

HCBS Final Rule Evidentiary Package

Valley View



Setting information

Setting name: Valley View	ID # 23658
Street address: 1005 Milwaukee St., Lakefield, MN 56150	Phone: 507-662-5330
Setting website, if applicable: Valley View (https://valleyviewmn.com)	Date of site visit: 7/17/2018

Waiver service type

Waiver service	Service type:
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Care (AC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elderly Waiver (EW) <input type="checkbox"/> Brain Injury (BI) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) <input type="checkbox"/> Community Alternative Care (CAC) <input type="checkbox"/> Developmental Disabilities (DD)	Customized Living

Reason for heightened scrutiny

Prong type	Category	Type of setting
Prong 1 Located in a Public or Private Institution	Name of Institution	Name of Institution Colonial Manor Nursing Home

Note: The term people/person (resident for residential settings) refers to people who receive Medicaid HCBS waiver service.

General summary

Valley View is located in Lakefield, a rural city in Jackson County, Minnesota. Lakefield is located approximately 80 miles southwest of Mankato, Minnesota. The population was 1,694 in the 2010 census. Valley View is located in a residential neighborhood, adjacent to a golf course and nearby farm fields. It takes approximately five minutes to drive to the main business district in town.

Valley View is a customized living setting with 21 apartment units. At the time of the site visit, the setting served five people supported by a home and community-based waiver program and 16 people supported by other funding sources.

The customized living setting is located on a campus that includes Colonial Manor Nursing Home, a skilled nursing facility. Colonial Manor is a skilled nursing facility that provides skilled nursing and inpatient and outpatient services. Colonial Manor and Valley View are owned by Lakes Communities, a private entity and managed by Partners Senior Living Options, a private company based in Royalton, MN.

Customized living provider standards/qualifications

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

Customized living services are provided in housing-with-services establishments with the service provider directly licensed as a comprehensive home care provider by the Minnesota Department of Health. Customized living services provide an individualized package of regularly scheduled health-related and supportive services provided to a person who lives in a qualified, registered housing-with-services establishment.

Customized living service definitions that support the setting requirements

Customized living (CL) and 24-hour CL services include component services designed to meet the person’s assessed needs and goals. Individualized CL services may include supervision, home care aide tasks (e.g., assistance with activities of daily living), home health aide task (e.g., delegated nursing tasks), home management tasks, meal preparation and service, socialization, assisting enrollees with arranging meetings and appointments, assisting with money management, assisting participants with scheduling medical and social services and arranging for or providing transportation. If socialization is provided, it must be part of the service plan, related to established goals and outcomes and not diversional or recreational in nature.

For more details about the component services, including what is covered and distinctions between each see [Customized Living Component Service Definitions, DHS-6790H \(PDF\)](#).

(<https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6790H-ENG>)

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

http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=id_001787

Prong 1 and Prong 2 settings

Meaningful distinction between the facility and HCBS setting

States must submit strong evidence that the setting presumed institutional has the characteristics of a HCBS setting and not an institutional setting.	
Determination	Summary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met <input type="checkbox"/> Unmet <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	<p>Interconnectedness between the facility and the setting in question, including administrative or financial interconnectedness, does not exist or is minimal.</p> <p>An administrator oversees the customized living setting and the setting has its own budget and staff. Valley View has a designated housing manager who serves as the day-to-day operations manager and dedicated home health aides who provide services to the residents. Food services are prepared at the setting in a dedicated kitchen and served in a separate dining area. Activities are planned by customized living staff and the setting has its own activity program and calendar.</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met <input type="checkbox"/> Unmet <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	<p>To the extent any facility staff are assigned occasionally or on a limited basis to support or back up the HCBS staff, the facility staff are cross-trained to meet the same qualifications as the HCBS staff.</p> <p>Administration reported that all staff that work in the customized living setting are trained specifically for home and community-based support in a manner consistent with the HCBS settings regulations. Administration confirmed that nursing facility staff are not scheduled to work with people at the customized living setting on the same shift.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met <input type="checkbox"/> Unmet <input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable	<p>Participants in the setting in question do not have to rely primarily on transportation or other services provided by the facility setting, to the exclusion of other options.</p> <p>Valley View is located in a rural area with limited public transportation. Residents use Community Transit of United Community Action Partnership, which provides public transit service in Jackson County and surrounding areas, including Lakefield. Some residents enrolled in managed-care services may use BlueRide services to travel to medical appointments covered under waiver programs. Private regional transportation services, such as Peoples Express are also used for routine or medical appointments in the surrounding area. People at the setting also use community volunteer drivers, family transports and their own vehicles for transportation needs. Transportation options are posted on bulletin boards and provided in the residency agreement.</p>

