

Alabama Department of Public Health

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| STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES AND PLAN OF CORRECTION | (X1) PROVIDER/SUPPLIER/CLIA IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: D6323 | (X2) MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION A. BUILDING: _____ B. WING _____ | (X3) DATE SURVEY COMPLETED C 05/08/2025 |
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| NAME OF PROVIDER OR SUPPLIER CROSSINGS AT NORTH RIVER ALF, THE | STREET ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE 200 GEORGE HALL LANE TUSCALOOSA, AL 35406 |
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| A 000 | <p>Initial Comments</p> <p>On May 8, 2025, an unannounced licensure survey and complaint investigation was conducted for this 84 bed Assisted Living Facility (ALF) with a census of 41.</p> <p>Complaint LC#20250224006 was investigated during this survey and was not substantiated.</p> <p>Deficiencies were cited during this survey for failure to operate in accordance with the Rules of the Alabama State Board of Health (SBOH), Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Chapter 420-5-4, Alabama Administrative Code, for Assisted Living Facilities. The deficiencies cited require a plan of correction.</p> | A 000 | | |
| A 702 | <p>420-5-4-.07 (2) Food Service</p> <p>(2) Food Handling Procedures.</p> <p>(a) Dish and Utensils Washing, Disinfection, and Storage.</p> <p>1. Wash water shall be changed with sufficient frequency to avoid gross contamination, and final rinse water shall be kept clean and clear.</p> <p>2. Hand washed repeated service and multi-service utensils and dishes, after washing and rinsing, shall be sanitized by either of the following methods:</p> <p>(i) Utensils and dishes shall be completely immersed for a period of not less than 30 seconds in water that is at least 171 degrees Fahrenheit (pouring scalding water over utensils and dishes does not meet this requirement); or</p> | A 702 | | |

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| Health Care Facilities LABORATORY DIRECTOR'S OR PROVIDER/SUPPLIER REPRESENTATIVE'S SIGNATURE | TITLE | (X6) DATE |
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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 1</p> <p>(ii) A cold water sanitizer. A sanitizing solution shall be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Utensils and dishes shall be completely immersed for a period of not less than 10 seconds in a clean solution containing not less than 50 ppm, and not more than 200 ppm, of available chlorine bleach, or 30 seconds in 12.5 ppm of iodine or the amount of time set by the manufacturer in a 200 ppm quaternary ammonium solution. Water temperature must be at least 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Water temperatures and chemical concentrations shall be monitored and documented prior to dishwashing. A record of each test shall be maintained for at least three months.</p> <p>3. Dishes and utensils shall be allowed to air dry.</p> <p>4. After washing, rinsing, sanitizing, and air-drying, all repeated use service ware (utensils and dishes) shall be stored in a clean, dry place that is protected from pests, dust, splash, and other contaminants. Utensils shall be handled in such a way as to prevent contamination from hands and clothing.</p> <p>5. The results from the use of dishwashing machines shall be equivalent to those obtained from the method outlined above, as documented in material provided from the manufacturer and kept on file at the facility.</p> <p>(b) Ice. Crushed or chipped ice shall be protected from splash, drip, and hand contamination during storage and service. The ice scoop may be stored in the ice bin in a manner to prevent ice from coming into contact</p> | A 702 | | |

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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 2</p> <p>with the handle, or it may be stored in an airtight container outside the ice bin.</p> <p>(c) Protection of Food from Contamination.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food and food ingredients shall be stored, handled, and served so as to be protected from pests, dust, rodents, droplet infection, unsanitary handling, overhead leakage, sewage back flow, and any other contamination. Sugar, syrup, and condiment receptacles shall be provided with lids and shall be kept covered when not in use. 2. Medications, biologicals, poisons, detergents, and cleaning supplies shall not be kept in the refrigerator or in other areas used for storage of food. 3. Food shall not be stored on the floor. All food and food ingredients stored on shelving must be placed on shelving that is at least six inches above the floor. 4. Refrigerators shall maintain a maximum temperature of 41 degrees Fahrenheit. Freezers shall be maintained at a maximum temperature of 0 degrees Fahrenheit. Thermometers shall remain in refrigerators and freezers at all times. 5. All leftover foods shall be labeled and dated with a "use by date", so that it may be consumed or discarded by that date, which is no more than 3 days from the date it was prepared. 6. All food products shall be used by the manufacturer's indicated date or discarded. | A 702 | | |

