent shall be entitled to</p> | V 298 | | |

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LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE

TITLE

(X6) DATE

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| V 298 | <p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>age-appropriate personal belongings unless such entitlement is counter-indicated in the treatment plan.</p> <p>(g) Each facility shall operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week, and each day of the year.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on record review and interviews, the facility allowed a client to remain in the facility in excess of the maximum allowed time of six months following clients 18 th birthday or until end of the state fiscal year affecting one of one audited current client (#1). The findings are:</p> <p>Review on 12/11/24 of client #1's record revealed: -Readmission date was 11/21/24. -Diagnoses of Disruptive Mood Dysregulation Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. -She was 18 years old when readmitted on 11/21/24. -She was under the guardianship of the Department of Social Services (DSS) in her home county prior to 18 th birthday.</p> <p>Interview on 12/11/24 with client #1 revealed: -She returned to the facility in November 2024. -She was discharged from the facility in October 2024. -She was discharged because she went to an independent living facility when she turned 18.</p> <p>Interviews on 12/11/24 and 12/12/24 with the Qualified Professional revealed: -Client #1 was discharged from the facility in October 2024 and returned in November 2024.</p> | V 298 | | |

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| V 298 | Continued From page 2 -While client #1 was on therapeutic leave at her mother's house in October 2024, she was told she could not return to a Better Path, Inc. by her home county Department of Social Services (DSS) guardian. -Client #1's DSS guardian told them client #1 needed to be discharged from the facility because they were no longer paying for her treatment and care. -Client #1's mother and sister called in November 2024 and asked if she could return to the facility. -They were still providing outpatient services for client #1 even though she no longer lived at the facility prior to her moving back in November 2024. -She thought it was ok for client #1 to move back into the facility even though she was 18. | V 298 | | |