



U.S. Department of Justice

Civil Rights Division

Office of the Assistant Attorney General
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW - RFK
Washington, DC 20530
Telephone (202) 514-2151

November 21, 2019

The Honorable Kim Reynolds
Governor of the State of Iowa
State Capitol
1007 East Grand Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa 50319



Re: Investigation of Glenwood Resource Center and Woodward Resource Center

Dear Governor Reynolds:

This is to inform you that the United States Department of Justice intends to commence an investigation of Glenwood Resource Center (GRC) and Woodward Resource Center (WRC).

Our investigation will be conducted under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1997 (CRIPA), and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 *et seq.* (ADA). CRIPA authorizes the Department of Justice to investigate whether there are systemic violations of the federal rights of institutionalized persons. Title II authorizes the Department to investigate possible violations of the rights of persons with disabilities to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs.

Specifically, the investigation will focus on:

- Whether the State of Iowa engages in a pattern or practice of violating the federal rights of residents of GRC by placing them at serious risk of harm by subjecting them to: (1) harmful and uncontrolled human subject experiments; (2) inadequate medical and nursing care, physical and nutritional management, and behavioral health care; (3) needless and harmful restraint practices; and (4) incidents causing needless physical injury; and
- Whether the State of Iowa violates the rights of residents of GRC and WRC under Title II of the ADA by not providing services to those residents in the most integrated setting appropriate.

We have not reached any conclusions about the subject matters of the investigation.

Upon completion of our investigation, if we conclude that there are not violations of law, we will notify you that we are closing the investigation. If, on the other hand, we conclude that there are such violations, we will provide written notice of the results of our investigation and identify the minimum measures that we believe are necessary to remedy the violations. In our many years enforcing CRIPA and the ADA, the good faith efforts of state, county, or local

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jurisdictions working with us have enabled us routinely to resolve our claims without resort to contested litigation.

We encourage the State to cooperate with our investigation. We assure you that we will seek to minimize any potential disruption our investigation may have on State operations. The investigation will be conducted by the Civil Rights Division's Special Litigation Section and the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa. We will contact counsel for the State to discuss the next steps. In the meantime, the Chief of the Special Litigation Section, Steven H. Rosenbaum, may be reached at (202) 616-3244.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Eric S. Dreiband
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

cc: The Honorable Tom Miller
Iowa Attorney General

Gerd W. Clabaugh
Interim Director, Iowa Department of Human Services

Dr. Jerry Rea
Superintendent, Glenwood Resource Center

Marsha Edginton
Superintendent, Woodward Resource Center

Marc Krickbaum, Esq.
United States Attorney, Southern District of Iowa