

HCBS Final Rule Evidentiary Package



Benedictine Asher Haus

Setting information

Setting name: Benedictine Asher Haus

Street address: 717 1st Street North Cold Spring, MN 56320

Phone: 320-348-2356

ID # pending

Setting website, if applicable:

Benedictine Living Cold Spring

Date of site visit: 8/30/2024

Waiver service type

Waiver	Service type
☐ Elderly Waiver (EW)	Customized living service
☐ Brain Injury (BI)	
☐ Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI)	
☑ Private pay or other third-party insurance	
□ Pending HCBS service provider, not approved for waiver funding pending heightened scrutiny determination.	

Reason for heightened scrutiny

Prong type	Name of institution
Prong 1 Located in a Public or Private Institution	Benedictine Assumption Home

Note: The term people/person (resident for residential settings) refers to people receiving customized living services.

General summary

Geographic information:

Benedictine Asher Haus is a licensed Assisted Living Facility providing customized living with memory care services. This setting is located in the Benedictine Living Community, a senior living community in Cold Spring, MN. Cold Spring is located in central Minnesota, just north of the Twin Cities Metro area in Stearns County. As of the last available census in 2020, Cold Spring had a population of 4,164 people.

The campus is located in a primarily suburban area, with easy access to nearby local businesses, churches and schools.

Number of people served:

Asher Haus had 22 residents at the time of the site visit. This provider is applying to be an HCBS provider for this setting so they can begin to serve people on the Elderly Waiver, so there no people using an Elderly, CADI or BI waiver for their customized Living services.

Customized living provider standards/qualifications

Licensure requirements and other state regulations for customized living services clearly distinguish these services/settings from institutional licensure or regulations.

Customized Living settings must have an Assisted Living license through the MN Department of Health and meet all of the requirements and standards of the Assisted Living licensure, Minn. Stat. 144G or meet an exemption under Mn Statute 256S.20 Subdivision 1. Customized Living services provide an individualized package of regularly scheduled health-related and supportive services provided to a person who resides in a qualified setting with an assisted living license.

Customized living service definitions that support the setting requirements

Customized living (CL) and 24-hour CL services include component services designed to meet the person's assessed needs and goals. Individualized CL services may include supervision, home care aide tasks (e.g., assistance with activities of daily living), home health aide task_(e.g., delegated nursing tasks), home management tasks, meal preparation and service, socialization, assisting enrollees with arranging meetings and appointments, assisting with money

management, assisting participants with scheduling medical and social services, and arranging for or providing transportation. If socialization is provided, it must be part of the service plan, related to established goals and outcomes and not diversional or recreational in nature.

For more details about the component services, including what is covered and distinctions between each see the following resource on the CBSM:

Link: <u>Customized living component service definitions and guide for computing time for rate-setting tools.</u>

Minnesota's Community Based Services Manual (CBSM) provides the following requirements for customized living services:

Link: CBSM: Customized living (including 24-hour customized living)

HCBS Rule requirement	Compliance determination
Interconnectedness between the facility and the setting in question, including administrative or financial interconnectedness, does not exist or is minimal.	Compliant
Validation methods:	
☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.	
☑ State license requirements: As required under Mn Statute 144G.10, "Each assisted living facility must employ an assisted living director licensed or permitted by the Board of Executives for Long Term Services and Supports."	
Narrative:	
Benedictine Asher Haus in one of several settings on their continuity of care campus. It is a separate building from the skilled nursing facility, but they are connected by a hallway.	
Per interview with the Licensed Assisted Living Director (LALD), the campus administrator has authority over all the settings on the campus. However, the customized living setting has its own Licensed Assisted Living Director, who has authority over the nursing and direct care staff in the customized living setting. The skilled nursing facility has separate management, nursing and direct care staff than Benedictine Asher Haus.	

To the extent any facility staff are assigned occasionally or on a limited basis to support or back up the HCBS staff, the facility staff are cross trained to meet the same qualifications as the HCBS staff.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- ☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with direct care staff.
- ⊠ Review of training policy and procedure(s).
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under Mn Statute 144G.60, "All staff persons providing assisted living services must be trained and competent in the provision of services consistent with current practice standards appropriate to the resident's needs and promote and be trained to support the assisted living bill of rights."

