

Department of Human Services
Office of Children, Youth and Families
Licensing Inspection Summary - Public
55 PA.CODE CHAPTER 3800

August 1, 2024

[REDACTED], CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, INC.
2840 LIBERTY AVENUE, SUITE 300
PITTSBURGH, PA, 15226

RE: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, INC.
ABRAXAS 1 EXPLORER DORM 5
165 ABRAXAS ROAD
MARIENVILLE, PA, 16239
LICENSE/COC#: 41126

Dear [REDACTED],

As a result of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families review on of the above facility, we have determined that your submitted plan of correction is fully implemented. Continued compliance must be maintained.

Please note that you are required to post this Licensing Inspection Summary at your facility in a conspicuous location.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
Western Region Director

cc: Pennsylvania Office of Children, Youth and Families

Agency/Facility Information

Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, INC.-ABRAXAS 1-EXPLORER DORM 5

License Number: 41126

Address: 165 ABRAXAS ROAD, MARIENVILLE, PA 16239

License Expiration: 06/01/2024

County: FOREST

Administrator

Name: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Legal Entity

Name: CORNELL ABRAXAS GROUP, INC.

Address: 2840 LIBERTY AVENUE, SUITE 300, PITTSBURGH, PA, 15226

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Inspection Information

Start Date: 03/01/2024

End Date: 05/02/2024

Type: Complaint

Notice: Announced Visit

Inspector(s): [REDACTED]

Inspection Narrative

During complaint investigations conducted at the facility, violations of child rights were identified. These violations are further explained below.

Inspections / Reviews

03/01/2024 Complaint

Lead Inspector: [REDACTED]

Follow-Up Type: POC Submission

Follow-Up Date: 05/15/2024

07/29/2024 - POC Submission

Reviewer: [REDACTED]

Follow Up Type: On site Verification

Follow Up Date: 08/01/2024

07/29/2024 On site Verification

Submitted By: [REDACTED]

Date Submitted: 05/15/2024

Reviewer: [REDACTED]

Follow Up Type: Not Required

3800.32 Specific Rights

1. Requirements

3800.32.b. A child may not be abused, mistreated, threatened, harassed or subject to corporal punishment.

Description of Violation

During the course of an investigation, it was determined that Child A, Child B, and Child C were abused by Staff A. These incidents occurred over time, beginning in November 2023 and ending in March 2024.

The agency shall submit a written plan of correction which identifies how they will prevent this from occurring in the future. This could include increased training and mentoring of staff regarding recognition of inappropriate interactions, professional courage, and use of appropriate reporting channels when concerns arise.

Plan of Correction

Accept ([REDACTED]) - 07/29/2024)

In February and March 2024, employees working in Explorer dorm completed two trainings, totaling three hours, relating to employee-client boundaries and professional expectations. Two hours of the training was facilitated by the Executive Director; one hour was an online training provided by the Abraxas Training Department. Information from the Employee-Client Relationships Policy was reviewed during this training.

Beginning May 15, 2024, the Leadership Team will begin conducting and documenting video surveillance checks on various days, shifts, and in various locations. The Executive Director outlined the expectations for frequency and duration of video surveillance checks on a log to be completed following each observation. Live and retrospective camera footage will be observed and documented, to include any recommended actions to address concerns noted in the observation (e.g., supervision, coaching, investigation). The Executive Director will monitor the completion of the log and bring the log to the Leadership Team meeting monthly for analysis by the group.

By May 17, 2024, the Executive Director will discuss with the Program Managers a process for obtaining supervisory approval for staff members being relieved from shift early during the 3pm-11pm shift. Staff members will not be permitted to leave early unless the unit Treatment Supervisor or On-duty Supervisor determines adequate supervision ratios will be maintained on the unit and clients are settled and asleep for the night. By May 31, 2024, Program Managers will meet with Treatment Supervisors to discuss the process for obtaining supervisory approval for staff members leaving shift early.

On Wednesday, May 22, 2024, the Executive Director and PREA Compliance Manager will facilitate the annual PREA refresher training for the entire Explorer dorm staff team. Special emphasis will be placed on identifying sexual abuse/harassment, mandated reporting responsibilities, establishing and maintaining appropriate boundaries with clients, and professional courage (e.g., talking to a supervisor or manager if another employee has unhealthy boundaries with a client; talking to a supervisor or manager if another employee is intervening inappropriately with a client). The Abraxas Child Abuse Reporting Policy will also be reviewed during this training.

By June 28, 2024, after reviewing and analyzing several weeks of camera footage, the Leadership Team will document the process for completing camera checks, collecting and analyzing the data, and developing corrective action plans when necessary, in the Client Supervision Policy.

The Executive Director is responsible for monitoring and overseeing this plan of correction.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date: 06/28/2024

3800.32 Specific Rights (continued)**On-site Verification****Implemented ([REDACTED] - 08/01/2024)**

On 08/01/2024 a POC verification meeting was held. Files were reviewed to verify the POC was executed. The plan has been implemented