



**Mississippi Department of Mental Health Home and Community-Based Services
Heightened Scrutiny Evaluation**

Summary Sheet

Provider Name	Brandi's Hope
Setting Name	Remington II
Setting Address	
	Gulfport, MS 39503
Original Site Assessment Date	10/17/2018
Validation Date	06/26/2020

Setting Type

- Supervised Living
- Shared Supported Living
- Supported Living
- Day Services – Adult
- Day Habilitation
- Prevocational Services
- Community Services

Heightened Scrutiny Category

- Located in a building that is also a publicly or privately operated facility that provides inpatient institutional treatment (such as a hospital, nursing facility, ICF/IID, or IMD);
- Located in a building on the grounds of, or adjacent to, a public institution; or
- Has the effect of isolating individuals receiving Medicaid home- and community-based services (HCBS) from the broader community of individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS

Setting Description
This setting is located a neighborhood surrounded by similar homes. There are 3 additional homes in the immediate area owned and operated by this provider. This setting is a residential home similar in size and style to other residences in the neighborhood. The setting has similar fencing to other homes in the neighborhood.

Summary of Initial Assessment Findings	10-17-2018
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- 1B) The site is surrounded by a privacy fence.
- 1E) There are four other homes in the area operated by Brandi's Hope Community Services.
- 1F) The home is one of four in the area that serve people with disabilities.
- 2C) It was unclear whether people are offered options when choosing a setting.
- 3B) Furnishings were observed to be broken at the time of the assessment.
- 3D) The setting does not ensure that health information is only discussed with the person or those authorized.
- 3E) Activities such as personal hygiene, blood pressure readings, and medication management are not provided in private.
- 3F) Individual schedules are not kept private.
- 3I) While there was evidence to demonstrate that staff have access to each person's plan, it was unclear how the setting ensures that the plans are carried out.
- 3K) The setting does not offer a secure place for each person to store their belongings.
- 3L) It was unclear if individuals are informed of their rights upon admission and annually thereafter.
- 3M) It was unclear if people are informed of the process for filing grievances or complaints upon admission and annually thereafter.
- 4E) It was unclear whether or not people have access to private dining.
- 4H) The site does not support people to access their money or vote.
- 5F) Staff could not provide information to the assessor regarding how to make changes or requests for additional services.
- 6A) Staff was not sure if people living at the setting have a lease.
- 7A) People do not have keys to their rooms.
- 9A) There is no sign in/sign out procedure for visitors.
- 9B) Staff was not sure if the setting had limitations on when people can have visitors.
- 11C) People have to run errands with others if there is only one staff on shift, as they cannot be left home unattended.
- 11I) One person interviewed said he does not know who to call if he has a problem.
- 11L) People do not have a way to keep valuables locked up.
- 11P) People cannot eat where they want at the setting.
- 11Q) People have assigned seats.
- 11R) People have certain bedtimes and wake up times.
- 11Y, Z) One person interviewed does not have a key to the house but would like one.
- 12B) People do not have keys to their bedrooms.
- 12D) People have to go on errands or do activities when they do not want to due to staffing – if there is one staff on shift, everyone has to go.
- 12I) One person cannot access his own money.

Heightened Scrutiny Compliance Narrative with Provider Input	06-26-2020
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1B, 1E, & 1F) The provider stated backyard of the setting is surrounded by a privacy fence. He stated the fencing is for privacy only and is like fencing at other homes in the neighborhood. The provider stated the gates are latched, not locked, and are accessible to individuals in the setting. The provider stated each of Brandi's Hope's settings are operated independently with dedicated staff and transportation. The provider said each setting has its own activity calendar and schedule of outings.

2C) The provider stated individuals receive information on services, options, and availability at Brandi's Hope's settings as well as other resources in the community. The provider stated this information is reviewed with individuals on an ongoing basis determined by their wants, needs, goals, and abilities as documented in the PSS. The provider stated they have advocated for many people to move to a lesser amount of support in their residential settings and utilized non-disability specific housing.

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3B) The provider stated the worn, damaged, and broken furniture in the setting have been replaced. The provider stated policies regarding requesting replacement furniture in the settings has been reviewed with caregivers. The provider stated caregiver training included criteria for replacing worn or damaged items in the setting and how to make the request.