Narrative:

During interviews, LALD and staff reported that some staff work in more than one of the settings on campus, but never work at more than one setting at the same time. All staff receive training on the Home and Community Based Services rule at orientation and then annually going forward. Staff confirmed that they must complete training modules every year on the resident's rights. The module is an EduServe training, whose learning points were reviewed, and the description includes all the requirements of Assisted Living Bill of Rights and HCBS rule information.

Participants in the setting in question do not have to rely primarily on transportation or other services provided by the facility setting, to the exclusion of other options.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \square Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with direct care staff.
- ⊠ Review of transportation policy and procedure(s).
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under Mn Statute 144G.41, "Upon request of the resident, the assisted living must provide direct or reasonable assistance with arranging for transportation to medical and social services appointments, shopping, and other recreation, and provide the name of or other identifying information about the persons responsible for providing this assistance."

Narrative:

During interviews, staff and administrators indicated that the residents have a variety of transportation options to choose from. The setting uses their own bus and van to transport residents into the community. Tri-CAP (TRI County Action Program) offers low cost, on demand rides to community like a Dial-A-Ride service to members in Benton, Sherburne and Stearns counties. Tri-CAP also coordinates rides for people that are provided by volunteers. Residents or their authorized representative are given this information at the time of move-in and staff are available to assist them any time they need assistance with transportation. Because this is a memory care facility, staff stated in interviews that family members usually take the residents to appointments. Observed one of the setting vehicles in the front parking lot. Observed residents being dropped off and picked up in the front area by family members and friends.



Blue and white Benedictine 13 passenger van



Black and white Faith in Action van us.

The setting provides HCBS services in a space that is distinct from the space that institutional services are provided.

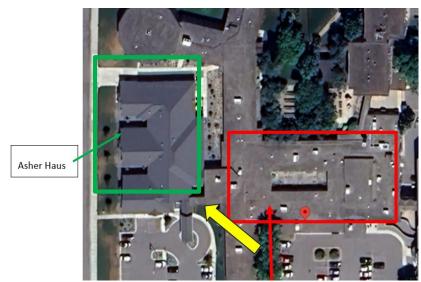
Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Observation of the distinction of the separate spaces.
- □ Aerial photo and/or photos identifying the separation of settings.

Narrative:

Benedictine Asher Haus provides customized living services in a building that is separate from the skilled nursing facility. In this aerial view, the Benedictine Assumption Home, the skilled nursing facility is indicated by the red rectangle. Benedictine Assumption Court is indicated by the green rectangle. The yellow arrow indicates the hallway connecting the two buildings.



Aerial view of Asher Haus and Assumption Home



Door connecting Asher Haus to Assumption Home



Open door connecting Asher Haus to Assumption Home

Prong 1 and Prong 2 settings

Meaningful distinction between the facility and HCBS setting

States must submit strong evidence that the setting presumed institutional has the characteristics of a HCBS setting and not an institutional setting.

HCBS characteristics

This section is a summary of the individual HCBS characteristics required in the HCBS rule. The findings for each characteristic are identified through the setting documentation, on-site observations and interviews.

HCBS Rule requirement	Compliance determination
The setting is selected by the individual from among a variety of setting options including non-disability specific settings.	Compliant
Validation methods:	
☐ Interview(s) with residents.	
☐ MnCHOICES support plan requirements: In the "What I Want my Life to Look Like" section of the support plan, using person-centered principles, the case manager/care coordinator must describe the person's choice about housing. The case manager/care coordinator must have a conversation with the person for each of the statements on the signature sheet to ensure they understand what they are agreeing to and have the necessary information to make an informed choice. The case manager/care coordinator selects yes or no for each statement. If the person answers 'no' the case manager/care coordinator must review the content again in another format or discuss further with the person.	
☐ Health plan and Lead Agency Review support plan audits: As required under Mn Statute 256B.0911, Subd. 29, "The written support plan must include:(d) (2) the individual's options and choices to meet identified needs, including all available options for: (iii) living arrangements; (v) service provided in a non-disability-specific setting;"	
Narrative:	
Case managers are required under state statute to offer and document all available options for living arrangement in the person's support plan. However, because this is a new setting going through heightened scrutiny only residents that are receiving customized living services funded by private pay or other non-waiver funding were interviewed. One of the residents reported during her interview that she wanted to go to this place because she grew up in the area. Another resident that was interviewed reported that her sister just lives the next city over so being close to her was important.	

