Dear Ms. Velasquez and Ms. Schramm;

The Division of Health Improvement/Quality Management Bureau has completed a compliance survey of the services identified above. The purpose of the survey was to determine compliance with federal and state standards; to assure the health, safety, and welfare of individuals receiving services through the Developmental Disabilities Waiver; and to identify opportunities for improvement. This Report of Findings will be shared with the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division for their use in determining your current and future provider agreements. Upon receipt of this letter and Report of Findings your agency must immediately correct all deficiencies which place Individuals served at risk of harm.

**Determination of Compliance:**
The Division of Health Improvement, Quality Management Bureau has determined your agency is in:

**Compliance with all Conditions of Participation.**

This determination is based on your agency's compliance with CMS waiver assurances at the Condition of Participation level. The attached QMB Report of Findings indicates Standard Level deficiencies identified and requires implementation of a Plan of Correction.

**Plan of Correction:**
The attached Report of Findings identifies the Standard Level and/or Condition of Participation deficiencies found during your agency's compliance review. You are required to complete and implement a Plan of Correction. Your agency has a total of 45 business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your approved Plan of Correction) from the receipt of this letter.
Submission of your Plan of Correction:
Please submit your agency’s Plan of Correction in the space on the two right columns of the Report of Findings. (See attachment “A” for additional guidance in completing the Plan of Correction).

Within 10 business days of receipt of this letter your agency Plan of Correction must be submitted to the parties below:

1. Quality Management Bureau, Attention: Plan of Correction Coordinator
   5301 Central Ave. NE Suite 400 Albuquerque, NM 87108

2. Developmental Disabilities Supports Division Regional Office for region of service surveyed

Upon notification from QMB that your Plan of Correction has been approved, you must implement all remedies and corrective actions to come into compliance. If your Plan of Correction is denied, you must resubmit a revised plan as soon as possible for approval, as your POC approval and all remedies must be completed within 45 business days of the receipt of this letter.

Failure to submit your POC within the allotted 10 business days or complete and implement your Plan of Correction within the total 45 business days allowed may result in the imposition of a $200 per day Civil Monetary Penalty until it is received, completed and/or implemented.

Request for Informal Reconsideration of Findings (IRF):
If you disagree with a finding of deficient practice, you have 10 business days upon receipt of this notice to request an IRF. Submit your request for an IRF in writing to:

   QMB Deputy Bureau Chief
   5301 Central Ave NE Suite #400
   Albuquerque, NM  87108
   Attention: IRF request

See Attachment “C” for additional guidance in completing the request for Informal Reconsideration of Findings. The request for an IRF will not delay the implementation of your Plan of Correction which must be completed within 45 total business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your approved Plan of Correction). Providers may not appeal the nature or interpretation of the standard or regulation, the team composition or sampling methodology. If the IRF approves the modification or removal of a finding, you will be advised of any changes.

Please call the Plan of Correction Coordinator at 505-222-8647 if you have questions about the Report of Findings or Plan of Correction. Thank you for your cooperation and for the work you perform.

Sincerely,

Maurice Gonzales, BS Health Ed.

Maurice Gonzales, BS Health Ed.
Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor
Division of Health Improvement
Quality Management Bureau
Survey Process Employed:

Entrance Conference Date: October 11, 2011

Present:

A Step Above Case Management, Corporation
Marie Velasquez, Co-Director, Case Manager
Melinda Schramm, Co-Director, Case Manager

DOH/DHI/QMB
Maurice Gonzales, BS Health Ed, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor
Tony Fragua, BFA, Healthcare Surveyor
William Bazinet, RN, Healthcare Surveyor

Exit Conference Date: October 13, 2011

Present:

A Step Above Case Management, Corporation
Marie Velasquez, Co-Director, Case Manager
Melinda Schramm, Co-Director, Case Manager
Marc Lacroix, Case Manager

DOH/DHI/QMB
Maurice Gonzales, BS Health Ed, Team Lead/Healthcare Surveyor
Tony Fragua, BFA, Healthcare Surveyor

Administrative Locations Visited
Number: 1

Total Sample Size
Number: 18
1 - Jackson Class Members
17 - Non-Jackson Class Members

Case Managers Interviewed
Number: 4

Case Manager Records Reviewed
Number: 4

Records Reviewed (Persons Served)
Number: 18

Administrative Files Reviewed

- Billing Records
- Medical Records
- Incident Management Records
- Personnel Files
- Training Records
- Agency Policy and Procedures
- Caregiver Criminal History Screening Records
- Employee Abuse Registry
- Quality Assurance / Improvement Plan

CC: Distribution List:

DOH - Division of Health Improvement
DOH - Developmental Disabilities Supports Division
DOH - Office of Internal Audit
HSD - Medical Assistance Division
Provider Instructions for Completing the QMB Plan of Correction (POC) Process

Introduction:
After a QMB Compliance Survey, your QMB Report of Findings will be sent to you via e-mail.

Each provider must develop and implement a Plan of Correction (POC) that identifies specific quality assurance and quality improvement activities the agency will implement to correct deficiencies and prevent continued non compliance.

