STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
AGING AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION
PO Box 99250, Lakewood, WA 98496

Milton Meridian LLC
The Meridian at Stone Creek
1111 S 376th St
Milton, WA 98354

RE: The Meridian at Stone Creek License # 2365

Dear Administrator:

This letter addresses Compliance Determination(s) 37785 (Completion Date 04/26/2024) and 33185 (Completion Date 01/11/2024).

The Department completed a follow-up inspection of your Assisted Living Facility on 04/26/2024 and found no deficiencies. Your facility meets the Assisted Living Facility licensing requirements.

The Department found that deficiencies for the following licensing laws and regulations were corrected:
WAC 388-78A-2240, WAC 388-78A-2120-4

The Department staff who did the on-site verification:
Cathleen Davis, ALF Licensor

If you have any questions, please contact me at (253)442-3013.

Sincerely,

Manfay Chan, Field Manager
Region 3, Unit D
Residential Care Services

Residential Care Services
Investigation Summary Report

Provider/Facility: The Meridian at Stone Creek **Provider Type:** Assisted Living Facility

License/Cert.#: 2365
Compliance Determination #: 33185
Investigator: Cathleen Davis
Investigation Date(s): 11/28/2023 through 01/11/2024
Complainant Contact Date(s):

Intake ID: 99819
Region/Unit #: RCS Region 3 / Unit D

Allegation(s):
Public complaint of care and services.

Investigation Methods:

Sample:	Total residents: 2 Resident sample size: 2 Closed records sample size: 2
Observations:	Residents Staff to resident interactions Resident to resident interactions
Interviews:	Nursing staff Family members Residents
Record Reviews:	Medical records State reporting log Hospital records Facility policies

Investigation Summary:
Review of records showed systemic problems with facility providing medications to residents for many days. The facility did not have an alternate plan to ensure prescribed medications were provided to residents. The facility did not monitor resident's well being when medications were missed for extended periods of time. Failed facility practices in obtaining and appropriating prescribed medications for 3 of 8 sampled residents.

Conclusion / Action:

- [x] Failed Provider Practice Identified / Citation(s) Written
- [ ] Failed Provider Practice Not Identified / No Citation Written
- [ ] N/A

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You are required to be in compliance at all times with all licensing laws and regulations to maintain your Assisted Living Facility license.

The department completed data collection for an unannounced on-site complaint investigation on 11/28/2023 and 01/11/2024 of:

The Meridian at Stone Creek
1111 S 376th St
Milton, WA 98354

This document references the following complaint number(s): 99819

The following sample was selected for review during the unannounced on-site visit: 2 of 2 current residents and 2 former residents.

The department staff that investigated the Assisted Living Facility:

Cathleen Davis, ALF Licensor

From:
DSHS, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
Residential Care Services, Region 3 , Unit D
PO Box 99250
Lakewood, WA 98496

As a result of the on-site visit(s), the department found that you are not in compliance with the licensing laws and regulations as stated in the cited deficiencies in the enclosed report.

Residential Care Services — 01/22/2024 Date

I understand that to maintain an Assisted Living Facility license, the facility must be in compliance with all the licensing laws and regulations at all times.

Administrator (or Representative) 2/6/24 Date

WAC 388-78A-2240 Nonavailability of medications. When the assisted living facility has assumed responsibility for obtaining a resident's prescribed medications, the assisted living facility must obtain them in a correct and timely manner.

This requirement was not met as evidenced by:

Based on interviews and record reviews the Assisted Living Facility (ALF) failed to implement a system to ensure medications were available to 3 of 8 sampled residents (Residents 1, 2 & 3) as prescribed by the primary physician. This failure placed Residents 1, 2, & 3 at risk for potential medical decline.

Findings included...

Record Review of Facility Policy titled MP07 – Changes to Medication Orders, MP – Missed or Refused Medications, MP20 – Permanent Discontinuance of Medication(s) did not include approval from Executive Director or Memory Care Director prior to assisting residents. There is no written Facility policy stating Medication Technicians are to give medications if not approved in the Quick MAR by the Executive Director or Memory Care Director.

Per record review Resident 1 (R1) was admitted to the ALF on [redacted]/2022. Review of a document titled "Needs and Services Plan" (NSA) showed an entry "Medications, Central Storage and Assistance" effective date 07/06/2022 which documented, "Assist client to take medications per physicians orders." Also stated on page 1 of the NSA, "Medications: Significant (Total) Assist by Medication Technician" for facility staff to assist R1 with medications.

Review of R1's October 2023 Medication Administration Record (MAR) showed a medication order dated 07/06/2022 for Amlodipine Besylate 10 MG tablet, a blood pressure medication, with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for blood pressure.

Review of R1's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/27/2023 for Citalopram HBR 40 mg tablet, a medication used to treat depression, with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth once a day.

Review of R1's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/07/2022 for Glimepiride 2 mg tablet, a medication to treat diabetes, with instructions to give 1.5 tablets (3 MG) by mouth every morning.

