pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
MAILING DATE: June 23, 2017

Mr. Jonathan Swatsburg
Divisional Vice President
2840 Liberty Avenue, Suite 300
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

RE: Cornell Abraxas Group, Inc.
1 Dakota Dorm 4
165 Abraxas Road
Marienville, Pennsylvania 16239
License #: 406800

Dear Mr. Swatsburg:

As a result of the Department of Human Services' licensing inspection on May 10, 2017, of the above facility, the violations with 55 Pa.Code Ch. 2600 (relating to Personal Care Homes) specified on the enclosed License Inspection Summary were found.

All violations specified on the enclosed License Inspection Summary must be corrected by the dates specified on the License Inspection Summary and continued compliance with 55 Pa.Code Ch. 3800 must be maintained.

Sincerely,

Carlos Alejandre
Human Services Licensing Supervisor

Enclosure
Licensing Inspection Summary

VIOLATION REPORT
CHILD RESIDENTIAL LICENSING - 55 Pa.Code §3800

Facility Name: ABRAXAS 1 DAKOTA DORM 4	**License Number:** 40680
Address: 165 ABRAXAS ROAD, MARIENVILLE, PA 16239	**County:** Forest
Director: James Town	**Region:** WEST

Legal Entity Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP INC

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Legal Entity Address: 2840 LIBERTY AVENUE SUITE 300, PITTSBURGH, PA 15222

Certificate(s) of Occupancy

Program Type: Residential	**Licensed Capacity:** 30	**Number of Children Served:** 29
Type of Inspection: Partial	**BHA Docket Number:**	**Notice:** Unannounced

Reason(s) for Inspection(s)
Incident

On-site Inspection Dates and Department Representatives On-Site:
5/10/2017: Alejandre, Carlos; Murphy, Kelli

Off-Site Inspection Dates and Inspectors, if Applicable:

Other Details **Partial or Full Triggers:**	**Random Indicators:**

Child Demographic Data as of Inspection Dates

Age of Children: **0 to 5 years:** 0 **6 to 13 years:** 1 **14 to 17 years:** 18 **18 to 21 years:** 10	**Number of Children who:** **Are Adjudicated Delinquent:** 25 **Are Dependednt:** 4 **Have Mental Illness:** 0 **Have an Intellectual Disability:** 0 **Have a Physical Disability:** 0

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Human Services Licensing

Licensing Inspection Summary: 40680 - 05/10/2017 - Alejandre, Carlos
Facility Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP INC ABRAXAS 1 DAKOTA DORM 4

1. REGULATION 55 Pa.Code §3800
3800.32(b) - A child may not be abused, mistreated, threatened, harassed or subject to corporal punishment.

2a. DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION
Per both footage and interviews on [redacted] Staff Member A used his/her forearm and placed pressure on the front side of Resident #1's neck. Staff Member A and Resident #1 then transitioned to the office. Per both footage and interviews Resident #1 sat in the office while Staff Member A continuously yelled at Resident #1.

3. PLAN OF CORRECTION (POC) (Attach pages as necessary. Remember that you must sign and date any attached pages.)
Include steps to correct the violation described above and steps to prevent a similar violation from occurring again. If steps cannot be completed immediately, include dates by which the steps will be completed.

On [redacted], Abraxas I received notification from the ChildLine and Abuse Registry that the alleged abuse investigation (Referral #7806849) completed by Western Region OCYF was Unfounded. Abraxas I then initiated an Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) internal investigation on Staff Member A. On [redacted] the OPR Investigation sustained the improper use of Safe Crisis Management (SCM). On [redacted] Staff Member A was issued a first level discipline for the improper use of SCM.
By [redacted], Staff Member A will complete refresher training on Client Interventions. [redacted] will also complete a 4 hour SCM refresher training. During monthly supervision for the next three months, Staff Member A and his supervisor will discuss effective de-escalation skills.
During the bi-annual SCM refresher training with all employees in July 2017, the trainers will place additional emphasis on effective de-escalation and the appropriate time to initiate a physical intervention with a client. The Abraxas I Leadership Team will also continue to review each physical intervention and focus on the effective use of SCM during Physical Intervention Review Board (PIRB) meetings.