Agencies must submit their Plan of Correction within 10 business days from the date you receive the QMB Report of Findings. (Providers who do not submit a POC within 10 business days will be referred to the Internal Review Committee [IRC] for possible actions or sanctions).

Agencies must fully implement their approved Plan of Correction within 45 business days (10 business days to submit your POC for approval and 35 days to implement your approved Plan of Correction) from the date they receive the QMB Report of Findings. (Providers who fail to complete a POC within the 45 business days allowed shall be referred to the IRC for possible actions or sanctions.)

If you have questions about the Plan of Correction process, call the QMB Plan of Correction Coordinator at 505-222-8647 or email at George.Perrault@state.nm.us. Requests for technical assistance must be requested through your DDSD Regional Office.

The POC process cannot resolve disputes regarding findings. If you wish to dispute a finding on the official Report of Findings, you must file an Informal Reconsideration of Findings (IRF) request within ten (10) business days of receiving your report. Please note that you must still submit a POC for findings that are in question (see Attachment “C”).

Instructions for Completing Agency POC:

Required Content
Your Plan of Correction should provide a step-by-step description of the methods to correct each deficient practice to prevent recurrence and information that ensures the regulation cited is in compliance. The remedies noted in your POC are expected to be added to your Agency’s required, annual Quality Assurance Plan.

If a deficiency has already been corrected, the plan should state how it was corrected, the completion date (date the correction was accomplished), and how possible recurrence of the deficiency will be prevented.

The Plan of Correction must address the required six CMS core elements to address each deficiency of the POC:

1. How the specific and realistic corrective action will be accomplished for individuals found to have been affected by the deficient practice.
2. How the agency will identify other individuals who have the potential to be affected by the same deficient practice, and how the agency will act to protect individuals in similar situations.
3. What QA measures will be put into place or systemic changes made to ensure that the deficient practice will not recur.
4. Indicate how the agency plans to monitor its performance to make sure that solutions are sustained. The agency must develop a QA plan for ensuring that correction is achieved and sustained. This QA plan must be implemented, and the corrective action evaluated for its effectiveness. The plan of correction is integrated into the agency quality assurance system; and
5. Include dates when corrective action will be completed. The corrective action completion dates must be acceptable to the State.
6. The POC must be signed and dated by the agency director or other authorized official.

The following details should be considered when developing your POC:

- Details about how and when Consumer, Personnel and Residential files are audited by Agency personnel to ensure they contain required documents;
- Information about how Medication Administration Records are reviewed to verify they contain all required information before they are distributed, as they are being used, and after they are completed;
- Your processes for ensuring that all staff are trained in Core Competencies, Incident Reporting, and Individual-Specific service requirements, etc;
- How accuracy in Billing documentation is assured;
- How health, safety is assured;
- For Case Management Providers, how ISPs are reviewed to verify they meet requirements, how the timeliness of LOC packet submissions and consumer visits are tracked;
- Your process for gathering, analyzing and responding to Quality data; and,
- Details about Quality Targets in various areas, current status, analyses about why targets were not met, and remedies implemented.

**Note:** Instruction or in-service of staff alone may not be a sufficient plan of correction. This is a good first step toward correction, but additional steps should be taken to ensure the deficiency is corrected and will not recur.

**Completion Dates**

- The plan of correction must include a completion date (entered in the far right-hand column) for each finding. Be sure the date is realistic in the amount of time your Agency will need to correct the deficiency; not to exceed 45 total business days.
- Direct care issues should be corrected immediately and monitored appropriately.
- Some deficiencies may require a staged plan to accomplish total correction.
- Deficiencies requiring replacement of equipment, etc., may require more time to accomplish correction but should show reasonable time frames.

**Initial Submission of the Plan of Correction Requirements**

1. The Plan of Correction must be completed on the official QMB Survey Report of Findings/Plan of Correction Form and received by QMB within ten (10) business days from the date you received the report of findings.
2. For questions about the POC process, call the POC Coordinator, George Perrault at 505-222-8647 for assistance.
3. For Technical Assistance (TA) in developing or implementing your POC, contact your local DDSD Regional Office.
4. Submit your POC to George Perrault, POC Coordinator in any of the following ways:
   a. Electronically at George.Perrault@state.nm.us (preferred method)
   b. Fax to 505-222-8661, or
   c. Mail to POC Coordinator, 5301 Central Avenue SW, Suite 400, Albuquerque, NM 87108
5. Do not submit supporting documentation (evidence of compliance) to QMB until after your POC has been approved by the POC Coordinator.
6. QMB will notify you when your POC has been “approve” or “denied.”
   a. During this time, whether your POC is “approved,” or “denied,” you will have a maximum of 45 business days from the date of receipt of your Report of Findings to correct all survey deficiencies.
b. If your POC is denied, it must be revised and resubmitted as soon as possible, as the 45 business day limit is in effect.
c. If your POC is denied a second time your agency may be referred to the Internal Review Committee.
d. You will receive written confirmation when your POC has been approved by QMB and a final deadline for completion of your POC.
7. Failure to submit your POC within 10 business days without prior approval of an extension by QMB will result in a referral to the Internal Review Committee and the possible implementation of monetary penalties and/or sanctions.