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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 3</p> <p>7. Food shall be prepared either in the licensed facility or another location even when that location is not part of the licensed facility. All food preparation areas used by the facility shall be subject to the same inspections as though part of the licensed facility. The licensed facility is responsible to ensure adequate equipment and measures are used to ensure that food is not contaminated in transport and that foods that are transported are held and served at the appropriate temperatures at all times.</p> <p>8. Hot food shall be maintained at a minimum of 135 degrees Fahrenheit and cold foods at a maximum 41 degrees Fahrenheit.</p> <p>9. Frozen food items (raw and cooked) shall be thawed under refrigeration or under running water prior to preparation. Frozen food may also be thawed as part of the cooking process when indicated by package directions. Raw meats shall be stored below and away from vegetables, fruits, and other foods to prevent contamination (meat juices dripping on other foods).</p> <p>10. Laundry shall not be brought through the food preparation or service area.</p> <p>(d) Storage and Service of Milk and Ice Cream.</p> <p>1. Milk and fluid milk products shall be served only from the original containers in which they were received from the distributor. This shall not apply to cream for coffee, cereals, and milk for milk drinks which may be dispensed from a readily cleanable container approved for such</p> | A 702 | | |

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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 4</p> <p>use.</p> <p>2. Milk and fluid milk products shall be stored in such a manner that bottles or containers, from which the milk or milk product is to be poured or drunk, will not become contaminated from drip or contact with foods. Milk shall be maintained and stored at a maximum temperature of 41 degrees Fahrenheit and shall not be served at a temperature warmer than 45 degrees Fahrenheit unless specifically requested to be served at a warmer temperature by a resident.</p> <p>3. Contaminating substances shall not be stored with or over open containers of ice cream. Ice cream dippers, spatulas, and other serving utensils shall be cleaned between uses.</p> <p>(e) Kitchen Garbage and Trash Handling.</p> <p>1. Kitchen garbage and trash shall be placed in suitable containers with tight-fitting lids and properly stored pending removal. Kitchen garbage and trash shall not be allowed to accumulate in the kitchen and shall be removed from the premises at frequent intervals.</p> <p>2. After being emptied, all garbage cans and trash cans shall be washed and dried before reuse.</p> <p>(f) Employees' Cleanliness.</p> <p>1. Employees engaged in the handling, preparation, and serving of food shall wear clean clothing at all times. Employees shall wear hair restraints, for example, hairnets, headbands,</p> | A 702 | | |

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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 5</p> <p>caps, or other adequate means to prevent contamination of food from hair. Employees whose duties include contact with residents shall change clothing or wear a clean covering over clothing before handling, preparing, or serving food.</p> <p>2. Employees handling food shall wash their hands thoroughly before starting work each day, immediately after contact with any soiled matter, and before returning to work after each visit to the rest room.</p> <p>3. Street clothing not worn by the employee shall be stored in lockers, dressing rooms, or closets designated for staff use.</p> <p>(g) Live Fowl or Animals. Live fowl or animals shall not be allowed in the food service area.</p> <p>(h) Smoking and Spitting. Smoking, other use of tobacco products, and spitting within the food service area shall be prohibited for all staff, residents, and visitors.</p> <p>(i) Dining in Kitchen. Dining in the kitchen shall not be permitted in congregate assisted living facilities.</p> <p>(j) Paper for Food Wrapping. Only new paper, foil, or plastic wrap shall be used for wrapping of foods.</p> <p>(k) Laundering of clothing shall not be permitted in food preparation or service areas.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by:</p> | A 702 | | |

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| A 702 | <p>Continued From page 6</p> <p>The facility failed to ensure dishwashing was performed in a manner to prevent the potential for cross contamination and food products were labeled properly.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>On the morning of May 8, 2025, an observation was made of Employee Identifier (EI)#9, a dietary staff member, working on the dishwashing line. EI#9 was observed to have gloves on his hands, working on the soiled dish side of the dishwasher. EI#9 was observed to have on the same contaminated gloves when removing clean dishes. EI#9 moved back and forth from the soiled dishes to the clean dishes without changing gloves. EI#9 was observed to remove soiled dishes from a bus tub sitting on the floor. Two bus tubs were on the floor with soiled dishes in them to be cleaned. EI#10, a sous chef, approached and told EI#9 dishes cannot be on the floor even in bus tubs. EI#10 said there was no excuse for this and going forward there will be no cross contamination from dirty dishes to clean dishes. As the kitchen tour continued, the following items were observed opened, partially used and unlabeled; grits, pecan halves and fresh, individually wrapped beef patties. EI#10 was present and removed the items saying they should be labeled.</p> <p>On the afternoon of May 8, 2025, EI#1 agreed partially used items should be labeled, gloves should be changed between soiled and clean dishes and tubs of dishes should not be on the floor.</p> | A 702 | | |
| A 703 | 420-5-4-.07 (3) Food Service. | A 703 | | |