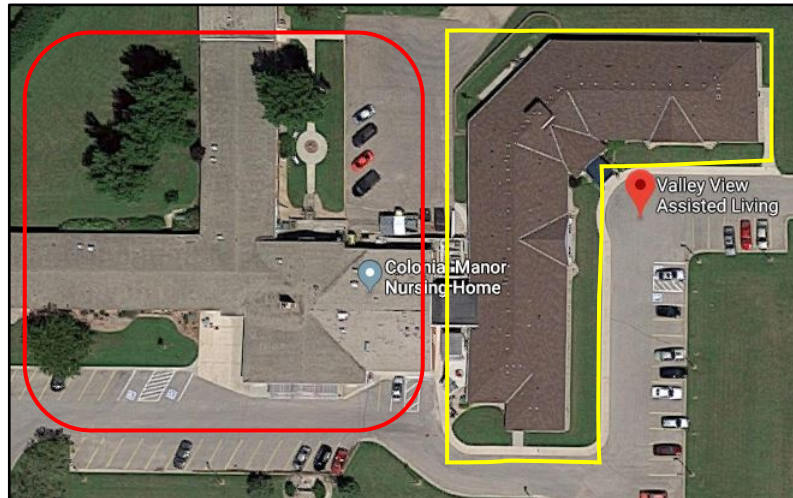
The setting provides HCBS services in a space that is distinct from the space that institutional services are provided.

Valley View provides services in a space that is distinct from the space used by the nursing facility. Customized living services are provided in a separate wing of the larger complex, connected via an indoor walkway. The setting has separate outside signage and a separate entrance from the nursing facility. In the picture below, the Valley View is outlined in yellow and Colonial Manor is outlined in red.



Outside signage and parking lot

- Met
- Unmet
- Not applicable



Aerial view of Valley View and Colonial Manor campus

Community engagement opportunities and experiences

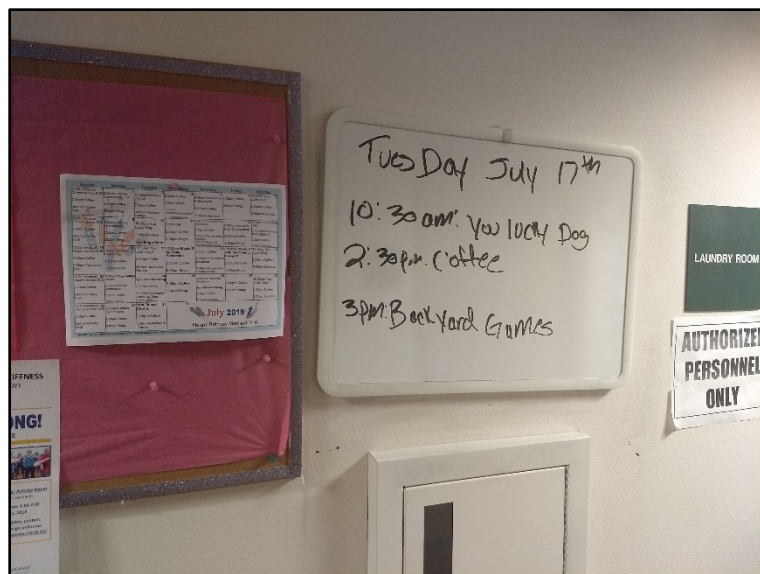
Community engagement is formally supported by setting staff through setting activities and also more informally by family and friends from the greater community. Administration staff members reported that they survey residents to obtain their personal preferences and that they support the residents' choice in choosing their activities and schedules. Activities are tailored with feedback from people who live at the setting, through resident council meetings, periodic surveys, discussions with people and by obtaining resident preferences during admission and at regular health assessments.

People are notified of community activities through a calendar of community events, flyers and staff reminders. These may include:

- Shopping trips
- Jackson County Fair
- Senior center activities in town
- Picnics and community events

People who live at the setting also have the option to go out on their own, with family and friends and by using regional public and private transit and volunteer drivers. These trips include:

- Family events
- Sightseeing
- Church services and events
- General errands and shopping
- Community holiday events



Community bulletin board with activity calendar and announcements

The setting provides an activity calendar for people to participate in at the setting, which also includes activities taking place in the nursing facility. People are also informed of on-site activities through bulletin board announcements and staff announcements and reminders.

Examples of on-site activities include live music performances, crafts, movies, board games, bowling, social hours, such as coffee and ice cream socials, “backyard” activities, “Mind-Body-Spirit” exercise groups and faith activities.

People who live at the setting have the option to choose not to participate at any time. According to staff and residents, they are offered alternative times or activities or are free to participate in activities of their choosing.