**POC Document Submission Requirements**

Once your POC has been approved by the QMB Plan of Correction Coordinator you must submit copies of documents as evidence that all deficiencies have been corrected, as follows.

1. Your internal documents are due within a **maximum** of 45 business days of receipt of your Report of Findings.
2. You may submit your documents by postal mail (paper hard copy or on a disc), fax, or electronically (scanned and attached to e-mails).
3. All submitted documents **must be annotated**: please be sure the tag numbers and Identification numbers are indicated on each document submitted. Documents which are not annotated with the Tag number and Identification number may not be accepted.
4. Do not submit original documents; Please provide copies or scanned electronic files for evidence. Originals must be maintained in the agency file(s) per DDSD Standards.
5. In lieu of some documents, you may submit copies of file or home audit forms that clearly indicate cited deficiencies have been corrected, other attestations of correction must be approved by the Plan of Correction Coordinator prior to their submission.
6. For billing deficiencies, you must submit:
   a. Evidence of an internal audit of billing documentation for a sample of individuals and timeframes;
   b. Copies of “void and adjust” forms submitted to correct all over-billed or unjustified units billed identified during your internal audit.

Revisions, Modifications or Extensions to your Plan of Correction (post QMB approval) must be made in writing and submitted to the Plan of Correction Coordinator at QMB, prior to the due date and are approved on a case-by-case basis. No changes may be made to your POC or the timeframes for implementation without written approval of the POC Coordinator.
QMB Determinations of Compliance

- **“Compliance with Conditions of Participation”**
  The QMB determination of “Compliance with Conditions of Participation,” indicates that a provider is in compliance with all ‘Conditions of Participation,’ (CoP) but may have standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level) out of compliance. The agency has obtained a level of compliance such that there is a minimal potential for harm to individuals’ health and safety. To qualify for a determination of Compliance with Conditions of Participation, the provider must be in compliance with all Conditions of Participation.

- **“Partial-Compliance with Conditions of Participation”**
  The QMB determination of “Partial-Compliance with Conditions of Participation” indicates that a provider is out of compliance with one (1) to three (3) ‘Conditions of Participation.’ This partial-compliance, if not corrected, may result in a serious negative outcome or the potential for more than minimal harm to individuals’ health and safety. The Agency may also have standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level).

  Providers receiving a repeat determination of ‘Partial-Compliance’ for repeat deficiencies of CoPs may be referred by the Quality Management Bureau to the Internal Review Committee (IRC) for consideration of remedies and possible actions.

- **“Non-Compliant with Conditions of Participation”**
  The QMB determination of “Non-Compliance with Conditions of Participation,” indicates a provider is significantly out of compliance with Conditions of Participation and/or has:
  - Four (4) Conditions of Participation out of compliance.
  - Multiple findings of widespread non-compliance with any standard or regulation with a significant potential for more than minimal harm.
  - Any finding of actual harm or Immediate Jeopardy.

  The Agency may also have standard level deficiencies (deficiencies which are not at the condition level).

  Providers receiving a repeat determination of ‘Non-Compliance’ will be referred by Quality Management Bureau to the Internal Review Committee (IRC) for consideration of remedies and possible actions.
Guidelines for the Provider
Informal Reconsideration of Finding (IRF) Process

Introduction:
Throughout the QMB Survey process, surveyors are openly communicating with providers. Open communication means surveyors have clarified issues and/or requested missing information before completing the review through the use of the signed/dated “Document Request,” or “administrative Needs,” etc. forms. Regardless, there may still be instances where the provider disagrees with a specific finding. Providers may use the following process to informally dispute a finding.

Instructions:
1. The Informal Reconsideration of the Finding (IRF) request must be in writing to the QMB Deputy Bureau Chief within 10 business days of receipt of the final Report of Findings.
2. The written request for an IRF must be completed on the QMB Request for Informal Reconsideration of Finding form available on the QMB website: http://dhi.health.state.nm.us/qmb
3. The written request for an IRF must specify in detail the request for reconsideration and why the finding is inaccurate.
4. The IRF request must include all supporting documentation or evidence.
5. If you have questions about the IRC process, email the IRF Chairperson, Scott Good at scott.good@state.nm.us for assistance.

The following limitations apply to the IRF process:
- The request for an IRF and all supporting evidence must be received within 10 business days.
- Findings based on evidence requested during the survey and not provided may not be subject to reconsideration.
- The supporting documentation must be new evidence not previously reviewed or requested by the survey team.
- Providers must continue to complete their Plan of Correction during the IRF process.
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the sampling methodology.
- Providers may not request an IRF based on disagreement with the nature of the standard or regulation.
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the team composition.
- Providers may not request an IRF to challenge the DHI/QMB determination of compliance or the length of their DDSD provider contract.

A Provider forfeits the right to an IRF if the request is not made within 10 business days of receiving the report and/or does not include all supporting documentation or evidence to show compliance with the standards and regulations.

The IRF Committee will review the request, the Provider will be notified in writing of the ruling; no face-to-face meeting will be conducted.