Repeat Violation: No	Date(s) of Previous Violation(s):			

Signature of Legal Entity Representative (Required on EVERY Page)

Printed Name and Title of Legal Entity Representative (Required on EVERY Page): Jonathan P. Swatsburg, Divisional Vice President — Date: 6/16/2017

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The above plan of correction is approved as of 6/21/17 (Date)

The above plan of correction was approved by _____ (Initials)

Plan of correction implementation status as of 6/21/17 (Date)

- ☐ Fully Implemented
- ☒ Partially Implemented - Adequate Progress
- ☐ Partially Implemented - Inadequate Progress
- ☐ Not Implemented

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JUN 16 2017

Licensing Inspection Summary: 40680 - 05/10/2017 - Alejandre, Carlos
Facility Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP INC ABRAXAS 1 DAKOTA DORM 4

WEST REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
Human Services Licensing

1. REGULATION 55 Pa.Code §3800

3800.32(n) - A child may not be subjected to unusual or extreme methods of discipline which may cause psychological or physical harm to the child.

2a. DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION

Per interviews and the facility's documentation Resident #2 stated in a safety concern meeting on [redacted] that he/she wanted to "blow his/her brains out or go shoot up a preschool." Staff Member B addressed this statement by printing out and showing to Resident #2 a picture of deceased children. Resident #2 stated he/she felt traumatized by this experience.

3. PLAN OF CORRECTION (POC) (Attach pages as necessary. Remember that you must sign and date any attached pages.)

Include steps to correct the violation described above and steps to prevent a similar violation from occurring again. If steps cannot be completed immediately, include dates by which the steps will be completed.

On [redacted], the Facility Director completed a supervisory conference with Staff Member B to review this regulation and discuss how the decision to show a photo of this nature was not in the best interest of the client's mental and emotional well-being.

Resident #2 met with the facility's contracted psychiatrist on [redacted] and [redacted] During each meeting with the psychiatrist, Resident #2 was offered the opportunity to speak about the trauma he allegedly felt from the cited experience. [redacted] declined to talk about the experience with the psychiatrist stating, "It's not a big deal". Resident #2 will continue to see the psychiatrist on a monthly basis and be offered therapy around the alleged trauma [redacted] felt from this experience.

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Printed Name and Title of Legal Entity Representative (Required on EVERY Page): Jonathon P. Swatsburg, Divisional Vice President

Date: 6/16/2017

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Licensing Inspection Summary: 40680 - 05/10/2017 - Alejandre, Carlos
Facility Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP INC ABRAXAS 1 DAKOTA DORM 4

1. REGULATION 55 Pa.Code §3800

3800.202(b) - With the exception of exclusion as specified in § 3800.212 (relating to exclusion), a restrictive procedure may be used only to prevent a child from injuring himself or others.

2a. DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION

Per the facility's documentation and interviews, during a safety concern meeting on [redacted] Resident #2 "became angry with team members for challenging his/her thinking, stood up from his/her chair and quickly turned toward the D&A Program Manager as though he/she may physically attack him/her. (Resident #2) was immediately placed in a multiple person extended arm by (Staff Member B) and (Staff Member C). (Resident #2) remained in standing only SCM approved physical intervention techniques for the duration of the 10 minute physical intervention."

All interviews confirmed Resident #2 never made physical contact with anyone else prior to the implementation of the restrictive procedure.

3. PLAN OF CORRECTION (POC) (Attach pages as necessary. Remember that you must sign and date any attached pages.)

Include steps to correct the violation described above and steps to prevent a similar violation from occurring again. If steps cannot be completed immediately, include dates by which the steps will be completed.

Abraxas I respectfully disagrees with the Bureau of Human Services Licensing Representative's decision to cite the facility for Staff Members B and C initiating an emergency safety physical intervention with Resident #2 on [redacted]. Regulation 3800.202(b) states, "With the exception of exclusion as specified in 3800.212 (relating to exclusion), a restrictive procedure may be used only to prevent a child from injuring [redacted] or others." Staff Members B and C placed Resident #2 in the least restrictive approved Safe Crisis Management (SCM) technique to prevent [redacted] from injuring [redacted] or others, as Resident #2 began to swing [redacted] arm in an attempt to hit a staff member. Additionally, regulation 3800.202(b) does not state physical contact with someone else must be made prior to the implementation of a restrictive procedure. The employees were using their judgment to protect a staff person from being injured as the resident began to aggressively swing [redacted] arm toward the staff person.

However, by July 31, 2017, Staff Members B and C will complete SCM refresher training, focusing specifically on de-escalation and when it is appropriate to initiate a physical intervention.

During the bi-annual SCM refresher training with all employees in July 2017, the trainers will place additional emphasis on effective de-escalation and the appropriate time to initiate a physical intervention. The Abraxas I Leadership will also continue to review each physical intervention and focus on the effective use of SCM during Physical Intervention Review Board (PIRB) meetings.

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Signature of Legal Entity Representative (Required on EVERY Page)				
Printed Name and Title of Legal Entity Representative (Required on EVERY Page)	Jonathan P Swaksburg, Divisional Vice President		Date	6/16/2017

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