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| A 703 | <p>Continued From page 7</p> <p>(3) Dietary Service.</p> <p>(a) Number of Meals. No fewer than three meals shall be provided each 24 hours. Food service shall be provided in a resident's room during temporary illness if necessary. The diet shall be well-balanced, palatable, properly prepared, and sufficient in quantity and quality to meet the nutritional needs of the residents in accordance with Dietary Reference Intakes of the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences. The food must be adapted in type and preparation to the habits, preferences, and physical abilities of the residents.</p> <p>(b) Timing of Meals. A time schedule for serving meals to residents and personnel shall be established. Meals shall be served approximately five hours apart with no more than 14 hours between the evening meal and breakfast. The time schedule of meals shall be posted with the menu. The facility shall make evening snacks available after service of the evening meal. The facility shall provide fluids throughout the day and shall make between-meal nourishment (snacks) available.</p> <p>(c) Menu. The menu shall be planned and written at least 1 week in advance. The current week's menu shall be posted in the food service area and shall be kept on file for the following 2 weeks. For any resident with a physician's order for a therapeutic diet, the facility shall have a copy of the diet and the facility shall document the adjustment of its menu to accommodate the resident's needs.</p> <p>(d) Alternate food selections or</p> | A 703 | | |

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| A 703 | <p>Continued From page 8</p> <p>substitutes shall be made available to all residents.</p> <p>(e) A facility shall not obtain food from charitable organizations. A facility shall not avoid serving a meal by sending or transporting residents to missions, soup kitchens, or other charitable facilities for meals.</p> <p>(f) The amount of food on hand shall be sufficient to serve three meals per day to all residents for 3 days. Non-perishable food and potable water shall be maintained in the facility in sufficient quantity to serve three meals per day to all residents for 3 days.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on observation and interview, the facility failed to serve food at a temperature to support palatability.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>On the afternoon of May 7, 2025, a test of temperatures was made after residents served from the kitchen had complained of the food. The food temperature was voiced as a concern. Chili temperature was at 125 degrees Fahrenheit. Chicken and dumplings temperature was at 135 degrees Fahrenheit. El#11, the chef, witnessed the temperatures and acknowledged they were out of the acceptable range.</p> <p>On the morning of May 8, 2025, a resident council meeting was being conducted and residents were heard complaining of cold food.</p> | A 703 | | |

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| A 703 | Continued From page 9 On the afternoon of May 8, 2025, EI#1 agreed food should be served at the appropriate temperature. | A 703 | | |
| A 804 | 420-5-4-.08 (4) Physical Facilities. (4) Food Service Facilities. (a) Floors. Floors in food service areas shall be of such construction as to be easily cleaned, sound, smooth, non-absorbent, without cracks or crevices, and shall be provided with approved and conveniently located facilities for the disposal of floor wash water. (b) Walls and Ceilings. Walls and ceilings of food service areas shall be of tight and substantial construction, and smoothly finished. The walls and ceilings shall be without horizontal ledges and shall be washable up to the highest level reached by splash and spray. Roofs and walls shall be maintained free of leaks. All openings to the exterior shall be provided with doors or windows which prevent the entrance of rain or dust during inclement weather. (c) Screens or Outside Openings. Openings to the outside shall be effectively screened, or suitable provisions made equal to screening (such as fly fans). Screen doors shall be equipped with self-closing devices. (d) Lighting. The kitchen, dishwashing area and the dining room shall have adequate light. (e) Ventilation. Vent/exhaust hoods, vented to the outdoors, shall be provided over | A 804 | | |