When a Provider requests that a finding be reconsidered, it does not stop or delay the Plan of Correction process. Providers must continue to complete the Plan of Correction, including the finding in dispute regardless of the IRF status. If a finding is removed or modified, it will be noted and removed or modified from the Report of Findings. It should be noted that in some cases a Plan of Correction may be completed prior to the IRF process being completed. The provider will be notified in writing on the decisions of the IRF committee.
Tag # 1A08  Agency Case File

**Standard Level Deficiency**

Based on record review, the Agency failed to maintain at the administrative office a confidential case file for 13 of 18 individuals.

Review of the Agency individual case files found the following items were not found, incomplete, and/or not current:

- **Current Emergency & Personal Identification Information**
  - Did not contain Pharmacy Information (#16 & 17)
  - Did not contain Health Plan Information (#3 & 13)

- **ISP Assessment Checklist** (#1, 5, 8, 10, 11, 13, 16 & 17)

- **ISP Signature Page**
  - None Found (#1, 2, 3 & 10)

- **Addendum A** (#1, 3, 4, 10, 16 & 17)

- **ISP Teaching & Support Strategies**
  - **Individual #2 - TASS not found for:**
  - Outcome Statement # 2
    - Will work with her job developer.

**Provider:**
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s) and telephone number(s), pharmacy name, address and telephone number, and health plan if appropriate;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2) The individual’s complete and current ISP, with all supplemental plans specific to the individual, and the most current completed Health Assessment Tool (HAT);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Progress notes and other service delivery documentation;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Crisis Prevention/Intervention Plans, if there are any for the individual;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) A medical history, which shall include at least demographic data, current and past medical diagnoses including the cause (if known) of the developmental disability, psychiatric diagnoses, allergies (food, environmental, medications), immunizations, and most recent physical exam;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) When applicable, transition plans completed for individuals at the time of discharge from Fort Stanton Hospital or Los Lunas Hospital and Training School; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Case records belong to the individual receiving services and copies shall be provided to the individual upon request.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) The receiving Provider Agency shall be provided at a minimum the following records whenever an individual changes provider agencies:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Complete file for the past 12 months;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) ISP and quarterly reports from the current and prior ISP year;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Intake information from original admission to services; and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) When applicable, the Individual Transition Plan at the time of discharge from Los Lunas Hospital and Training School or Ft. Stanton Hospital.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual #13 - TASS not found for:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome Statement # 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will walk up to two laps within his recreational area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Care Plans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neurological</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seizure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hypertension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crisis Plans/Medical Emergency Response Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neurological</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- **Seizure**  
  - Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.

- **Falls**  
  - Individual #1 - According to Therap the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.

- **Atlanto-Axial Instability**  
  - Individual #15 - As indicated by the IST section of ISP the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.

- **Special Health Care Needs:**
  - **Nutritional Plan**  
    - Individual #1 - As indicated by the IST section of ISP the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.
    - Individual #5 - As indicated by the IST section of ISP the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.
    - Individual #13 - As indicated by the IST section of ISP the individual is required to have a plan. No evidence of plan found.
    - Individual #16 - As indicated by the IST section of ISP the individual is required to have a plan.

**Other Individual Specific Evaluations & Examinations:**
- **Psychiatric Evaluation**  
  - Individual #13 - Per Doctor's order on 3/14/2011. An evaluation was to be completed. No evidence of evaluation was found.

- **Nutritional Evaluation**
- Individual #2 - Per doctor’s note on lab work of 6/9/2011. An evaluation was to be completed. No evidence of evaluation was found.

- **Dental Exam**
  - Individual #5 - As indicated by the DDSD file matrix Dental Exams are to be conducted annually. No documented evidence of the exam being completed was found.
  - Individual #6 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, exam was completed on 11/9/2010. Follow-up was to be completed in 6 months. No documented evidence of the follow-up being completed was found.
  - Individual #8 - As indicated by the DDSD file matrix Dental Exams are to be conducted annually. No documented evidence of the exam being completed was found.
  - Individual #10 - As indicated by the DDSD file matrix Dental Exams are to be conducted annually. No documented evidence of the exam being completed was found.
  - Individual #13 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, exam was completed on 7/13/2010. Follow-up was to be completed in 6 months. No documented evidence of the follow-up being completed was found.
  - Individual #15 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, exam was completed on 3/2011. Follow-up was to be completed in 6 months. No documented evidence of the follow-up being completed was found.
- **Auditory Exam**
  - Individual #2 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, exam was scheduled for 3/2011. No documented evidence found to verify visit was completed.

- **Cholesterol & Blood Glucose**
  - Individual #2 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, lab work was ordered on 6/2011. No documented evidence found to verify it was completed.
  - Individual #13 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, lab work was ordered on 3/14/2011. No documented evidence found to verify it was completed.

- **Blood Levels**
  - Individual #2 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, lab work was ordered on 6/2011. No documented evidence found to verify it was completed.
  - Individual #13 - As indicated by the documentation reviewed, lab work was ordered on 3/14/2011. No documented evidence found to verify it was completed.