3D, 3E, & 3F) The provider stated they have implemented a policy of keeping individuals' binders stored in a locked cabinet. He said staff has access to the information, but binders are kept in a secured area when not in use. The provider stated this policy is reviewed with staff as part of the weekly training meetings. Additionally, the provider said the privacy policy also addresses the importance of having confidential conversations with individuals in private areas. The provider said they will continue to reinforce this policy with staff during weekly meetings and as part of their annual training. The provider stated they will utilize the weekly team meetings to train staff on how, when, and where personal care services including medication management will be provided. The provider stated individuals in the setting have private rooms where many personal care services can be provided. The provider stated policies on individuals' right to privacy have been updated and staff and individuals will be trained on these policies.

3I) The provider stated individuals' PSS and binder at kept at the setting and staff have access to the information. The provider stated a person-centered approach has been instated throughout the settings. He said the person-centered plans includes individual's wants, needs, goals, preferences, likes, and dislikes. He said staff has access to these plans and meet with management regularly to stay up to date on the individuals.

3K, 7A, 11L, 11Y, 11Z, & 12B) The provider stated individuals are given the option to have a key to their bedroom door during admission. He stated even if an individual waives their right to a locking bedroom door and key, they have the right to request a key locked bedroom door at any time. He said this gives individuals a way to secure their valuables. He said individuals were trained on how to utilize the locks. He said key locks were added to all bedroom doors and information on this right was added to the admission agreement.

3L, 3M, 11I) The provider stated the house manager reviews individual rights with each individual upon admission and annually thereafter. He explained individuals are also given a copy of the grievance policy during admission. He said this policy is reviewed with the individual during admission and annually thereafter. He said this frequency was added to the training manuals and policies for house managers. He said the policy was discussed in a weekly staff meeting and will be reviewed annually. The provider said the grievance policy and process will be reviewed with individuals on a regular basis including providing a phone number to file a grievance.

4E, 11P, 11Q) The provider stated policies on meal and individuals' rights to privacy have been updated to include the individuals' rights to have their meals privately. The provider said these rights will continue to be discussed with individuals. The provider stated staff will be reminded during the weekly management meeting of individuals' right to eat privately, not at the table with the group, including in their bedroom or backyard.

4H, 11C, 11R, 12D, & 12I) The provider stated staff are trained to get to know individuals by reviewing their person-centered plan and getting to know their individual wants, needs, preferences, and goals. The provider stated staff members meet monthly with management regarding the individuals they serve. The provider stated they now staff to accommodate an individual's request to remain home or opt out of an activity or errand in the community. The provider stated individuals are given the opportunity to set their own schedules including wake up and bedtimes. The provider said staff has been trained to make sure individuals have access to their money upon request. When an election timeline draws near all individuals will be given notice of upcoming elections and provided information on the election and candidates as well as their right to vote. The provider said staff will support individuals who wish to vote. The policy will be covered with staff in weekly meetings as well as additional trainings annually and in election years.

5F) The provider stated individuals are regularly asked about their satisfaction with their current services. He said staff are trained during their weekly management meetings on the importance of listening to the wants, needs, desires, and goals of the individuals. He said they review this policy during weekly training meetings with staff. He said individuals are informed of their right to request a change in any services they are receiving at any time. Additionally, individuals are informed of their right to participate in their planning meetings and to include anyone of their choosing (family, friends, etc.) to participate in those meetings.

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6A) The provider stated individuals in the setting have a rental agreement which is signed by the individual or their representative. The provider stated the agreement is reviewed with the individual on an annual basis. The provider stated the individual or representative is given a copy of their rental agreement upon admission and annually thereafter.

9A, 9B) The provider stated they do not have set visiting policy. He said individuals are free to have visitors in “their home” at any time unless a risk assessment has determined a limitation must be set. He said any risk assessment or determination of limitation is included in the individual’s plan. He said staff always has access to this information. He stated visitors are allowed in individuals’ bedrooms by invitation of the individual. He said they have informed individuals and staff of the need to be respectful of other individuals in the setting. He stated doors to the setting are unlocked during daylight hours allowing visitors to access the setting without assistance. The provider said individuals are educated on this policy during admission and in ongoing conversations. The provider said the issue of visitors is reviewed during the weekly staff meeting and will be reviewed monthly.