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| A 804 | <p>Continued From page 10</p> <p>cooking surfaces to aid in removing cooking odors. Existing recirculating vent hoods in Family facilities may remain in use when filters are cleaned or replaced regularly to prevent excess grease accumulation. Group assisted living facilities with residential stoves may use a residential hood sized for the stove. Commercial exhaust hoods shall be installed when commercial cooking equipment is used. Congregate facilities shall use a commercial exhaust hood system.</p> <p>(f) Employee Toilet Facilities. Toilet rooms, if provided, shall not open directly into any room or space in which food is prepared, stored, displayed, or served, nor into any room in which utensils are washed or stored. Toilet rooms shall include a lavatory and shall be well lighted and ventilated.</p> <p>(g) Hand Washing Facilities. Each Group and Congregate assisted living facility shall provide a hand washing lavatory in the kitchens which shall be equipped with a soap dispenser and a supply of soap, disposable towels, and hot and cold running water through a mixing valve or combination faucet. The use of a common towel and common bar soap is prohibited. Hands shall not be washed in sinks where food is prepared. Existing Group and Congregate facilities that enlarge or renovate kitchens shall install a hand wash sink.</p> <p>(h) Refrigeration Facilities. Adequate refrigeration facilities, automatic in operation for the storage of perishable foods shall be provided. Refrigeration shall be maintained at 41 degrees Fahrenheit or less. All refrigerators shall be provided with thermometers. All refrigerators shall</p> | A 804 | | |

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| A 804 | <p>Continued From page 11</p> <p>be kept clean.</p> <p>(i) Equipment and Utensil Construction. Equipment and utensils, except single service utensils, shall be so constructed as to be easily cleaned and shall be kept in good repair. No cadmium plated, lead, or readily corrodible utensils or equipment shall be used.</p> <p>(j) Separation of Kitchen from Resident Rooms and Sleeping Quarters. Any room used for sleeping quarters shall be separated from the food service area by a solid wall with no direct openings. Sleeping accommodations shall not be permitted within the food service area.</p> <p>(k) Clean Rooms. Floors, walls, and ceilings of rooms in the food service area shall be clean and free of an accumulation of rubbish, dust, grease, dirt, etc.</p> <p>(l) Clean Equipment. Equipment in the food service area shall be clean and free of dust, grease, dirt, etc.</p> <p>(m) Clean Counters, Tables, Tablecloths, and Napkins. Tables and counters, which are used for food service, shall be kept clean. Tablecloths and cloth napkins shall be laundered after each use.</p> <p>(n) Location and Space Requirements. Food service facilities shall be located in a specifically designated area and shall include the following rooms and space: kitchen, dishwashing, food storage, and dining room.</p> <p>(o) Equipment. Minimum equipment in the kitchen shall include the following:</p> | A 804 | | |

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| (X4) ID PREFIX TAG | SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCIES (EACH DEFICIENCY MUST BE PRECEDED BY FULL REGULATORY OR LSC IDENTIFYING INFORMATION) | ID PREFIX TAG | PROVIDER'S PLAN OF CORRECTION (EACH CORRECTIVE ACTION SHOULD BE CROSS-REFERENCED TO THE APPROPRIATE DEFICIENCY) | (X5) COMPLETE DATE |
|--------------------|--|---------------|---|--------------------|
| A 804 | <p>Continued From page 12</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Range. In a Family or Group assisted living facility, a residential use range is permitted. A Congregate assisted living facility shall have a heavy-duty range suitable for institutional use with double oven, or equivalent. 2. Refrigerator. A Family or Group assisted living facility may use a residential refrigerator. A Congregate assisted living facility shall have a heavy duty refrigerator suitable for institutional use. 3. Fire extinguisher. A five-pound type BC for residential hoods, and K type for commercial hoods. 4. Dishwashing. The dishwashing equipment for Family and Group assisted living facilities shall be either residential type using cold water sanitizers or commercial type with a booster water heater. Dishwashing equipment for all Congregate assisted living facilities shall be commercial type using a booster water heater or an automatic dispensing sanitizing chemical system. 5. A three-compartment sink with a booster heater or chemical sanitizing system for the third compartment shall be provided in Congregate assisted living facilities. 6. Garbage cans with cover. (p) Food Storage. A well-ventilated, cool food storage room, pantry, or cabinets shall be provided. Adequate shelving, bins, suitable cans, and raised platforms shall be provided and kept | A 804 | | |