Community room and dining area

HCBS characteristics

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

HCBS Rule requirement	Compliance status (Please select)
<p>Each person at the setting has a written lease or residency agreement in place providing protections to address eviction processes and appeals.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>The setting provided an HCBS-compliant lease agreement as documentation through the provider-attestation process.</p>	Compliant
<p>Each person at the setting has privacy in his/her sleeping or living unit including a lockable door.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p>	Compliant

<p>Locks were observed on all unit doors in the setting. Residents stated they use the locks when they go out of the setting.</p>	
<p>The setting facilitates that a person, who shares a bedroom, is with a roommate of his or her choice.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>Staff reported that people in the setting do not share rooms unless they share with a spouse, partner or other person of their choice.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>
<p>The setting provides people with the freedom to furnish and decorate their bedrooms and living units within the lease or residency agreement.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>The lease allows people in the setting to decorate and personalize their living units. Living units were observed during the site visit and were decorated according to the residents' tastes and preferences, including family pictures and memorabilia, crafts and decorative items and religious iconography. At the site visit it was observed that many people put up personalized decorations in the entrance to their living units.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>
<p>The setting provides people the freedom and support to control their daily schedules including access to food at any time.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p>	<p>Compliant</p>



Personalized decorations at entrance to living unit

<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>Staff and residents confirmed that people who live at the setting have the freedom and support to control their own schedules, specifically waking up and going to bed, coming and going to and from the setting and eating when they would like. Each living unit at the setting is equipped with a kitchen and residents reported that they store food in their pantry and refrigerator. One resident reported that she “just lets the staff know” her schedule and another stated that she “can decide anything.”</p>	
<p>The setting allows people to have visitors at any time.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>Staff confirmed that people who live at the setting may have visitors at any time. During the site visit, visitors were observed coming and going to and from the setting. Residents also stated during interviews that they may have visitors at any time.</p>	Compliant
<p>The setting provides opportunities for people to seek employment and work in competitive, integrated settings.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>Staff stated that the setting does not have any residents who choose to work, but has previously had residents who chose to work. Staff confirmed that they would accommodate residents who wish to work by coordinating transportation, helping the person get ready for work and providing a flexible service schedule. Staff reported they would</p>	Compliant



Coffee station in community room

<p>save meals or provide a packed lunch, depending on the residents' needs.</p>	
<p>The setting is physically accessible to the individual.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>Common spaces and living units were observed to be accessible to people who live at the setting. People indicated all living areas and common areas were accessible to them. Staff said they accommodate people who live at the setting to provide additional accessibility accommodations to living units, i.e., grab bars in bathrooms and living areas.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>
<p>The setting provides people opportunities to access and engage in community life.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit</p> <p>The setting supports opportunities to access and engage in community life. Practical activities, such as errands and medical appointments are supported, as well as personal engagement, such as social and family outings, faith-based activities and meals in the community.</p> <p>The staff provide information and resources on transportation options to access the greater community. Staff assist people to arrange transportation as needed and many people arrange their own transportation.</p> <p>Activities are tailored with feedback from people who live at the setting, through resident council meetings, discussions with people and by obtaining resident preferences during admission and at regular health assessments.</p> <p>Administration staff confirmed that people who live in the setting are informed of their right to choose any medical provider through the admission process and the Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights. Staff confirmed that there are no restrictions for people who wish to switch to a new provider.</p>	<p>Compliant</p>
<p>The setting supports the person's control of personal resources.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation</p>	<p>Compliant</p>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit <p>The setting does not provide money management services, and staff confirmed that people who live in the setting have full control over their personal finances.</p>	
<p>The setting ensures people’s right to privacy.</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit <p>Staff are trained to respect the privacy of people who live at the setting through HCBS settings rule training and the Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights. During the site visit, staff were observed knocking on people’s living unit doors to obtain permission to enter.</p>	Compliant
<p>The setting ensures people’s dignity and respect.</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit <p>Staff are trained to ensure the dignity and respect of people who live at the setting through HCBS settings rule training and the Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights. During the site visit, staff were observed addressing people by their chosen names. People who live at the setting were dressed in clothing of their choosing.</p>	Compliant
<p>The setting ensures people’s freedom from coercion and restraint.</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit <p>Staff are trained on the Minnesota Home Care Bill of Rights and the Minnesota Vulnerable Adults Act.</p>	Compliant
<p>The setting optimizes individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices, including daily schedule and with whom to interact.</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compliant documentation submitted with attestation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation made during on-site visit <p>People in the setting were observed to lead their own lives and plan their own daily schedules, coming and going as desired and arranging their days as they would like. Staff confirmed that customized living</p>	Compliant

services accommodate the schedules of the people served in this setting.

Pictures of the HCBS setting



Resident mailboxes



Sitting area with newspapers and reading materials

Public comment summary

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) did not receive public comments for this setting.

DHS sought public comment for 30 days (Feb. 6-March 7, 2019) before submitting settings to the Centers Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for heightened scrutiny.

We sought public comments using the following methods:

- Evidentiary packages posted online on the [Home and Community Based Services Rule transition plan page](#)
- Evidentiary packages specific to each setting posted in a common area of the setting
- Notice of public comment period via [Feb. 6, 2019, eList announcement](#)
- Notification to lead agencies via regional resource specialists
- Notification to providers via email
- Notification to managed care organizations and Area Agencies on Aging (AA) via email
- Notification to long-term care ombudsman office via email
- Disability Hub MN virtual insight panel.

Minnesota's recommendation

Date of recommendation: 4/1/2019

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