Evidence submitted to DMH for review: P&P; staff training; staffing; ASP example; choice and control instructions; door; PCT training; transportation (fleet log)

Compliance Summary

Compliant?	Federal Requirement	Summary of Evidence of Compliance
<p><i>42 CFR 441.304(c)(4)(i)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>The setting is integrated in and supports full access of individuals receiving Medicaid HCBS to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community, to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS. 42 C.F.R. § 441.304(c)(4)(i).</p>	<p>Individuals are supported to participate in opportunities and activities, including employment, in the community. Individuals are supported to manage their personal resources. Individuals are offered learning opportunities on topics including budgeting and money management.</p>
<p><i>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(ii)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable</p>	<p>The setting is selected by the individual from among setting options including non-disability specific settings and an option for a private unit in a residential setting. The setting options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the individual's needs, preferences, and for residential settings, resources available for room and board. <i>Id.</i> § 441.301(c)(4)(ii).</p>	<p>Individuals have opportunities to choose from non-disability specific settings. Documentation of these choices and the discussions are included in the individual's person-centered service plan.</p>
<p><i>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(iii)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>The setting ensures an individual's rights of privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint. <i>Id.</i> § 441.301(c)(4)(iii).</p>	<p>Individuals are given a copy of their rights upon admission and information is posted in the setting. Rights are reviewed with individuals on an annual basis. Staff are required to complete ongoing training on individuals' rights.</p>
<p><i>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(iv)</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>	<p>The setting optimizes, but does not regiment, individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in</p>	<p>Individuals are supported to spend their time with whomever they choose and participating in whichever activities they enjoy. Staff have access to individuals' person-centered plans.</p>

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<input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No	making life choices, including but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact.	
42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(v) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No	The setting facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them.	Individuals have the choice of staff who provide his/her services, supports, and personal care. Individuals have the opportunity to adjust their work or daily activities. Staff support individuals to make a request for additional services or to make changes to their Activity Support plans.
42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(vi)(A) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	The unit or dwelling is a specific physical place that can be owned, rented, or occupied under a legally enforceable agreement by the individual receiving services, and the individual has, at minimum, the same responsibilities and protections from eviction that tenants have under the landlord-tenant law of the State, county, city or other designated entity. For settings where landlord-tenant laws do not apply, a lease, residency agreement, or other form of written agreement is in place for each HCBS participant providing protections that address eviction processes and appeals comparable to those provided under the jurisdiction's landlord-tenant law.	Each person in the setting has a rental agreement that is signed by the individual. Most rents are HUD or Section 8 subsidized.
42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(vi)(B) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	Each individual has privacy in their sleeping or living unit: (1) Units have entrance doors lockable by the individual, with only appropriate staff having keys to doors. (2) Individuals sharing units have a choice of roommates in that setting. (3) Individuals have the freedom to furnish and decorate their sleeping	Individuals in the setting have keys to their bedroom and the setting. Individuals are supported to decorate their bedroom as they choose and to their taste.

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	or living units within the lease or other agreement.	
<p>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(vi)(C)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	Individuals have the freedom and support to control their schedules and activities and have access to food any time.	Individuals in the setting have access to food at all times. Individuals have full access to the kitchen including the stove/oven. Individuals also have the option to eat at restaurants within the community. Individuals are not required to eat at the dining room table. The setting removed any assumed policies prohibiting individuals from eating in their rooms or other areas of the home and completed staff training. Individuals were also educated on this change.
<p>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(vi)(D)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	Individuals are able to have visitors of their choosing at any time.	Individuals can have visitors at the home any time of their choosing. The setting completed a remediation plan to update the individual rights policy to include dignity of risk and self-determination when it comes to making choices about their relationships with others. Individuals were educated and informed on their rights to meet with visitors privately as they choose. The setting also trained staff on these practices and removed other blanket restrictions such as no visitors of the opposite sex in the individual's room. Staff were educated on these procedures. All staff will be trained upon hire, and these practices will continue to be discussed at regular staff meetings throughout the year. Documentation of these trainings is included in staff education binders.
<p>42 CFR § 441.301(c)(4)(vi)(E)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	The setting is physically accessible to the individual.	The home was observed to be physically accessible to all individuals living in the home. The home included handheld showers and grab bars in the bathroom. Should an individual need any assistive devices, the setting would support the individual in providing what was needed.