Alabama Department of Public Health

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| A 804 | <p>Continued From page 13</p> <p>clean. Perishable food shall be stored at least six inches above the floor. The storeroom shall be of such construction as to prevent the invasion of rodents and insects, the seepage of dust and water, leakage, or any other source of contamination.</p> <p>(q) Dining Room. A resident dining room, or rooms, shall be provided which is large enough to seat not less than 100 percent of the bed capacity.</p> <p>(r) Water Heating Equipment. Equipment for heating an ample supply of water, under pressure, for all washing purposes shall be provided. Hot water shall be piped to all hand-washing facilities, and to each compartment of all dishwashing and laundry sinks. Water heaters shall be automatic type.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on observations and interviews, the facility failed to ensure kitchen equipment was maintained to be free of dust, grease, and dirt.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>On the morning of May 8, 2025, an observation was made of the shelf above the griddle and stove top with a heavy accumulation of grease and dust/dirt-like debris. EI#10 agreed there was the potential for cross contamination.</p> <p>On the afternoon of May 8, 2025, EI#1 agreed kitchen equipment should be kept clean.</p> | A 804 | | |

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| A1101 | Continued From page 14 | A1101 | | |
| A1101 | <p>420-5-4-.11 (1) Fire and Safety</p> <p>(1) General.</p> <p>(a) Fire Safety and Emergency Plan. All assisted living facilities shall maintain a current written fire safety, relocation, and evacuation plan. In facilities which do not have multiple smoke compartments, an evacuation floor plan shall be appropriately posted in a conspicuous place.</p> <p>(b) Fire Drills. Fire drills shall be conducted at least once per month in all facilities at varying times and days and quarterly on each shift of Group and Congregate facilities. All fire drills shall be initiated by the fire alarm system. The drills may be announced in advance to the residents. The drills shall involve the actual evacuation of residents to assembly areas in adjacent smoke compartments or to the exterior as specified in the emergency plan to provide staff and residents with experience in exiting through all exits required by the currently adopted Life Safety Code. Written observations of the effectiveness of the fire drill plan shall be assessed monthly, filed, and kept for at least three years.</p> <p>(c) Fire Drills During Resident Sleeping Hours. When drills are conducted between 9 PM and 6 AM, a coded announcement shall be permitted to be used instead of the normal audible fire alarm signals. These drills may be conducted without disturbing sleeping residents, by using simulated residents or empty wheelchairs.</p> <p>(d) Roller latches are prohibited on doors</p> | A1101 | | |

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| A1101 | <p>Continued From page 15</p> <p>separating corridors from adjacent spaces.</p> <p>(e) If alcohol-based hand rub dispensers are used in the facility, the dispensers must be installed in a manner that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimizes leaks and spills. 2. Adequately protects against inappropriate access. 3. Complies with the requirements of the currently adopted Life Safety Code. <p>(f) Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fire Alarm System. Where fire alarm systems are required, a corridor smoke detection system shall be installed on each floor, including areas open to the exit access corridor, to comply with NFPA 72, connected to the facility's fire alarm system. In lieu of corridor smoke detection, smoke detectors connected to the building fire alarm system may be installed in each resident's room, open areas, and at smoke doors (except that corridor smoke detection shall not be deleted when its use is dictated by other requirements). 2. Fire alarm and sprinkler system outages of more than 4 hours require evacuation of the facility or the establishment of a continuous fire watch. The fire watch procedure must be coordinated with the Department and the local Fire Marshal. Outages and fire watch documentation shall be reported to the Department within 12 hours or no later than the next duty day, and shall be corrected expeditiously. | A1101 | | |

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| A1101 | <p>Continued From page 16</p> <p>3. The fire alarm system and the sprinkler system shall be inspected by licensed, trained, and qualified personnel at least semiannually for compliance with the respective codes. Inspection and testing reports shall be maintained in the facility for a period of at least 3 years.</p> <p>This Rule is not met as evidenced by: Based on record review and interview, the facility failed to conduct fire drills monthly and quarterly on each shift on the ALF unit.</p> <p>Findings:</p> <p>On the morning of May 7, 2025, a review of the documented fire drills revealed drills were conducted five times on first shift, twice on second shift and five times on third shift. During this review, EI#8, the maintenance director, acknowledged he only conducted one fire drill each month on either the Assisted Living unit or the Specialty Care Assisted Living unit. EI#8 did not know a fire drill had to be conducted for each unit each month. EI#8 acknowledged fire drills should be conducted once a month on each shift in each facility.</p> <p>THERESA HARRISON, REGISTERED NURSE</p> | A1101 | | |