



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES

COMMISSIONER
Howard G. Baldwin, Jr

February 20, 2012

Jennifer Miller
P O Box 87
Liberty Hill, TX 78642

Operation #050218
Meridell Achievement Center

Investigation # 1705842

Dear Ms. Miller:

Your operation, Meridell Achievement Center located at 12550 West Hwy. 29, Liberty Hill, TX 78642, was recently investigated because the Department received a report concerning possible deficiency or deficiencies of the Minimum Standard Rules or the law.

Specifically, the report states the following that led to this investigation:

A resident was involved in an altercation and it is unknown if there was adequate supervision.

The applicable laws, administrative rules or Minimum Standard rules have been evaluated and findings are below:

Inspection Start Date	Standard/Rule Description	Specifics	Deficient?	Comply By	TA Given
01/03/2012	HRC42.056(g) BGC-persons cannot provide direct care/have direct access to children without all required background checks unless they meet certain criteria.		N		N
01/03/2012	748.685(a)(4) Caregiver responsibility - providing the level of supervision necessary to ensure each child's safety and well-being		N		N
01/03/2012	748.1003(a) Child/caregiver ratio-Caregiver may care for 5 children if any require tx svcs, 8 children if not; children under 5 yrs old count as 2 children	In interviews with direct care personnel, it was stated that one caregiver was responsible for 6 to 7 residents when the altercation took place.	Y	02/29/2012	Y
01/03/2012	748.1011 Child/caregiver ratio-Includes only qualified caregivers working directly with a child or group of children		N		N
01/03/2012	748.1009(a) Child/caregiver ratio-Must employ an adequate number of caregivers to meet children's needs and consider amount of supervision needed		N		N

	748.685(a)(1) Caregiver responsibility - knowing which children they are responsible for	In interviews conducted with staff personnel, primarily the nurse assigned to work on the day in question, it was stated that the nurse did not have an assigned number of residents to care for on that particular day.	Y	02/29/2012	Y
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The Technical Assistance provided for these standards described below:

Standard/Rule Description	Technical Assistance Given
748.1003(a) Child/caregiver ratio-Caregiver may care for 5 children if any require tx svcs, 8 children if not; children under 5 yrs old count as 2 children	The operation is advised to ensure that ratios between residents and caregivers meet the minimum standard of 5 residents to 1 caregiver if any resident requires treatment services.
748.685(a)(1) Caregiver responsibility - knowing which children they are responsible for	The operation is advised to insure that adequate communication to all staff takes place in order to minimize incidents such as this in the future. If the operation is going to rely on nurses to serve as caregivers, the operation will have to formulate a plan to provide supervision for the residents assigned to the nurse when the nurse is carrying out nurse's duty.

If an inspection was conducted as part of this investigation, you received an inspection report form.

Failure to maintain compliance on an ongoing basis may result in remedial actions.

If you disagree with the actions or decisions of the licensing staff, you may request an administrative review within 15 days of the receipt of this letter by writing Willie Salas, RCCL, MC 278-5 PO BOX 23990 San Antonio, Texas 78223-0990, FAX 210-304-7747

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If you have any other questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

DANIEL MONTEZ
Licensing Representative
(512) 834-3248 x1022

Enclosure(s):

cc: Jennifer Miller
P O Box 87
Liberty Hill, TX. 78642