The setting facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \boxtimes Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure(s).
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91,Subd. 24., "Residents have the right to be informed by the assisted living facility, prior to executing an assisted living contract, that other public and private services may be available, and that the resident has the right to purchase, contract for, or obtain services from a provider other than the assisted living facility."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant. During interviews, LALD and staff confirmed that residents are free to use outside providers if they choose. One staff said regarding choice in providers "Of course they should have a choice". The setting's tenant handbook it states, "You are able to make arrangements for health-related and supportive services with any appropriate provider you may select, whether or not Asher Haus has an arrangement with that provider." Residents interviewed stated that they knew they had choices regarding providers. Some residents get medical care with a physician that comes to the building, while others continue to use their own community providers.

Each person at the setting has a written lease or residency agreement in place providing protections to address eviction processes and appeals.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- ☐ Review of written lease or residency agreement
- ⊠ State license requirements: This setting submitted a compliant Assisted Living lease/contract as required under MN Statute 144G.50 144G.57. MN Statute 144G.11 states, "Assisted Living facilities are subject to and must comply with Chapter 504B." The lease/contract is required to be signed by the setting and the person receiving services or their representative.

Narrative:

Setting provided their Assisted Living Residency Agreement, which was reviewed and is compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Residents are informed if there are any changes to the agreement after it has been signed. The procedure at the setting is that the person receives a copy of this residency agreement for review prior to the time they sign it. The residency agreement contains information on eviction processes and appeals including phone numbers and other contact information for them to use if needed. During interviews, residents confirmed that they received a copy of the agreement. One resident stated that she "got a lot of good information when she moved in." I asked for more information but due to her memory issues she was not able to elaborate on what she got.

Each person at the setting has privacy in his/her sleeping or living unit including a lockable door with only appropriate staff having keys to doors.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- □ Observation of lockable unit doors during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91,Subd. 13., "(a)Residents have the right to consideration of their privacy, individuality, and cultural identity as related to their social, religious, and psychological well-being. Staff must respect the privacy of a resident's space by knocking on the door and seeking consent before entering, except in an emergency or unless otherwise documented in the resident's service plan. (b) Residents have the right to have and use a lockable door to the resident's unit. The facility shall provide locks on the resident's unit. Only a staff member with a specific need to enter the unit shall have keys. This right may be restricted in certain circumstances if necessary for a resident's health and safety and documented in the resident's service plan." (Refer to Rights Modification section)

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. All residents are able to lock their apartment and bedroom doors if they choose to. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. The LALD confirmed during the interview that residents are afforded this right. LALD reported that staff only have keys to the doors of the residents that they are working with on that shift, and that staff do not take keys home with them at the end of a shift. In addition, residents have cabinets in their kitchen that they can lock if they want to keep them locked. Each person has a private mailbox that the setting does not have access to ensure privacy regarding their mail. Observed staff knocking and waiting before entering a room. Locks were observed on apartment doors. This building is a secure building, with keypads at the entrances. Residents get a key fob to enter the buildings, and if they want a family member or guest to have

access to come visit, they can give them a code to the keypad. This setting has some residents who have dementia, for safety reasons, staff have to buzz people out of the setting if they don't have a code. People who are able to leave the setting safely have a code to open the door. One resident interviewed stated, "Sure, I can lock my door If I want." When asked if staff respect their privacy, one resident stated, "Oh yes, they do." Another resident said "They always knock at least 3 times and wait before they come in."