- **Vocational Assessment Profile (#11)**
- **Positive Behavior Support Assessment (#10 & 12)**
- **Occupational Therapy Evaluation (#3)**
- **Physical Therapy Evaluation (#5)**
- **Transition Plan (#2 & 16)**
- **Guardianship Documentation (#3 & 10)**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag # 4C07 Individual Service Planning</th>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
CHAPTER 4 III. CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS  
E. Individualized Service Planning and Approval:  
(1) Individualized service planning is developed through a person-centered planning process in accordance with the rule governing ISP development (7.26.5 NMAC). A person-centered planning process shall be used to develop an ISP that includes:  
(a) Realistic and measurable desired outcomes for the individual as identified in the ISP which includes the individual’s long-term vision, summary of strengths, preferences and needs, desired outcomes and an action plan and is:  
(i) An ongoing process, based on the individual’s long-term vision, and not a one-time-a-year event; and  
(ii) Completed and implemented in response to what the IDT members learn from and about the person and involves those who can support the individual in achieving his or her desired outcomes (including family, guardians, friends, providers, etc.).  
(2) The Case Manager will ensure the ongoing assessment of the individual’s strengths, needs and preferences and use this information to inform the IDT members and guide the development of the plan.  
7.26.5.14 DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PLAN (ISP) - CONTENT OF INDIVIDUAL SERVICE PLANS:  
Based on record review the Agency failed to ensure Case Managers developed realistic and measurable desired outcomes for the individual as identified in the ISP which includes the individual’s long-term vision, summary of strengths, preferences and needs, desired outcomes and an action plan for 3 of 18 Individuals.  
The following was found with regards to ISP Outcomes:  
- Individual #13:  
  - Wants to learn to help his mother with household activities/chores. Outcome was does not indicate how and when it would be completed.  
- Individual #14:  
  - Will choose a snack and learn how to prepare lunch. Outcome was does not indicate when it would be completed.  
- Individual #15:  
  - Will handle bathing, hygiene and task of brushing teeth, dressing independently. Outcome was does not indicate when it would be completed.  
Provider:  
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.  

Survey Report #: Q12.02.79006817.METRO&NW.001.RTN.01
Each ISP shall contain…

C. Outcomes:

(1) The IDT has the explicit responsibility of identifying reasonable services and supports needed to assist the individual in achieving the desired outcome and long term vision. The IDT determines the intensity, frequency, duration, location and method of delivery of needed services and supports. All IDT members may generate suggestions and assist the individual in communicating and developing outcomes. Outcome statements shall also be written in the individual's own words, whenever possible. Outcomes shall be prioritized in the ISP.

(2) Outcomes planning shall be implemented in one or more of the four “life areas” (work or leisure activities, health or development of relationships) and address as appropriate home environment, vocational, educational, communication, self-care, leisure/social, community resource use, safety, psychological/behavioral and medical/health outcomes. The IDT shall assure that the outcomes in the ISP relate to the individual's long term vision statement. Outcomes are required for any life area for which the individual receives services funded by the developmental disabilities Medicaid waiver.
Tag # 4C08 ISP Development Process

| CHAPTER 4 III. CASE MANAGEMENT |
| SERVICE REQUIREMENTS - F. Case Manager |
| ISP Development Process: |
| (1) The Case Manager meets with the individual in advance of the ISP meeting in order to enable the person to review current assessment information, prepare for the meeting, plan to facilitate or co-facilitate the meeting if the individual wishes and to ensure greater and more informed participation. |
| (2) The Case Manager will discuss and offer the optional Personal Plan Facilitation service to the individual to supplement the ISP planning process; if selected, the Case Manager will assist in obtaining this service through the FOC process. This service is funded within the individual’s ARA. |
| (3) The Case Manager convenes the IDT members and a service plan is developed in accordance with the rule governing ISP development (7.26.5 NMAC). |
| (4) The Case Manager will advise the individual of his or her rights and responsibilities related to receipt of services, applicable federal and state laws and guidelines, DOH policies and procedures pertaining to the development and implementation of the ISP, confidentiality, abuse, neglect, exploitation, and appropriate grievance and appeal procedures. In addition, the Case Manager shall provide the individual and/or guardian with a copy of the Case Management Code of Ethics at this time. |
| (5) The Case Manager will clarify the individual’s long-term vision through direct communication with the individual, and if needed, through communication with family, guardians, friends and support providers and |

| Standard Level Deficiency |
| Based on record review the Agency failed to ensure Case Managers provided and/or advised the individual and/or guardian with the following requirements for 9 of 18 individuals. |
| Review of record found no evidence of the following: |
| - Rights & Responsibilities (#1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 15, 16 & 17) |
| - Case Manager Code of Ethics (#1, 2, 3, 4, 10, 15 & 17) |

Provider: In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.
others who know the individual. Information gathered shall include, but is not limited to the following:
(a) Strengths;
(b) Capabilities;
(c) Preferences;
(d) Desires;
(e) Cultural values;
(f) Relationships;
(g) Resources;
(h) Functional skills in the community;
(i) Work interests and experiences;
(j) Hobbies;
(k) Community membership activities or interests;
(l) Spiritual beliefs or interests; and
(m) Communication and learning styles or preferences to be used in development of the individual's service plan.

(6) Case Managers shall operate under the presumption that all working age adults with developmental disabilities are capable of working given the appropriate supports. Individuals will be offered employment as a preferred day service over other day service options. It is the responsibility of the Case Manager and all IDT members to ensure that employment decisions are based on informed choices.