Review of R1's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/07/2022 for Metformin HCL 1,000 MG tablet, a medication to treat diabetes, with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth.

The October 2023 MAR showed R1 did not receive these medications on the following dates: 10/06/2023, 10/07/2023, 10/08/2023, 10/09/2023, 10/10/2023, 10/11/2023, 10/12/2023, 10/13/2023, 10/14/2023, 10/15/2023, 10/16/2023,10/17/2023, 10/18/2023, and 10/19/2023. Exception notes for these medications stated "Medication not in facility" on these dates.

Review of R1's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 06/06/2023 for Amlodipine Besylate 10 MG with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for blood pressure.

Review of R1's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/27/2023 for Citalopram HBR 40 mg tablet with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth once a day.

Review of R1's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/07/2022 for Glimepiride 2 mg tablet with instructions to give 1.5 tablets (3 MG) by mouth every morning.

Review of R1's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 07/07/2022 for Metformin HCL 1,000 MG tablet with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth.

The November MAR showed R1 did not receive these medications on the following dates: 11/25/2023,11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, and 11/28/2023. Exception notes for these medications stated, "Medication not in facility".

Resident 2 (R2) was admitted to the ALF on [redacted]/2022. Review of a document titled "Needs and Services Plan" (NSA) showed an entry "Medications, Central Storage and Assistance" effective date 07/11/2023 which documented, "Assist client to take medications per physicians orders." Also stated on page 1 of the NSA, "Medications: Significant (Total) Assist by Medication Technician" for facility staff to assist R2 with medications.

Review of R2's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 10/09/2023 for Sertraline, a medication used to treat anxiety and depression. Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on 11/19/2023 at 9:19 AM and 11/20/2023 at 8:24 PM.

Review of R2's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 04/15/2023 for Trulicity 1.5 MG/0.5ML PEN (.50 ML), a medication used to treat diabetes. Exception notes

for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on 11/21/2023 at 8:18 AM.

Review of R2's November 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 10/17/2022 for Metformin HCL 1,000 MG Tablet (500 EACH). Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on 11/22/2023 at 7:39 AM.

Resident 3 (R3) was admitted to the ALF on [redacted]/2022. Review of a document titled "Needs and Services Plan" (NSA)showed an entry "Medications, Central Storage and Assistance" effective date 04/26/2023 which documented, "Resident will take medications as ordered by physicians." Also stated on page 1 of the NSA, "Medications: Significant (Total) Assist by Medication Technician" for facility staff to assist R3 with medications.

Review of R3's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 08/27/2023 for Metoprolol Tartrate 25 MG TAB (1,000 each), a blood pressure medication, with instructions to "Hold for SBP <100 Notify PCP." Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on the dates of 11/24/2023, 11/25/2023, 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, 11/28/2023, and 11/29/2023.

Review of R3's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 10/02/2022 for Omeprazole DR 20 MG Capsule (1,000 each), a heartburn medication, with instructions to give 1 capsule by mouth once a day for heartburn. Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on the dates of 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, 11/28/2023 and 11/29/2023.

Review of R3's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 10-22-2022 for Levothyroxine 25 MCG Tablet (1000 each), a thyroid treatment medication, with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth once a day for Hypothyroidism. Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on the dates of 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, 11/28/2023 and 11/29/2023.

Review of R3's October 2023 MAR showed a medication order dated 10-22-2022 for Amlodipine Besylate 2.5 MG Tablet (1000 Each) with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth once a day for hypertension (high blood pressure). Exception notes for this medication stated "Medication not in facility" on the dates of 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, 11/28/2023 and 11/29/2023.

In an interview on 12/27/2023 at 10:57 AM, Medication Technician (Staff D) said medications can be administered with a Primary Care Physician order. However, some medication technicians will not administer resident medications until completed approval is visible in the Quick MAR. Staff D said Executive Director (Staff A) or Memory Care Coordinator (Staff B)) needs to approve an antibiotic for R3. Because the antibiotic has not been approved in the Quick MAR by Staff A or Staff B some medication technicians will not administer this medication to R3. Staff D said R3 has gone without the prescribed medication because of the lack of approval from the administrative staff on the Quick MAR.

In an interview on 11/28/2023 at 4:35 PM, Medication Technician (Staff C) said medications are often not available for patients because the medication is not in the facility and there is no overflow of medications.

In an interview on 12/11/2023 at 4:15 PM Staff C said Staff A or Staff B needs to approve a medication in the Quick MAR for medication technicians to administer medications to residents.

In an interview on 12/27/2023 at 11:00 am Staff A said the pharmacy did not refill the prescriptions because R1 had not paid and owed money to the pharmacy. Staff A said R1 also owed money to the facility.

Plan/Attestation Statement

I hereby certify that I have reviewed this report and have taken or will take active measures to correct this deficiency. By taking this action, The Meridian at Stone Creek is or will be in compliance with this law and / or regulation on (Date) 2/25/24

In addition, I will implement a system to monitor and ensure continued compliance with this requirement.