Lock on the apartment door

Drawers with locks on them

The setting facilitates that a person, who shares a bedroom/unit, is with a roommate of their choice.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \boxtimes Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- ☑ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to choose a roommate if sharing a unit."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Benedictine Asher Haus has a policy titled, "Shared Tenancy". This policy has information related to the resident's right to decide if they want to share a unit, as well as the right to choose who they want to live with. This right is reviewed with the resident or their legal representative upon move-in. Staff are trained on these rights as part of the annual review of the resident rights through EduCare. None of the residents interviewed shared their living space with a roommate.

The setting provides people with the freedom to furnish and decorate their bedroom and living unit within the lease or residency agreement.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- ☑ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- ⊠Observation of residents' units during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to furnish and decorate the resident's unit within the terms of the assisted living contract."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Interviews with the LALD confirmed that residents have a right to decorate their living space. Tenant handbook states that "Benedictine Asher Haus encourages tenants to personalize their apartments." This right is also reviewed with residents when they move in as part of their review of the Assisted Living Bill of Rights and HCBS rights. Staff are trained on this right as part of the annual review of the resident rights through EduCare. Observed personal items and unique décor in each of the residents' apartments during interviews. Also

observed decorations on the outside of resident doors. During the resident interviews one resident said, "You can decorate any way you want." Another said, "I got to bring so much stuff from home, I was kind of surprised it all came together, but it did".



Decorations in a resident bathroom



A resident's collection of decorative items



 ${\it Resident\ bedroom\ with\ personal\ decorations.}$

The setting provides people the freedom and support to control their daily schedules.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \boxtimes Interview(s) with residents.
- □ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91,
 "Residents have the right to individual autonomy, initiative, and independence in making life choices, including establishing a daily schedule and choosing with whom to interact."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedure was reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident or authorized representative upon move-in. The Tenant Handbook states that residents are "able to choose which activities they attend while residing at Asher Haus." Tenants also can choose what independent leisure and community events they are involved in. Tenants have the right to refuse to participate in any leisure activity that is offered." Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. Interviews with the LALD and staff confirmed that people have choices about their schedule. Residents interviewed said they felt they controlled their own schedules. Events are posted around the setting so people know what they can choose from for agency facilitated activities. One resident interviewed stated that she likes to go with a girlfriend to the movies, and she said staff always work with her if she needs help scheduling. Another resident said "I make my decisions about what I do during the day. Sometimes I just don't feel like being around people,"

The setting provides people access to food at any time.

Compliant

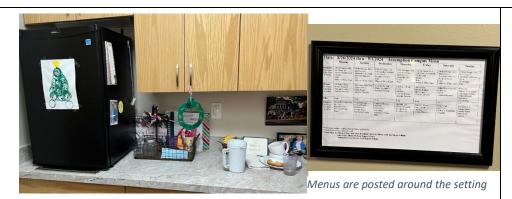
Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- □ Observation during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to access food at any time. This right may be restricted in certain circumstances if necessary for the president's health and safety and if documented in the resident's service plan."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Residents are given a copy at move-in of the Assisted Living Bill of Right rights as well as the HCBS rights which include this right. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. The LALD confirmed that residents can access food at any time, not just designated mealtimes. If people are out with family or other planned activities which the setting knew about, meals are wrapped and brought to their apartments. For unexpected times when they need meals, they can ask staff and they can get snacks or food. When interviewed, residents, responded that they knew that they could ask staff for food any time they were hungry. The apartments have a mini refrigerator for storing food. There are also scheduled snacks served.

Observed coffee and beverage stations around the setting for people to access, as well as bowls of snacks. There is also a vending machine for snacks and drinks that residents can access.