(a) The Case Manager shall verify that all Jackson Class members who express an interest in work or who have employment-related desired outcome(s) in the ISP have an initial or updated vocational assessment that has been completed within the preceding twelve (12) months.

(b) In cases when employment is not an immediate desired outcome, the ISP shall document the reasons for this decision and develop employment-related goals within the ISP that will be undertaken to explore employment options (e.g., volunteer activities,
career exploration, situational assessments, etc.) This discussion related to employment issues shall be documented within the ISP or on the DDSD Decision Justification form.

(c) In the context of employment, informed choices include the following:

(i) Information regarding the range of employment options available to the individual

(ii) Information regarding self-employment and customized employment options

(iii) Job exploration activities including volunteer work and/or trial work opportunities

(7) The Case Manager will ensure discussion on Meaningful Day activities for the individual in the ISP meeting, and reflect such discussion in the ISP “Meaningful Day Definition” section.

(8) When a recipient of DD Waiver services has a HAT score of 4, 5, or 6, medical consultation shall be obtained for service planning and delivery, including the ISP and relevant Health Care and Crisis Prevention/Intervention Plans. Medical consultation may be from a Provider Agency Nurse, Primary Care Physician/Practitioner, Regional Office Nurse, Continuum of Care Nurses or Physicians including his or her Regional Medical Consultant and/or RN Nurse Case Manager.

(9) For new allocations, the Case Manager will submit the ISP to NMMUR only after a MAW letter has been received, indicating the individual meets financial and LOC eligibility.

(10) The Case Manager, with input from each Provider Agency, shall complete the Individual Specific Training Requirements section of the ISP form listing all training needs specific to the
### Tag # 4C09 Secondary FOC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Based on record review, the Agency failed to maintain current Secondary Freedom of Choice documentation and ensure individuals obtained all services through the Freedom of Choice Process for 3 of 18 individuals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following items were not found and/or not agency specific to the individual's current services:

- **Secondary Freedom of Choice**
  - Behavior Consultation (#11)
  - Speech Therapy (#4)
  - Occupational Therapy (#15)

Based on record review, the Agency failed to maintain current Secondary Freedom of Choice documentation and ensure individuals obtained all services through the Freedom of Choice Process for 3 of 18 individuals. The following items were not found and/or not agency specific to the individual's current services:

- Secondary Freedom of Choice
  - Behavior Consultation (#11)
  - Speech Therapy (#4)
  - Occupational Therapy (#15)

Provider:

In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.

---

**CHAPTER 4 III. CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**

**G. Secondary Freedom of Choice Process**

1. The Case Management Provider Agency will ensure that it maintains a current Secondary Freedom of Choice (FOC) form that includes all service providers offering services in that region.

2. The Case Manager will present the Secondary FOC form to the individual or authorized representative for selection of direct service providers.

3. At least annually, at the time rights and responsibilities are reviewed, individuals and guardians served will be reminded that they may change providers at any time, as well as change types of services. At this time, Case Managers shall offer to review the current Secondary FOC list with individuals and guardians served. If they are interested in changing, a new FOC shall be completed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag # 4C12 Monitoring &amp; Evaluation of Services</th>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Service Standards effective 4/1/2007</td>
<td>Based on record review, the Agency failed to use a formal ongoing monitoring process that provides for the evaluation of quality, effectiveness, and appropriateness of services and supports provided to the individual for 1 of 18 individuals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER 4 III. CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS</td>
<td>Record review of Agency files found NO evidence indicating face-to-face visits were completed as required for the following individuals:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Case Manager Monitoring and Evaluation of Service Delivery</td>
<td>- Individual #1 – No Face to Face Visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) The Case Manager shall use a formal ongoing monitoring process that provides for the evaluation of quality, effectiveness, and appropriateness of services and supports provided to the individual as specified in the ISP.</td>
<td>Summary Forms found for:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>° June 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>° July 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Monitoring and evaluation activities shall include, but not be limited to:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(a) Face-To-Face Contact: A minimum of twelve (12) face-to-face contact visits annually (1 per month) is required to occur between the Case Manager and the individual served as described in the ISP; an exception is that children may receive a minimum of four visits per year;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Jackson Class members require two (2) face-to-face contacts per month, one of which occurs at a location in which the individual spends the majority of the day (i.e., place of employment, habilitation program) and one at the person’s residence;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) For non-Jackson Class members who receive Community Living Services, at least every other month, one of the face-to-face visits shall occur in the individual’s residence;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) For adults who are not Jackson Class members and who do not receive Community Living Services, at least one face-to-face visit per quarter shall be in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provider:
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.
his or her home;

(e) If concerns regarding the health or safety of the individual are documented during monitoring or assessment activities, the Case Manager shall immediately notify appropriate supervisory personnel within the Provider Agency and document the concern. If the reported concerns are not remedied by the Provider Agency within a reasonable, mutually agreed period of time, the concern shall be reported in writing to the respective DDSD Regional Office and/or the Division of Health Improvement (DHI) as appropriate to the nature of the concern. Unless the nature of the concern is urgent, no more than fifteen (15) working days shall be allowed for remediation or development of an acceptable plan of remediation. This does not preclude the Case Managers’ obligation to report abuse, neglect or exploitation as required by New Mexico Statute.

