

**NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM BOARD
NURSING HOME OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

September 22, 2020

3:00 PM

Conference Call

Present:	X	Jeff Zriny	X	Kurt Gibbs	X	Paul Gilk
	X	Cindy Rider	EXC	Pat Voermans	ABS	Bob Weaver

Others: Jason Hake

Staff: Michael Loy, Jarret Nickel, Kim Gochanour, Jill Meschke, Zach Zieseemer, Ryan Hanson, Kristin Woller

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Public Comment for Matters Appearing on the Agenda

- None

ACTION: Approval of August 25, 2020 Nursing Home Operations Committee Minutes

- **Motion**/second, Gibbs/Rider, to approve the August 20, 2020 Nursing Home Operations Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report – J. Meschke

- In August Mount View Care Center showed a gain of \$223,000 with a year to date gain of \$1.3 million compared to budgeted gain of \$15,000. During August additional Cares Act funding was received in the amount of \$283,000. Total Cares Act funding received to date is \$1.3 million; without these funds Mount View would be at an \$11,000 loss year to date. Census averaged 154/day compared to budget of 183/day. The majority of the patient revenue loss was due to volume variance not rate variance.
- Pine Crest showed a gain of \$762,000, which includes \$242,000 in Cares Act funds, with a year to date gain of \$818,000 compared to a break neutral position. Year to date Cares Act funding totals \$917,000; without these funds Pine Crest would be at a loss of \$99,000 year to date. Medicare census was down however rate variance was good. Direct expense and salaries are both favorable.
- It is unknown if additional Cares Act funds will be received.

Nursing Home Operations Reports

- Mount View Care Center Operations Report was reviewed by Kristin Woller; highlights include:
 - Stayed about the same for openings with RN's and CNA's, gained two hospitality assistants, and a respiratory therapist but lost a central supply coordinator in August due to retirement.

- Patient Experience only 8 of 45 responses received; 87.5% overall experience which is above target.
 - August had the lowest number of falls for one month in the last 2 years.
 - Readmission rate in August was quite high at 50%. We anticipate this number to decrease in September as the Rehab unit is no longer on enhanced precautions.
 - Two state survey visits occurred in August i.e. a focus infection control survey and a follow-up visit due to plan of correction from an event in May. No citations received; we were found in compliance.
 - C. Rider congratulated the nursing home teams for a great job in very stressful times.
- Pine Crest Nursing Home Operations Report was received by Zach Ziesemer
 - Saw uptick in vacancy rate due to occasional staff who have not picked up shifts in a while being removed from the system.
 - Patient experience fell below target. Have restarted outdoor visits which feel will have a positive impact. Also small group activities were fewer. With new guidelines from CMS and DHS will relook at coordinating activities and helping improve patient experience scores.
 - Decrease in falls from July to August. One resident who had multiple falls in July was moved to a special care unit which has helped reduce the number of falls.
 - Decrease in hospitalizations; discovered there was education needed for both staff and family.
 - Surveyors were on site twice; a focused infection control survey and in response to a self-report. No concerns noted with either survey.
 - Referrals trend was a little lower than usual; 21 did not admit. To decrease agency costs limited number of long term care beds were available.
 - Regarding referrals, it was asked if Pine Crest is part of the network with Aspirus. It is but there is an issue with the federal ID number being tied to Lincoln County so we need to migrate to its own tax ID number. Will ask our new corporation counsel, Dejan Adzic, to review.

Nursing Home Industry Updates – K. Gochanour

- Anticipating 2.2% increase to the average Medicaid rate for 7/1/2020-6/30/2021. Will share how it directly impacts us when more information is available.
- Notified by CMS about mandatory testing for all employees working in long term care and determined by our County infection rate. Initially in a monthly testing, however, with increases in Covid positive tests we are in weekly testing. First round of testing begins 9/28. Biggest issue is supply chain and obtaining the tests. Will be communicating regularly with our regulatory agency if challenges to obtain tests occur.
- Had surveyors on site on a complaint survey dated February. Do not have a plan from CMS on when annual surveys will commence again due to lack of PPE they are requiring their staff to wear.
- Because we had Covid positive residents and employees, we've been chosen by Great Lakes Superior Alliance (formerly Metastar), and are now required to do regular audits for six weeks and show improvement that will be submitted to CMS and share findings. Our focus is on hand hygiene, PPE, and mask and goggle compliance.

- All 4 floors have been poured. Parking lot is completely under construction to be completed in October. Adjusted patio visits due to challenges in parking.
- Working on a transition plan for moving portion of Lake View Heights residents as construction begins for MMT early in 2021. Waiting on confirmation of dates before moving forward.
- Planning is occurring regarding testing of individuals who consistently come into the building i.e. family members, hospice agencies, etc. for end of life visits.
 - Testing results should be a 48 hour turnaround to be in regulatory compliance.

Completion of Pine Crest Transfer – J. Nickel

- Began transitioning Pine Crest to North Central Health Care in September 2019 which included:
 - Approval from appropriate Boards
 - Hiring an Administrator
 - Changing Therapy Services
 - Providing Manager Orientation
 - Completing IT Assessments
 - Transitioning Laundry Services
 - Onboarding Employees
 - Setting up Billing
 - Providing SafetyZone Training
 - Completing Pharmacy Transition
- From the review of financials, after countless hours to complete the transition, including the oversight of this committee, the transition has provided stability and a future for Pine Crest. There has been significant benefit from this transition for both organizations and we continue to review opportunities for collaboration between Pine Crest and Mount View Care Center. The transfer is now considered to be complete.

Future Agenda Items and Meeting Schedule

- Monthly committee meetings were established as the transition of Pine Crest to NCHC was occurring. Now that the transition has ended the question was presented to the Committee about the value and frequency of meeting moving forward.
- Following discussion, **motion**/second, Gibbs/Rider, that the Nursing Home Operations Committee move to meet on a bi-monthly basis, skipping the October meeting, and meeting next November 24, 2020. Staff are welcome to forward information to the Committee members between meetings and additional meetings can be scheduled as need arises. Motion carried with Gilk opposed.

Adjourn

- **Motion**/second, Gibbs/Gilk, to adjourn the meeting at 3:48 p.m. Motion carried.