Mini refrigerator in the apartment



Bowl of snacks in the setting

The setting allows people to have visitors at any time.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- ☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- □ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- ⊠Observation of people coming and going during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to meet with or receive visits at any time by the resident's family, guardian, conservator, health care agent, attorney, advocate, or religious or social work counselor, or any person of the resident's choosing. This right may be restricted in certain circumstances if necessary for the resident's health and safety and if documented in the resident's service plan." (See Rights Modification section):

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Benedictine Asher Haus has a policy "Visitor Access". This policy has information related to the resident's right to have visitors at any time. Administration and direct care staff confirmed during interviews that the setting does not restrict visiting times or who people can visit with. This right is reviewed with the resident or authorized representative upon move-in. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of the annual review of the resident rights through EduCare. The tenant handbook states that Asher Haus has an overnight guest suite available for guests to rent. In addition, there is a private meeting room available for private gatherings with family and friends. Observed multiple visitors throughout the building and also near the front door where residents were greeting their visitors. During interviews with residents, one stated "I have a sister nearby in Paynesville, and she visits when she wants". Another resident noted that when it's nice like this she likes to visit on the patio with her family. Residents stated there were no restrictions on visitors.



Private room that can be rented for special occasions

The setting provides opportunities for people to volunteer or seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings.	Compliant
Validation methods:	
☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.	
☑ Interview(s) with residents.	
☑ Review of setting's policy and procedure	
☐ Health plan and Lead Agency Review support plan audits: As required under Mn Statute 256B.0911, Subd. 29, "The written support plan must include:(d) (2) the individual's options and choices to meet identified needs, including all available options for: (ii) employment services, settings, and providers."	
⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to engage in community life and in activities of their choice. This includes the right to participate in commercial, religious, social, community, and political activities without interference and at their discretion if the activities do not infringe on the rights of other residents."	
Narrative:	
Setting's policy/procedure was reviewed and are compliant. This right is reviewed with the resident or authorized representative upon move-in. The resident handbook states "Residents are encouraged to volunteer both within and outside Asher Haus if they so choose. If you are employed or choose to volunteer, you have a right to have a work or volunteer schedule of your choice. We offer flexibility in our services to accommodate your schedule. At the time of the site visit, there were no residents who were working.	

The setting is physically accessible to the individual.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- □ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- □ Observation made during on-site visit
- State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.11 "Assisted living facilities:(1) are subject to and must comply with chapter 504B;" and MN Statute 363A.10, Subdivision 1. Reasonable modifications/accommodations. "For purposes of section 363A.09, discrimination includes:(1) a refusal to permit, at the expense of the disabled person, reasonable modifications of existing premises occupied or to be occupied by the disabled person if modifications may be necessary to afford the disabled person full enjoyment of the premises; a landlord may, where it is reasonable to do so, condition permission for a modification on the renter agreeing to restore the interior of the premises to the condition that existed before the modification, excluding reasonable wear and tear; (2) a refusal to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services, when accommodations may be necessary to afford a disabled person equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. The Tenant Handbook says "Tenants have the right to access the physical environment including common areas, laundry, dining rooms to the extent desired. Tenants needing a reasonable accommodation should inform the Manager's office in writing". The setting also has some apartments that are specifically adapted for residents who have mobility support needs. Observed accessibility items in peoples' apartments. One resident had grab bars in the bathrooms and on the wall.



Bathroom with grab bars and emergency pull cord.

Any modification of the rights specified in HCBS rule under	Compliant
441.301(c)(4)(vi)(A) through (D) must be supported by a specific assessed	
need and documented in the person-centered plan/ HCBS Rights Modification Support Plan Attachment.	
Validation methods:	
☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.	
\square Review of person's support plan, if a rights modification is in place.	
⋈ N/A. No residents at this setting, enrolled in Elderly Waiver, have a need for a Rights Modification at this time.	
⊠ State license requirements: As required under Mn Statute 144G.911, "The resident's rights in section 144G.91, subdivisions 12, 13, and 18, may be restricted for an individual resident only if determined necessary for health and safety reasons identified by the facility through an initial assessment or reassessment under section 144G.70, subdivision 2, and documented in the written service plan under section 144G.70, subdivision 4. Any restrictions of those rights for people served under chapter 256S and section 256B.49 must be documented by the case manager in the resident's support plan, as defined in sections 256B.49, subdivision 15, and 256S.10."	
Narrative:	
No residents at this setting have a rights modification.	