(f) Service monitoring for children: When a parent chooses fewer than twelve (12) annual units of case management, the Case Manager will inform the parent of the parent’s responsibility for the monitoring and evaluation activities during the months he or she does not receive case management services,

(g) It is appropriate to conduct face-to-face visits with the individual both during the time the individual is receiving a service and during times the individual is not receiving a service. The preferences of the individual shall be taken into consideration when scheduling a visit. Visits may be scheduled in advance or be unannounced visits depending on the nature of the need in monitoring service.
(h) Communication with IDT members: Case Managers shall facilitate and maintain communication with the individual or his or her representative, other IDT members, providers and other relevant parties to ensure the individual receives maximum benefit of his or her services. Case Managers need to ensure that any needed adjustments to the service plan are made, where indicated. Concerns identified through communication with teams that are not remedied within a reasonable period of time shall be reported in writing to the respective regional office and/or the Division of Health Improvements, as appropriate to the concerns.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag # 4C15.1 - QA Requirements - Bi-Annual Reports &amp; Provider Quarterly Reports</th>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **CHAPTER 4 IV. CASE MANAGEMENT PROVIDER AGENCY REQUIREMENTS**  
C. Quality Assurance Requirements: Case Management Provider Agencies will use an Internal Quality Assurance and Improvement Plan that must be submitted to and reviewed by the Statewide Case Management Coordinator, that shall include but is not limited to the following: | Based on record review, the Agency failed to ensure that reports and ISP’s meet required timelines and include the required contents for 12 of 18 individuals. |
| (1) Case Management Provider Agencies are to:  
(a) Use a formal ongoing monitoring protocol that provides for the evaluation of quality, effectiveness and continued need for services and supports provided to the individual. This protocol shall be written and its implementation documented.  
(b) Assure that reports and ISPs meet required timelines and include required content.  
(c) Conduct a quarterly review of progress reports from service providers to verify that the individual’s desired outcomes and action plans remain appropriate and realistic.  
(i) If the service providers’ quarterly reports are not received by the Case Management Provider Agency within fourteen (14) days following the end of the quarter, the Case Management Provider Agency is to contact the service provider in writing requesting the report within one week from that date.  
(ii) If the quarterly report is not received within one week of the written request, the Case Management Provider Agency is to contact the respective | The following quarterly/bi-annual reports were not found:  
• **Supported Living Quarterly Reports:**  
  ◦ Individual #6 – None found for May 2011 – July 2011.  
• **Family Living Quarterly Reports:**  
  ◦ Individual #1 – None found for November 2010 - April 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #5 – None found for February 2011 – July 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #10 – None found for September 2010-August 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #11 – None found for September 2010-August 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #13 – None found for September 2010-August 2011.  
• **Family Living Annual Assessment**  
  ◦ Individual #5 – None found for September 2010 – August 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #10 – None found for September 2010 – August 2011.  
  ◦ Individual #11 – None found for September 2010 – August 2011.  
  Individual #17 – None found for September | Provider:  
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line. |
DDSD Regional Office in writing within one business day for assistance in obtaining required reports.

(d) Assure at least quarterly that Crisis Prevention/Intervention Plans are in place in the residence and at the Provider Agency of the Day Services for all individuals who have chronic medical condition(s) with potential for life threatening complications and/or who have behavioral challenge(s) that pose a potential for harm to themselves or others.

(e) Assure at least quarterly that a current Health Care Plan (HCP) is in place in the residence and day service site for individuals who receive Community Living or Day Services and who have a HAT score of 4, 5, or 6. During face-to-face visits and review of quarterly reports, the Case Manager is required to verify that the Health Care Plan is being implemented.

(f) Assure that Community Living Services are delivered in accordance with standards, including responsibility of the IDT Members to plan for at least 30 hours per week of planned activities outside the residence. If this is not possible due to the needs of the individual, a goal shall be developed that focuses on appropriate levels of community integration. These activities do not need to be limited to paid supports but may include independent or leisure activities appropriate to the individual.

(g) Perform annual satisfaction surveys with individuals regarding case management services. A copy of the summary is due each December 10th to the respective DDSD Regional Office, along with a description of actions taken to address
suggestions and problems identified in the survey.

(h) Maintain regular communication with all providers delivering services and products to the individual.

(i) Establish and implement a written grievance procedure.

(j) Notify appropriate supervisory personnel within the Provider Agency if concerns are noted during monitoring or assessment activities related to any of the above requirements. If such concerns are not remedied by the Provider Agency within a reasonable mutually agreed period of time, the concern shall be reported in writing to the respective DDSD Regional Office and/or DHI as appropriate to the nature of the concern. This does not preclude Case Managers' obligations to report abuse, neglect or exploitation as required by New Mexico Statute.

(k) Utilize and submit the “Request for DDSD Regional Office Intervention” form as needed, such as when providers are not responsive in addressing a quality assurance concern. The Case Management Provider Agency is required to keep a copy in the individual's file.