Administrator (or Representative) — Date: 2/6/24

WAC 388-78A-2120 Monitoring residents' well-being. The assisted living facility must:

(4) Take appropriate action in response to each resident's changing needs.

This requirement was not met as evidenced by:

Based on interviews and records review the assisted living facility failed to monitor and chart changes in 2 of 8 sampled residents' (Resident 1 & 3) condition when medications were not provided. This failure placed Resident 1 and 3 at risk of medical decline.

Findings included...

Review of a document titled "Washington Resident Assessment" showed Resident 1 (R1) with diagnosis of [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted].

Record review showed that R1 was prescribed medication, Amlodipine Besylate 10 MG tablet, by the primary care physician (PCP). Amlodipine is a medication used to treat high blood pressure. Amlodipine is listed on R1's Medical Administration Report (MAR) with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for blood pressure.

Record review showed that R1 was prescribed medication, Citalopram HBR 40 MG tablet to treat anxiety and depression. Citalopram is listed on R1's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every day.

Record review showed R1 was prescribed, Metformin HCL 1.000 MG Tablet, by the PCP to treat diabetes. Metformin is listed on R1's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for diabetes.

Record review showed R1 was prescribed medication, Glimepiride, by the PCP to treat diabetes. Glimepiride is listed on R1's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for diabetes.

Record review of the October 2023 MAR showed R1's medications of Amlodipine, Citalopram, Metformin, Glimepiride were listed as "Medication not in Facility" on 10/06/2023, 10/07/2023, 10/08/2023, 10/09/2023, 10/10/2023, 10/11/2023, 10/12/2023, 10/13/2023, 10/14/2023, 10/15/2023, 10/16/2023, 10/17/2023, 10/18/2023, and 10/19/2023.

Record review of the November 2023 MAR showed R1's medications of Amlodipine, Citalopram, and Metformin were noted as "Medications not in Facility" on 11/25/2023, 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, and 11/28/2023.

Progress Notes on these dates showed no indication of monitoring R1's condition when these medications were not administered.

Review of a document titled "Washington Resident Assessment" showed Resident 3's (R3) diagnosis of [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted],

[redacted]

Record review showed R3 was prescribed by the PCP the medication Amlodipine Besylate 2.5 MG tablet. Amlodipine Besylate is listed on R3's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for high blood pressure.

Record review showed R3 was prescribed, Metoprolol, by the PCP. Metoprolol is used to treat high blood pressure. Metoprolol is listed on R3's MAR with instructions to give 1/2 tablet (12.5 MG) by mouth in the afternoon for high blood pressure, with parameters to "hold if systolic blood pressure (upper blood pressure number) is less than 100 and to "notify the PCP of the change in condition."

Record review showed R3 was prescribed Levothyroxine by the PCP. Levothyroxine is used to treat hypothyroidism. Levothyroxine is listed in R3's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning.

Record review showed R3 was prescribed, Omeprazole, by the PCP. Omeprazole is used to treat heartburn. Omeprazole is listed on R3's MAR with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth every morning for heartburn.

Record review showed R3 was prescribed Lidocaine 5% Patch by a PCP. Lidocaine 5% Patch is used to treat pain. Lidocaine 5% Patch is listed on R3's MAR with instructions to apply 1 patch topically to lower back right side every morning 8:00 AM and remove nightly at 8 PM (Leave on for 12 hours then remove for 12 hours).

Record review showed R3 was prescribed, Azithromycin 250 MG by the PCP. Azithromycin is an antibiotic used for the treatment of an infection. Azithromycin is listed on R3's MAR, with instructions to give 1 tablet by mouth once a day, for the treatment of infection.

Record review of November 2023 MAR showed R3's medications of Amlodipine, Metoprolol, Levothyroxine, Omeprazole were listed as "Medication not in Facility" on 11/23/2023, 11/24/2023, 11/25/2023, 11/26/2023, 11/27/2023, and 11/28/2023.

Record review of December 2023 MAR showed R3's medications of Lidocaine 5% patch was listed as "Medication not in Facility" on 12/19/2023 at 1:03 PM and 7:06 PM, 12/20/2023 at 7:07 PM and 12/21/2023 7:13 PM.

On 12/27/2023 at 10:27 AM, Medication Technician (Staff D) said in an interview that R3 has a prescribed medication Azithromycin 250 MC tablet on 12/26/2023. Staff D said this medication has not been provided because it was not approved in the Quick MAR by the Executive Director or Memory Care Coordinator. Staff D said the resident had gone without the prescribed medication for 3 days.

R3's Progress Notes on these dates showed no indication of monitoring R3's condition when these medications were not provided.

Plan/Attestation Statement

I hereby certify that I have reviewed this report and have taken or will take active measures to correct this deficiency. By taking this action, The Meridian at Stone Creek is or will be in compliance with this law and / or regulation on (Date) 2/25/24 .

In addition, I will implement a system to monitor and ensure continued compliance with this requirement.

Administrator (or Representative) — Date: 2/6/24