The setting provides people opportunities to access and engage in community life to the same degree as individuals not receiving Medicaid.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- ☐ Review of setting's policy and procedure, activity calendar(s)
- ☐ Observation of residents' units during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to engage in community life and in activities of their choice. This includes the right to participate in commercial, religious, social, community, and political activities without interference and at their discretion if the activities do not infringe on the rights of other residents."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedure is compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. Residents have many avenues to give input into what activities they would like to do at the setting and in the community. When a new resident moves in, activities staff conduct an assessment to discover the residents' interests and preferred activities and residents also give input at bi-monthly resident meeting. Activities calendars are posted around the building and made available for residents, so they are aware of the activities offered by the setting. Setting provides transportation to scheduled community activities.

Some examples of community activities that have been offered are:

Visits to local ice cream shops
Fishing
Grocery shopping
Going out to eat at local restaurants
Voting at City Hall
Cold Spring Area Historical Society - local history museum
Musicals at local high school
Bonifest- a community festival
Visit to apple orchard
Visit to see Santa at a local hotel

Visits to nearby town of Richmond

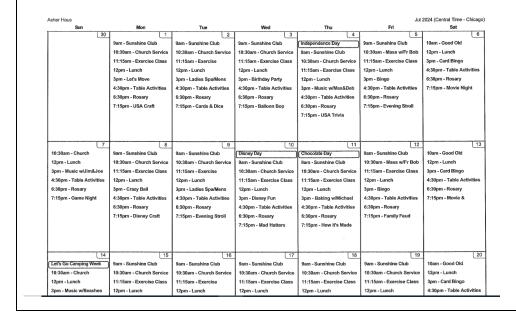
Walks out on the paved trails outside the setting with friends.

Drive to see Christmas lights

Visits to the pumpkin patch in the fall.

The resident's family members are very active and assist residents with going to family celebrations, Sports events, out for meals, shopping, and other entertainment.

There are planned activities on-site as well, such as Bingo, arts and crafts, card games, religious services, movie nights and music.



The setting supports the person's control of personal resources to the same degree as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \boxtimes Interview(s) with residents.
- □ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91,
 "Residents have the right to control personal resources."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Setting's policy "Handling of Finances" states that the setting offers assistance to residents as needed with simple financial tasks as budgeting, paying bills and purchasing items for their homes, but not with larger financial tasks or property management. The policy also states that residents have access to these funds as needed. This right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. One resident interviewed said their finances are handled by one of their children. Another stated that "I don't have to worry about money, someone else does that".

The setting ensures people's right to privacy.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- \boxtimes Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \boxtimes Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- □ Observation during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to consideration of their privacy, individuality, and cultural identity as related to their social, religious, and psychological well-being. Staff must respect the privacy of a resident's space by knocking on the door and seeking consent before entering, except in an emergency or unless otherwise documented in the resident's service plan." "Residents have the right to respect and privacy regarding the resident's service plan. Case discussion, consultation, examination, and treatment are confidential and must be conducted discreetly. Privacy must be respected during toileting, bathing, and other activities of personal hygiene, except as needed for resident safety or assistance." "Residents have the right to communicate privately with persons of their choice."

Narrative:

Asher Haus' policies and procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. LALD confirmed this right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. Staff are trained annually on the requirements of the HCBS Rule. Staff stated they protect people's privacy by making sure they knock before entering people's apartments, and also that they make sure that any cares that they provide are done in private.

When residents were asked during the interviews if they feel staff respect their privacy, one resident answered, "Oh yes, they always knock before they come in". Another resident confirmed that they feel their privacy is protected by staff. Staff were observed knocking on the doors of residents before entering. Staff were also observed closing the door behind them to ensure people's privacy.