(2) Case Managers and Case Management Provider Agencies are required to promote and comply with the Case Management Code of Ethics:

(a) Case Managers shall provide the individual/guardian with a copy of the Code of Ethics when Addendum A is signed.

(b) Complaints against a Case Manager for violation of the Code of Ethics brought to the attention of …
**CMS Assurance – Qualified Providers** – The State monitors non-licensed/non-certified providers to assure adherence to waiver requirements. The State implements its policies and procedures for verifying that provider training is conducted in accordance with State requirements and the approved waiver.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag #</th>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A28.2</td>
<td>Based on record review, the Agency failed to provide documentation indicating consumer, family members, or legal guardians had received an orientation packet including incident management system policies and procedures information concerning the reporting of Abuse, Neglect and Misappropriation of Consumers’ Property, for 9 of 18 individuals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**E. Consumer and Guardian Orientation Packet:** Consumers, family members and legal guardians shall be made aware of and have available immediate accessibility to the licensed health care facility and community based service provider incident reporting processes. The licensed health care facility and community based service provider shall provide consumers, family members or legal guardians an orientation packet to include incident management systems policies and procedural information concerning the reporting of abuse, neglect or misappropriation. The licensed health care facility and community based service provider shall include a signed statement indicating the date, time, and place they received their orientation packet to be contained in the consumer’s file. The appropriate consumer, family member or legal guardian shall sign this at the time of orientation.

**Provider:**
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.
CMS Assurance – Health and Welfare – The state, on an ongoing basis, identifies, addresses and seeks to prevent occurrences of abuse, neglect and exploitation. Individuals shall be afforded their basic human rights. The provider supports individuals to access needed healthcare services in a timely manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tag #</th>
<th>Complaints / Grievances - Acknowledgement</th>
<th>Standard Level Deficiency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NMAC 7.26.3.6</td>
<td>A. These regulations set out rights that the department expects all providers of services to individuals with developmental disabilities to respect. These regulations are intended to complement the department's Client Complaint Procedures (7 NMAC 26.4) [now 7.26.4 NMAC].</td>
<td>Based on record review, the Agency failed to provide documentation, the complaint procedure had been made available to individuals or their legal guardians for 9 of 18 individuals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Grievance/Complaint Procedure Acknowledgement (#1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 15, 16 & 17)

NMAC 7.26.3.13 Client Complaint Procedure Available. A complainant may initiate a complaint as provided in the client complaint procedure to resolve complaints alleging that a service provider has violated a client’s rights as described in Section 10 [now 7.26.3.10 NMAC]. The department will enforce remedies for substantiated complaints of violation of a client’s rights as provided in client complaint procedure. [09/12/94; 01/15/97; Recompiled 10/31/01]

NMAC 7.26.4.13 Complaint Process: A. (2). The service provider’s complaint or grievance procedure shall provide, at a minimum, that: (a) the client is notified of the service provider’s complaint or grievance procedure.

Provider:
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.

Provider:
In addition to stating the Plan of Correction for these findings above, also please provide your evidence of on-going Quality Assurance / Quality Improvement specific to this tag below this line.
### Standard of Care

**CMS Assurance – Financial Accountability** – *State financial oversight exists to assure that claims are coded and paid for in accordance with the reimbursement methodology specified in the approved waiver.*

### Deficiencies

#### TAG #1A12 All Services Reimbursement (No Deficiencies)


**Chapter 1. III. PROVIDER AGENCY DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICE DELIVERY AND LOCATION**

**B. Billable Units:** The documentation of the billable time spent with an individual shall be kept on the written or electronic record that is prepared prior to a request for reimbursement from the HSD. For each unit billed, the record shall contain the following:

1. Date, start and end time of each service encounter or other billable service interval;
2. A description of what occurred during the encounter or service interval; and
3. The signature or authenticated name of staff providing the service.

Billing for Case Management services was reviewed for 18 of 18 individuals. Progress notes and billing records supported billing activities for the months of June, July and August 2011.
Date: March 6, 2012

To: Ms. Marie Velasquez, Co-Director
    Ms. Melinda Schramm, Co-Director

Provider: A Step Above Case Management
Address: PO Box 70444
State/Zip: Albuquerque, New Mexico  87197

Region: Metro & Northwest
Survey Date: October 11 - 14, 2011
Program Surveyed: Developmental Disabilities Waiver
Services Surveyed: Case Management
Survey Type: Routine

Dear Ms. Velasquez and Ms. Schramm:

The Division of Health Improvement Quality Management Bureau received, reviewed and approved the documents you submitted for your Plan of Correction.

**Your Plan of Correction is closed.**

To maintain ongoing compliance with Standards and regulations, continue to use the Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement processes in your Plan of Correction, including:

- Monthly peer reviews of Agency Case Files
- Random ISP Quality Assurance reviews

Consistent implementation of your QA/QI processes will enable you to identify and promptly respond to problems, enhance your service delivery, and result in fewer deficiencies in future QMB surveys.

Thank you for your cooperation with the Plan of Correction process, and for the work you and your team perform.

Sincerely,

George Perrault, MBA
Plan of Correction Coordinator
Cc: DHI
    DDSD