The setting ensures people's dignity and respect. Validation methods:

Compliant

- ☐ Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- ☐ Interview(s) with residents.
- ⊠ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- ⊠Observation during on-site visit
- ⊠ State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to be treated with courtesy and respect, and to have the resident's property treated with respect."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedures were reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident or authorized representative upon move-in. Staff are trained on this right at hire and as part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. The Tenant Handbook says, "Each tenant has the right to dignity, respect, and for tenant's property to be respected". Staff interviewed said "It's important to treat them with respect, like they were a family member of yours". One resident interviewed stated that they really like the staff at the setting and that "They are very good to us." She also said staff listen to her when she has an issue.

The setting ensures people's freedom from coercion and restraint. Compliant Validation methods: ☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff. \square Interview(s) with residents. □ Review of setting's policy and procedure □ Observation during on-site visit □ State license requirements: As required under Mn Statute 144G.42," The assisted living facility must comply with the requirements for the reporting of maltreatment of vulnerable adults in section 626.557. The facility must establish and implement a written procedure to ensure that all cases of suspected maltreatment are reported. And Mn Statue 144G.63, "proper orientation and annual training is given to staff on the Vulnerable Adults Act, as well as the Assisted Living Bill of Rights and staff responsibilities related to ensuring the exercise and protection of those rights." Mn Rule 9555.7200 Subp.2, "Abuse" means: the intentional and nontherapeutic infliction of physical pain or injury, or any persistent course of conduct intended to produce mental or emotional distress". The Elderly Waiver plan states, customized living services must, "Ensure that participants are treated with dignity and respect and are free from coercion and restraint."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedure is compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. Both the staff and the residents receive the Assisted Living Bill of Rights which outlines these rights. Staff receive annual training on

the HCBS rights which includes this right. Per policy, no restraints are used, and coercion is prohibited.



Business card and brochure for area Ombudsman

The setting optimizes individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices, including daily schedule and with whom to interact.

Compliant

Validation methods:

- ☑ Interview(s) with administrative staff.
- \square Interview(s) with residents.
- □ Review of setting's policy and procedure
- ☐ Observation made during on-site visit
- State license requirements: As required under MN Statute 144G.91, "Residents have the right to individual autonomy, initiative, and independence in making life choices, including establishing a daily schedule and choosing with whom to interact."

Narrative:

Setting's policy/procedure was reviewed and are compliant with HCBS settings rule requirements. This right is reviewed with the resident upon move-in. The resident handbook states that residents are "able to choose which activities they attend while residing at Benedictine Asher Haus. Tenants also can choose what independent leisure and community events they are involved in. Tenants have the right to refuse to participate in any leisure activity that is offered." Staff are trained on this right at hire and as

part of staff annually training on the HCBS rule and Assisted Living Bill of Rights. Interviews with LALD and staff confirmed that people have choices about their lives. One resident stated during an interview "I make my own decisions". Another resident said they feel like they plan their own days. She said, "For instance, if I want to sleep in and staff come to my apartment and ask me to do something, if I say no, they will come back later." Staff use iPads and if a person has a change in their cares, schedules, or preferences, all the staff working with that



Schedule posted on chalk board

person will get an alert on the iPad, which they must sign off on. This ensures that people's choices are documented and read by staff, so nothing gets missed.

Additional pictures of the HCBS setting



Patio area



Laundry room



Dining room



Lobby area



Whirlpool bath



Exercise equipment



Room for people to do puzzles, play games or relax



Lounge area next to the dining room

Public comment summary

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) did not receive public comments for this setting. DHS sought public comments from 8:00am on October 16, 2024 to 4:00pm on November 15, 2024 before submitting settings to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for heightened scrutiny.

DHS sought public comments using the following methods:

- Evidentiary packages posted online on the <u>Home and Community Based Services Rule</u> transition plan Requirements for new HCBS settings page
- Evidentiary packages specific to each setting posted in a common area of the setting
- Notice of public comment period via Oct. 16, 2024 eList announcement
- Notification to providers via email
- Notification to managed care organizations and Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) via eList announcement
- Notification to long-term care ombudsman office via eList announcement

Minnesota's recommendation

Date of recommendation: November 18, 2024

Minnesota supports that this setting overcomes the institutional presumption and meets the requirements of a home and community-based setting. Provider is required to maintain ongoing compliance with all HCBS requirements.